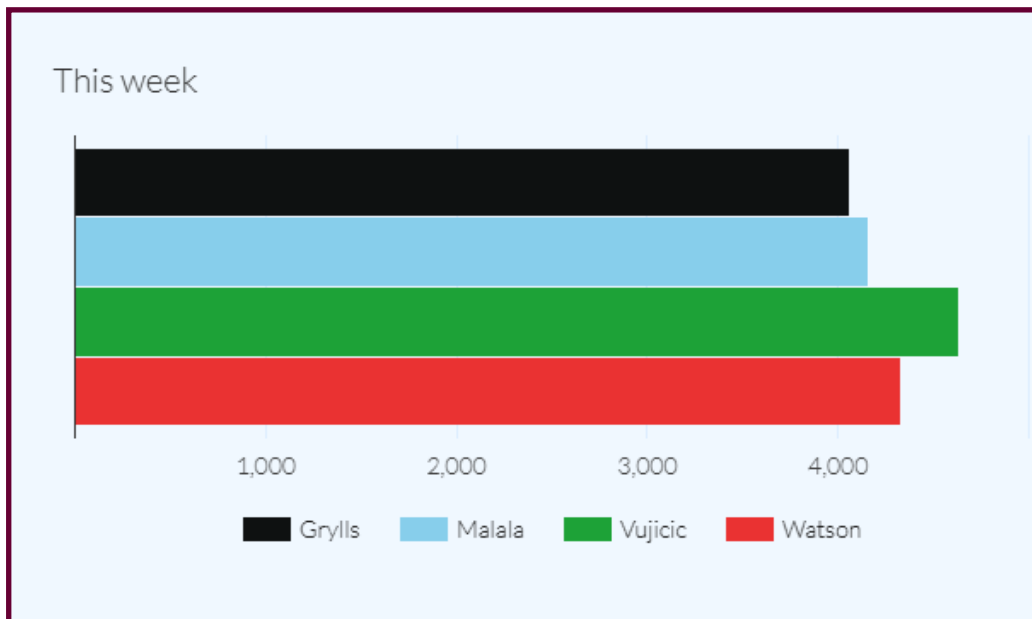


Dear Parents/Carers,

Good afternoon and welcome to the final parent bulletin before February half term.

House News



Well done to Vujicic for extending their lead at the top this week by being the highest candle credit earners over the last 7 days. In fact, the past week's performance has matched that of the year as a whole with Watson in second place. With half the year still to go there is all still to play for and all teams are still in the hunt for the overall win.

Well done to Gabriel M (Y5), Edith D (Y6), Pavlo K (Y7) and Oliver K (Y8) for being the highest earners in each year group over the last week.

Monthly House Competitions

World Book Day - Thursday 6th March 2025 - hand in by 4th March

Transform a scene or a chapter from one of your favourite books into a 3D diorama using a shoebox to be displayed in the library and be judged by everyone on World Book Day.

For example, try creating:

Hogwarts' grand hall from the Harry Potter series

Bilbo Baggins' home from The Lord of the Rings

Charlotte's Web farm friends

Miss Honey's classroom from Matilda

With prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places as well as candle credits for all entrants there's plenty to be gained for each pupils' house by taking part.

Year 5

In English, Year 5 have been learning about monologues in preparation for writing a monologue from the perspective of the evil Queen Jadis - the antagonist in our class text *The Magician's Nephew*.

In Maths, Year 5 is making good progress with our fractions unit. This week, we looked at ordering and comparing improper fractions and mixed fractions. We also spent some time at the beginning of the week going over some misconceptions from last week's mid-year assessments. Keep up the times tables work over the half term, it really does make a difference!

Year 6

In English, the pupils have been planning a first person account of the refugee's journey in Letters from the Lighthouse. The writing task will be used to develop the pupils' integrating dialogue and fronted adverbials.

In Art, the children have been carrying out experimental watercolour classes this week inspired by the American Artist Abby Diamond. They learnt various techniques including, wet on wet, dribbling paint, dabbing paint off the surface and bleeding colours together.



Year 7

In English the pupils have been further developing their persuasive writing using the AFOREST acronym to present logical arguments in their own Room 101 debates.

In Wellbeing in Year 7 the pupils have been learning about safe borrowing of money and how to recognise unsafe financial choices. They learned about ethical and unethical business practices and the differences between using bank loans, credit cards and payday lenders.

Year 8

Wellbeing - in Year 8 the pupils have been learning about recognising the different types of discrimination including age, gender, race and disability.

In PE, the children have continued their net games unit playing badminton concentrating on the overhead clear shot and serves for a game.

In gymnastics they have been working on group balances including a vault.

Science lessons - the pupils have been using their knowledge of acids and alkalis to create rainbows from universal indicators.



Sporting News

A group of year 5 and 6 pupils competed in an Aqua splash challenge at St Michael's Middle School on Monday. They had to compete in a variety of swimming games and activities. They were all amazing and never gave up! Well done to all of them for achieving 1st place.



Last week, another Year 5 and 6 swimming team competed at St Michael's School in a gala on Friday. Everyone swam extremely well and we got quite a few 1st and 2nd places. Well done to all of them for taking part.

KS3 and KS2 Football Report – 14.02.2025

It has been a busy week for Girls' football with two tournaments completed.

On Wednesday, the KS3 girls played a triangular fixture at Broadstone Middle. It was a mixed performance with a solid first game against Purbeck, which we won 1-0, always looking in control. Unfortunately, Broadstone bettered us in the second match and we lost that game. We are awaiting the outcome of other results as this is part of the East Dorset Cup fixtures.

