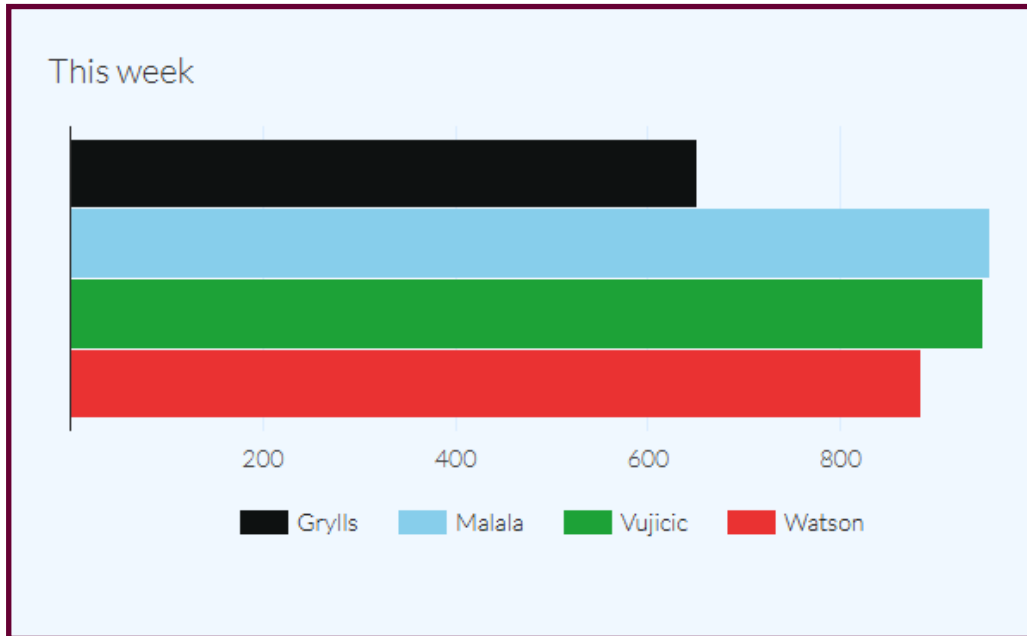


Dear Parents/Carers,

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

We must start by saying thank you very much for all your help and support with the Christmas Fair, lots of fun was had and the Fair raised £3,850!

## House News



Another hotly contested week in the candle credit race with Malala narrowly edging out Vujicic. Across the whole year it is incredibly close with Vujicic pipping Watson to the lead by only 74 candle credits on 34,862!

## November House Challenge: Litter Picking

The results are in for the litter picking House challenge. Well done to the huge number of pupils who showed real pride in our school environment and endeavour - they have been awarded candle credits accordingly. Well done to Malala who earn the most bonus points by having the most involvement.

1st place - Malala - 400 candle credits  
2nd place - Vujicic - 300 candle credits  
3rd place - Watson - 200 candle credits  
4th place - Grylls - 100 candle credits

## Year 5

In English, Year 5 have been creating an exciting survival guide, teaching readers how to find food and water, and how to build a fire and shelter in the Amazon Rainforest. They have been using brackets for parenthesis to add extra detail (which helps make their writing clearer and more informative) to explain important steps in their guides.

In Maths, we have been working hard on understanding fractions, including finding equivalent fractions, converting improper fractions to mixed numbers, and comparing and ordering them. This has been a tricky topic (one that many students find challenging), but they have shown great determination and made fantastic progress.

In Science, Year 5 are continuing to learn about the 'properties and changes of materials' as they investigate reversible and irreversible reactions, separation techniques and soluble and insoluble substances. They have been conducting a lot of practicals. The photos show a practical where students watched what happens when vinegar and bicarbonate soda are added together, comparing the results to their predictions.



## Year 6

In Science, our Year 6 pupils are currently conducting investigations to further their knowledge of 'light and shadow'. Today 6SLW were asked to set up an experiment whereby they progressively measured the width of a shadow projected onto a screen by torch. Once the children had tabulated their results, they calculated a mean average. In their next lesson they will be discussing their results and constructing a scatter graph - allowing them to plot a line of 'best fit'. Well done 6 SLW



In Maths most of the groups have moved on to the first fractions unit where they start by recognising the equivalent and simplified fractions while using fractions as numbers by placing them on a number line. This unit continues to apply their tables knowledge with multiples and factors being important prior learning - please keep reinforcing these crucial number facts with regular practice at home.

Year 6 Art has seen some wonderful sculptures painted. They have put the polishing paint on their Italian Artist GIACOMETTI inspired armatures of People in Action.



## Year 7

In Maths the children have worked their way through their place value and calculation units building on their Year 6 learning by multiplying and dividing pairs of decimals. They are now moving into deepening their use of averages adding the median and mode to the mean that they learnt in KS2.

In Science they have been investigating dissolving this week as part of the Chemistry topic of 'Separation'. They were determining the factors that affect solubility by dissolving a sugar cube in the fastest time.



## Year 8

In Geography, Year 8 have begun to study their new unit on Weather and Climate. Whilst this is a wide ranging unit that covers everything from where our weather comes from and why weather in the UK is so changeable, it culminates in a study of the causes and consequences of climate change. For this generation, this is a critical unit of work. Understanding climate change and the impact it might have on our daily lives is a key part of their preparation for later life.

The Year 8 Historians have now completed their assessed work on the causes of the French Revolution. I was really impressed with the pupils' abilities to understand both the long term and short term causes of the revolution and the empathetic ways they communicated this, from the perspective of the 3rd estate. Having looked too at the causes and consequences of the execution of the King, in the new year we will move on to investigate the rise of Napoleon and consider the ways in which he can be interpreted. This will lead to our next assessment, which will be source based.

## Accelerated Reader

The following KS2 classes have won the MUFTI prize for this term.  
Well done to:

**5DG**  
**6JB**

## Christmas Lunch

Over 200 pupils enjoyed a Christmas lunch at school on Wednesday. The hall was abuzz with Christmas music and the sound of crackers being pulled. The pupils' behaviour was amazing and a huge thank you to all the staff involved in ensuring a successful lunch service.



## Verwood Town FC and Hamberley Care Homes

Further to the email sent to parents this week, representatives from Verwood Town FC and Hamberley Care Homes came into school to present the free season passes to pupils. Pupils should have brought these home with them this week.



All that is left is to wish you all a great weekend and looking forward to seeing everyone back on Monday for the final week before Christmas. A reminder that the last day of term is Thursday 18th December - normal finishing time of 3.20pm - Friday 19th is an INSET day.

Mr Rob Christopher and Mr Alister Barker