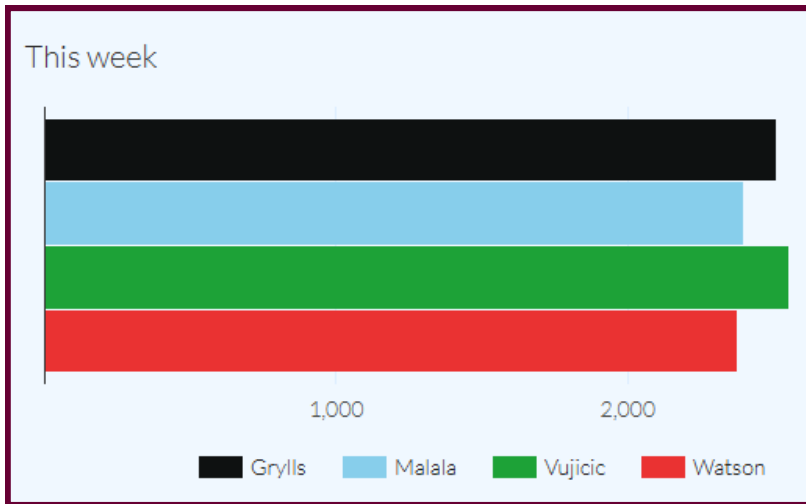


Dear Parents/Carers,

Good afternoon and welcome to this week's parent bulletin as we draw to a close Summer 1 for half term.

House News



Big week to Vujicic who stretched their lead in the overall standing by being the top performing house this week. Well done - half a term for the chasing pack to catch up with lots of candle credits to play for.

The epraise shop: please note that new rewards will be added soon in Summer 2.

Skillsbuilder

On Thursday, the whole school took part in a mini skillsbuilder session based all around the life skill of speaking. This session looked at what it looks and sounds like to speak clearly and had a focus of speaking with tone, expression and gesture. We also had lots of discussion of where in school, and in the real world, this skill is used and practiced and the importance of being a confident speaker. The children had several different tasks to practice speaking with the correct tone, expression and gesture and staff were very impressed with the engagement of each class! One of the final bits that was discussed was looking at what growing up in a digital world looks like and why it is even more important to come away from screens and value the face to face interactions that we have!

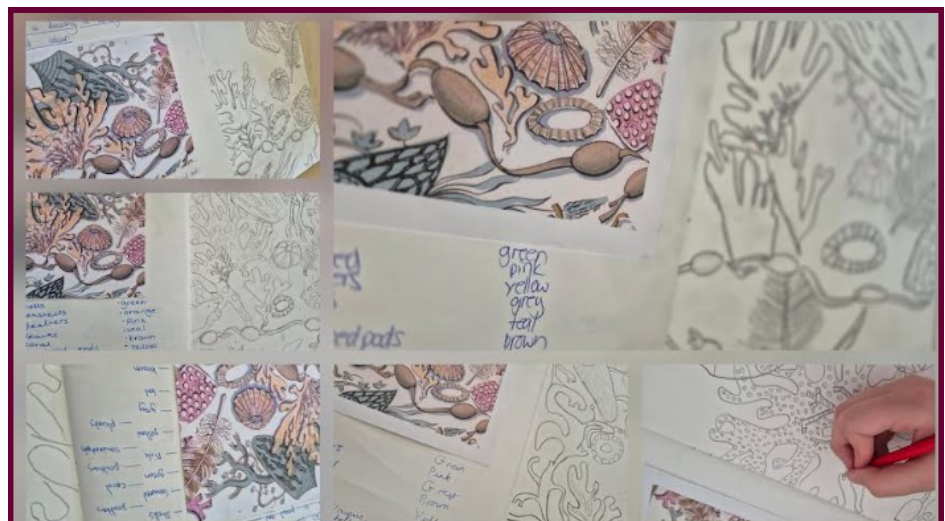
Year 5

In English, Year 5 have finished their complaint letters and are now starting the preparation of their non-chronological reports on Greek Gods and Goddesses.

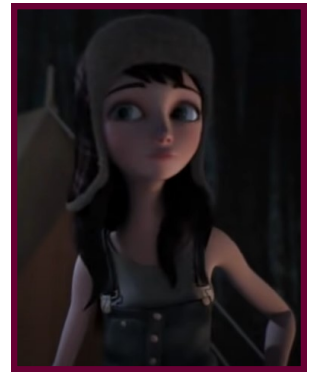
In Maths, they have been working on translation and reflection of shapes as part of their position and movement topic.

Year 6

This week in Art Year 6 have been inspired by British Artist Angie Lewin. They have been analysing her mark making, print style and use of colour producing their own pieces in her style.



In English, year 6 have been working on their narrative writing as part of our end of KS2 Writing Standards. The piece is based on a video clip called 'Francis'. This is a mysterious story to help inspire our own mysterious narrative writing.



Year 7

Science this week has focussed on finishing the reproduction topic with a successful end of topic test, they now start a new chemistry topic: the periodic table.

