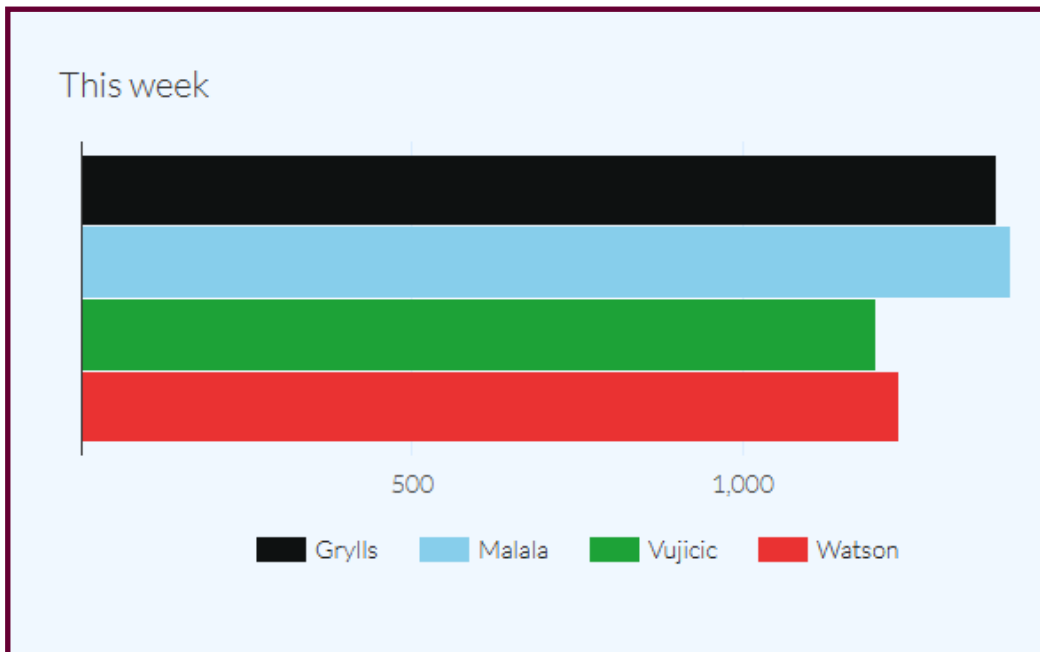


Dear Parents/Carers,

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

House News



Another big week for Malala who, in recent weeks, have been battling with Grylls for the top performing House weekly. They are now just 11 candle credits short of Watson for second place in this term's standings with 13,966.

You will have received details this week of two further House challenges - the World Book Day character competition and our recycling challenge. These have been discussed in worship today so please talk about participation in these over half term. Participation brings candle credits.

Year 5

In computing, Year 5 have been working through their unit on spreadsheets. They have learned that spreadsheets can hold lots of different types of data. They have learned how to use different formulas to make calculations, read and analyse spreadsheet data, and are currently in the process of planning a party. They were given a blank spreadsheet to use and have had to input all of the different data themselves! Next term we will be moving onto Lego Robots!

In Science, Year 5 pupils have been learning about the germination process in their living things topic. They have looked at the factors affecting germination such as the type of soil and amount of light, as well as the three key things seeds must have in order to germinate. In order to investigate this further, they have placed cress seeds in both light and dark conditions to see which ones successfully germinate. We look forward to seeing the results!

Year 6

The last couple of weeks we have been looking at Moses and Jesus and how their actions and examples inspire people today as they try to bring freedom and justice to the modern world. Our key focus was Martin Luther King Jr. where he experienced segregation and racism due to the colour of his skin. We explored how he took on peaceful protest, inspired by Gandhi, we heard parts of his speech "Let freedom reign" and "I have a dream" and how his actions meant that all people now have freedom and are treated equally in the USA. This then links into the 10 commandments and Jesus' new commandments, where he preached forgiveness. The pupils learned the message to use words not weapons and how he wanted people to come together and show love and respect to each other.

Our Year 6 historians have been diving deeper into World War II this week, identifying the pivotal turning points that shifted momentum for the Allied forces.

A major highlight has been investigating the broader impact of the Blitz. The children were fascinated to discover that the air raids extended far beyond London; by researching cities like Coventry and Southampton, they gained a better understanding of how the Luftwaffe targeted Britain's essential manufacturing hubs and major ports. It has been brilliant to see them uncover why these locations were so vital to the war effort and how their industrial importance made them primary targets.

