

Dear Parents/Carers,

Good afternoon and welcome to the final weekly bulletin of this half term.

Year 5

We are so proud of the Year 5 pupils for their brilliant efforts and resilience this half term! They have all worked so hard and have produced some fantastic work and have truly made such a positive start to middle school! Unfortunately, we have had quite a large pile of unnamed jumpers (both PE and school jumpers) accumulate over the last 8 weeks in Year 5 that we are finding very difficult to give back to the correct owners. It would be very helpful and greatly appreciated if you could spend some time over the half term double checking that all uniforms, lunch boxes and water bottles are named (preferably with first and last names) so that we can ensure lost items make it back to their owner.

Year 6 Viking Day

On Tuesday, our Year 6 children had a visit from the Treehouse Theatre Company. They spent the day fully immersed in all things Viking and in the afternoon, took part in a play exploring the Vikings in Britain as raiders, traders and settlers. The children had a wonderful time and the day was a great introduction to their next unit of work in Humanities which is focused on Viking Britain. Thank you so much to all the parents, carers and pupils who created some amazing costumes for the children to wear during the day, they looked fantastic!



KS3 Science

We are very excited to announce that Sparx Science is coming to EMS. Year 7 and 8 students will be given 40 minutes of Sparx Science per week to complete as part of their homework requirement. This will start in the first week back after this October half term. However they can already review the package and try the sample questions.

Engaging in Sparx Science can help your child build scientific knowledge and understanding through personalised homework. It includes features such as:

- **Tailored homework:** Sparx Science creates homework that is challenging and achievable for each student, based on their ability and the topics they've learned in class.
- **Support for every question:** Sparx Science provides help for every question, including a support video.
- **Bookwork checks:** Sparx Science has a "bookwork checks" system to help students form good habits.
- **Same login as Sparx Maths and Sparx Reader:** Students can use the same login for Sparx Science as they already use for Sparx Maths and Sparx Reader.

KS3 Sparx Reader

At EMS, we have made a flying start to the term in SPARX Reader.

We are still one of the top 20 schools in the country, and could break into the 'top 10' if we could push towards 30 minutes of reading per week.

Please remind pupils in KS3 that we have a KS3 Homework drop-in that can be used on Wednesday lunchtimes.

School Group	School	Rank	Number of students	Number of students excluding optional only	HW completion (%)	Average minutes of reading set (per week)
Initio Learning Trust	Emmanuel Middle Church of England Voluntary Aided	17	206	206	92.7%	25.9

Pupil Leadership - Sports Leaders

A group of Year 8 Sports Leaders went to Bryanston school on Tuesday to take part in some sports leader training and activities. They have gathered lots of ideas to deliver to KS2 pupils after half term. Well done to all of them.



Junior Duke:

Junior Duke booklets have been ordered. As soon as they arrive at school, Miss Stinson will hold a meeting to distribute the booklets so that pupils can make a start on completing their tasks. Pupils will also be added to a Google Classroom that will show when upcoming meetings will be taking place.

Cross Country

A team of Year 5 pupils competed in a cross-country race at St Michael's Middle School yesterday. All pupils ran extremely well with both of our girls and boys team finishing 1st! A special mention goes to Savanna H who came first in her race, Erin P second and Lilly K third. Also, a huge well done to Toby S who came second in the boys' race. Amazing achievement from all runners.



Rugby

We were fortunate enough to have a rugby coach come into some PE lessons this week and coach some sessions. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed this. We are hoping to have them back after half term to run some coaching sessions after school.



Rotary Club Christmas Shoebox Appeal

Thank you to those families who filled a shoebox for the Rotary Club's appeal. These were collected yesterday and will be making their way to disadvantaged and displaced children in Moldova, Montenegro, Romania and Ukraine.

Food Technology

Year 5 baked their Posh Party Palmiers to perfection yesterday in Food tech. They set the ovens independently, taking full responsibility for putting their food in and taking their food out. It was lovely to see members of the group over-seeing others do this when they were a little unsure. We believe some of their food made it home!!



KS2 Netball

This week some of the KS2 Netball players went to St Michael's Middle School to play a friendly tournament against other schools in the area. We entered two teams who both played very well considering this was the first tournament for most of them! They all had a great time and can't wait to continue practising their skills ready for the next one. Well done everyone!

Year 5 Art

Year 5 Yayoi Kusama inspired PUMPKINS. We have been looking at the diverse work of the Japanese Artist and designing our own pumpkins in her 'Princess of Polka Dot' style.



As we close for our October half term we wish everyone a great week off. Whilst this is a great time to recharge batteries I would urge everyone to check their school routines - replenish pencil cases and uniform where needed. Monday 4th November is an INSET day and so we look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Tuesday 5th November.

Mr Rob Christopher and Mr Alister Barker