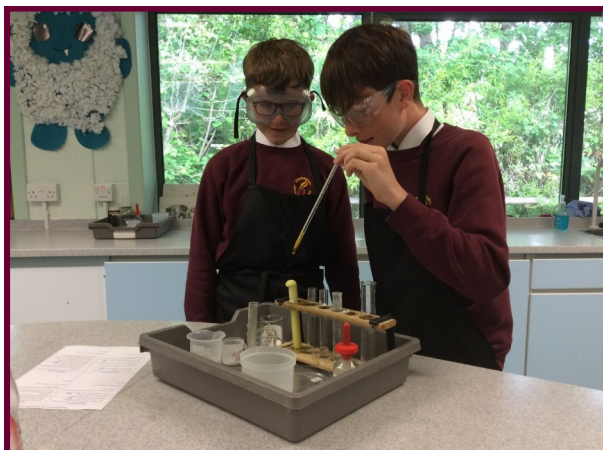
In Food technology, Year 7's were put on the spot to work in teams to produce delicious food in a Seasonal Fruit, Veg and Herb Invention Test. We had cakes, pastries, salads, chips, buttered Jersey Royals, pancakes and pizzas - all in the space of an hour and a half. Everything was eaten and the room left sparkling. A successful test of independence and imagination.



Year 8

In Maths the pupils have been extending their prior learning on area to calculate the area of more complex shapes. The formulae for trapezia and circles have been explored as well as applying this to find the area of parts of circles.

In Science, Year 8s are enjoying the 'Chemical Reactions' topic as they have been conducting so many practicals. This week was no different, they were asked to follow four practical methods to investigate 'Endothermic and Exothermic reactions'. They even created a mini 'Elephants toothpaste'. They were so excited!

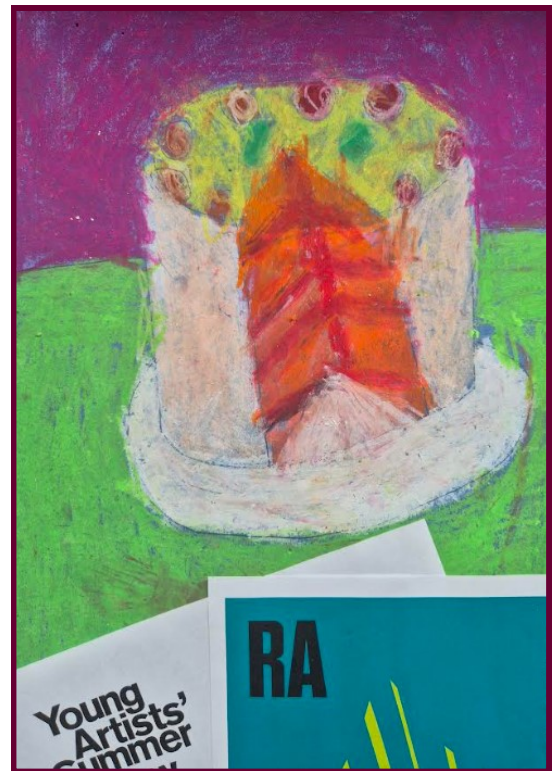


Art News

Huge CONGRATULATIONS to Jack Waters 5DG whose oil pastel cake piece has been selected for The Royal Academy, London Young Artists Summer Show 2025.

Mrs Christopher nominated 3 students' work from year 5. There were 23000 entries nationwide so it is a real achievement to have a pupil selected for the prestigious Art exhibition in London in July.

Well done Jack!



Sporting News

Well done to the U12 Girls' Football Team for making it so far in the County Cup competition. They played absolutely brilliantly in the first half and led the game 1-0. We also had a penalty saved as Siobhan was able to steer the ball on to the crossbar.

It remained that way until 10 minutes into the second half, when we conceded a second penalty. After that, the heat and the relentless pressure of Parkstone Grammar's midfield wore us down and we conceded a succession of goals to lose the final 7-2!

I know that the girls were disappointed but they should be really proud of how far they have come - some have competed in two finals in as many years, and collected two sets of medals. Siobhan was 'player of the match' for some of her tremendous saves - named by the County Cup organiser and Parkstone coach.



Chess Club

Calling all strategic thinkers and future grandmasters! We would love to launch a school Chess Club. It is the perfect place to hone your mind and enjoy one of the world's most enduring and fascinating games. Chess is more than just moving pieces on a board; it's a thrilling battle of wits, demanding focus, problem-solving skills, and foresight. Every move presents a new challenge, encouraging you to think critically and anticipate your opponent's next action. Whether you're a seasoned player or a complete beginner, you'll find a welcoming environment to learn, practice, and compete. We're also looking to expand our resources, so if your family has any complete, spare chess sets that are no longer being used, we would be incredibly grateful for your donation to help our club grow! Come join us and discover the incredible depths of the royal game! We will be speaking to the pupils after half term to ascertain their interest in a club and will send further details thereafter.

All that is left is to wish everyone a great half term and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 2nd June.

Mr Rob Christopher and Mr Alister Barker.