Yesterday, the KS2 team travelled to Hamworthy for our second-round tournament in the East Dorset Cup. The girls were in complete control in both games and never looked in danger of conceding a goal. The possession, tackling and pressure on the ball was very impressive. I was also very pleased with the number of different players who scored goals: two each for Phoebe and Ava; one each for Rose, Grace and Bella. I will be checking our emails to see who we will be playing in the next round of fixtures.

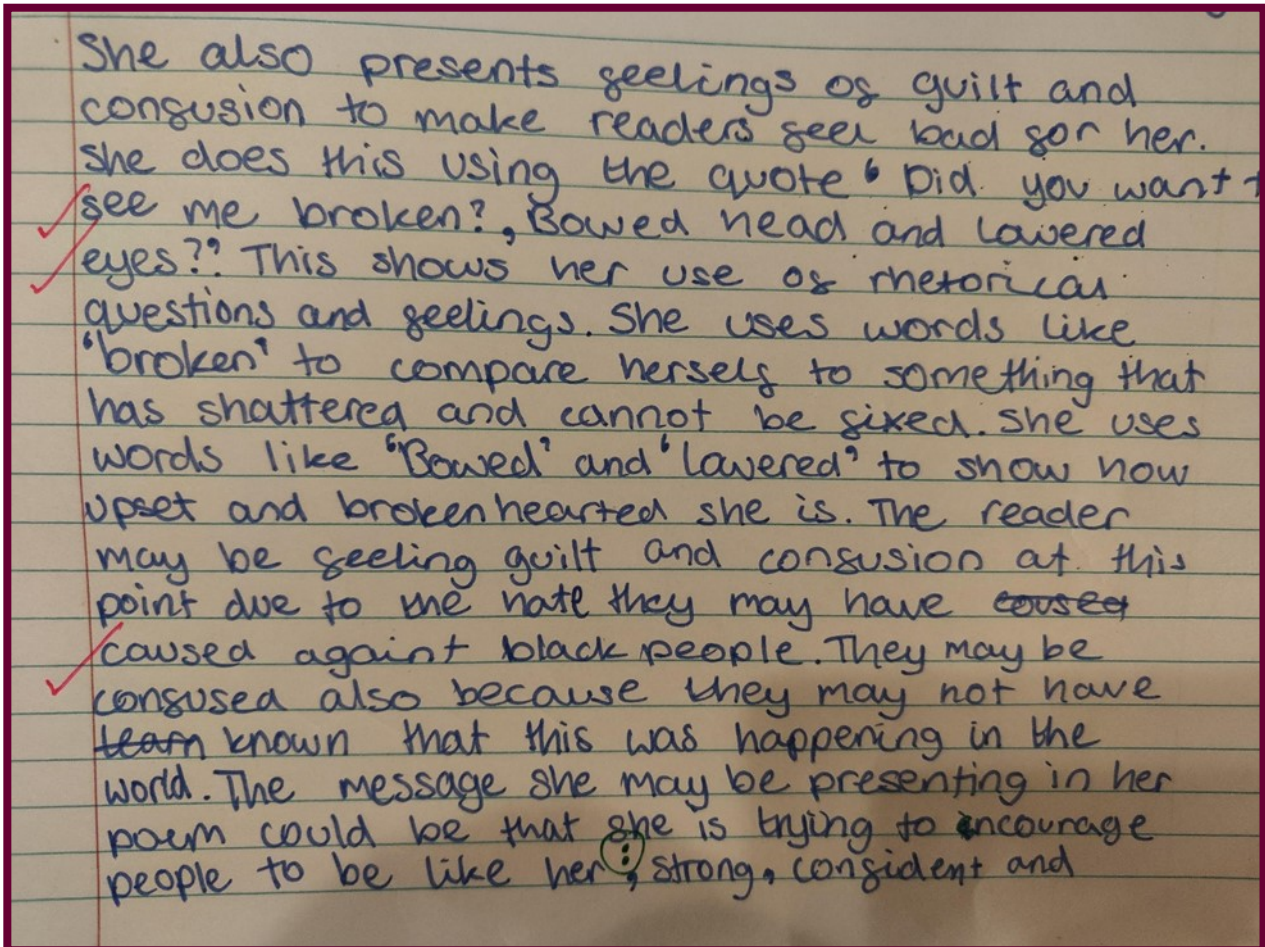


Year 7 English

In Year 7 English we have finished a unit on 'Identity Poetry'. Pupils have been focusing on analysing poems and structuring written responses using the PEARL paragraphing technique: making a **p**oint; quoting **e**vidence from the text; **a**nalysing the language devices used; suggesting a **r**eaders response; **l**inking the answer to the poems' context. The children were analysing 'Still I Rise' by Maya Angelou, set in the context of racism in the USA.

After completing the summative task they have an additional opportunity to redraft and improve a selected paragraph.

These skills are really important when preparing KS3 pupils for upper school and GCSE.



Epraise Reward Experiences

The Epraise Tote bag award took place earlier this week - the children enjoyed taking part and their hard earned candle credits were used to great effect!



[Bag2school textile collection - Friday 21st March](#)

How does it **work?**

We all have clothing in our wardrobes that we haven't worn in ages! In a world of fast fashion, we now have a lot of stuff – but when it comes to a clear out what do you do to make sure the environment comes off best?

Bag2School has the answer – we've been **helping schools for over 20 years** and in the process **paid out over £48 million** to PTAs and Friends of School Groups and many other organisations.

We are signed up to the Bag2school scheme which is a way of using your unused textiles to raise vital funds for Emmanuel Middle. For details of how to support this cause please refer to the information in this link:

[What We Collect | Bag2School](#)

All that is left is to wish everyone a fantastic half term and remind you that the pupils return to school on Tuesday 25th February (after and INSET day on Monday 24th). We look forward to seeing everyone on that Tuesday.

Mr Rob Christopher and Mr Alister Barker.