

Dear Parents/Carers,

Good afternoon and welcome to this week's parent bulletin.

## Ferndown Upper School Maths Test for our Transitioning Pupils

Just a quick 'heads-up' to the parents of our Year 8 pupils who will be shortly transferring to Ferndown Upper School.

On Monday 29th April, the FUS staff will come into EMS to deliver and invigilate their annual Math's test. The results of this test will determine the pupils' Maths sets on entering Year 9.

It would be helpful if our transitioning Ferndown Upper pupils could bring the following equipment with them on Monday morning:

- a black ballpoint pen**
- a sharp pencil**
- a rubber**
- a ruler**
- a non-scientific calculator**

Please note that **we can easily provide pupils with the necessary gear** if they don't have it.

The FUS Maths test is an important, annual transition event, but not a cause for anxiety as it will contain a well balanced range of questions. Transitioning FUS pupils who are absent on the day of the test are given the opportunity to take it at a later date; we then pass their papers onto the upper school.

Good-luck to everyone involved.

## Science Week Activities

On Tuesday 23rd we celebrated Science week with activities centred around this year's theme of 'Time'. The students learnt that time is a key concept in Physics and how this area of Science can be seen all around us in all aspects of our everyday lives.

Then it was competition time, with Physics at the heart of each task, to find our 'Time Masters'. KS2 started us off with a nail-biting competition between staff and students. We saw the staff finally coming out victorious. Then it was the turn of the KS3 students. They took on a staff team consisting of many of the Senior leadership team, but unlike the KS2 competition, the students almost made a clean sweep, winning almost every round to walk away with the trophy.

Thanks has to go so many people, from the team members for being such amazing competitors, the audience for their tireless enthusiasm, our new Science Technician Mrs Ormesher who spent so much time helping to perfect the tasks and set up the equipment and to the Science leaders who worked so hard to make the event run so smoothly. Last but not least, a huge thank you to Miss Lynn who kindly custom-made the KS2 and KS3 trophies, which she has offered to engrave with the winners from this year's competition.



Maybe we might see 'Time Masters' return next year with students battling against the EMS staff.

More photographs from the activities are available on the school website.

## Year 7 Science

Year 7 have been studying Electricity and enjoyed their Static Electricity lesson using the Van der Graaf Generator. I think you can tell from the student's expression that fun was had by all during their hair raising experience.



## Crossing Patrol

Please note that our crossing patrol on Margards Lane will not be on duty next week until she returns on Friday.

## Year 8 Sparx Reader

This week Mr Brenton joined a ZOOM call with SPARX Reader who were really impressed with how our Y8 pupils were engaging with the software trial. We are seeing excellent engagement in comparison with other schools across the country. Well done to all of our Y8 pupils for engaging so well and focusing on high quality reading. See below for our recent national placings at EMS (out of nearly 600 schools). Let's keep this up!

**24th March 2024 - 15th place nationally**

**31st March 2024 - 18th place nationally**

School Group	School	Rank	Number of students	Number of classes	HW completion (%)
Initio Learning trust	Emmanuel Middle Church of England Voluntary Aided School	15	105	4	87.6

## Period Poverty

In the UK, 1 in 10 girls can't afford to buy menstrual products, while 1 in 7 have struggled to afford them. As the cost of living continues to bite, a new ActionAid poll has revealed that 21% (more than one in five) women and girls who menstruate in the UK are now struggling to afford period products - up from 12% in just one year. This amounts to an estimated 2.8 million females, one million more people than last year. More than a quarter of survey respondents (28%) said they were able to rely on period products available at school or work, but for 17% they stayed at home. This means missing out on school, work, exercising or socialising, all of which can have wider implications for their mental health, wellbeing, and future. We would like to thank Morrisons who have provided us with a generous supply of sanitary towels and at Emmanuel we can supply these to any girls who may need them. Please contact the school office if you would like to discuss this.

## Verwood Town YFC:

A shout out to Verwood Town YFC Galaxy U11s who have secured their spot in the county cup final on May 12th. Congratulations to the team which includes several of our Year 6 pupils.

We wish you all a great weekend and look forward to seeing everyone on Monday morning.

Mr Rob Christopher and Mr Alister Barker