Year 7

This week marks the successful conclusion of the volleyball unit as pupils moved from practicing isolated skills to applying them within a full game context. It has been great to see them integrate technical elements like the dig, volley, and serve into tactical play. Alongside their work on the court, students have explored Health Related Fitness by experiencing various ways to stay active outside of traditional sports.

The curriculum also incorporated Outdoor Adventurous Activities, which allowed pupils to explore vital personal qualities. By focusing on communication and the importance of giving and receiving feedback, students gained a deeper understanding of teamwork and the diverse roles individuals play within a group, all of which are essential skills as they develop into young adults.

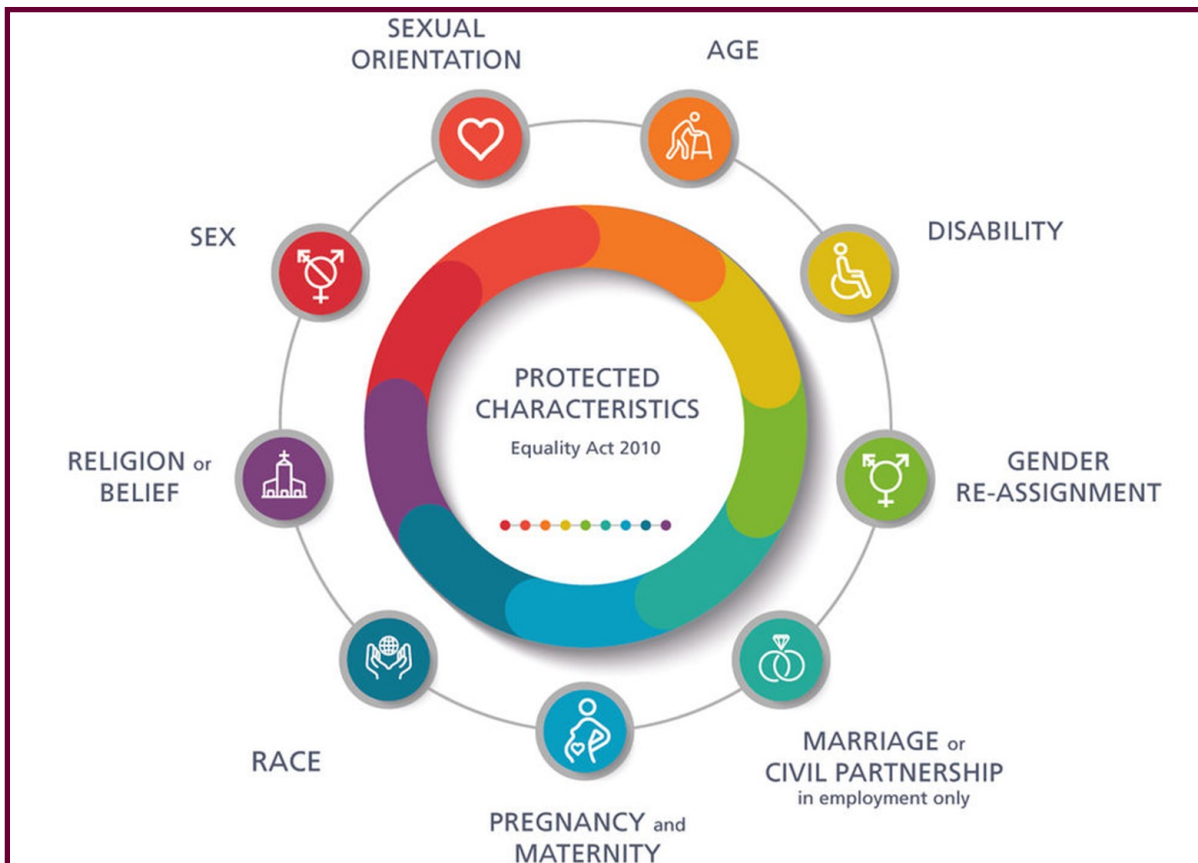


This week in Art Year 7 have been designing a Totem Pole that symbolises their personalities looking at Native American spirit animals and design.



Year 8

Year 8 Wellbeing



This term's lessons on discrimination started with a secret Smarties mission. Each pupil was given a Smartie and an instruction! The discussion points afterwards were linked to acknowledgement of how important it is for people to feel that they fit in with the group they are a part of and the importance of making decisions based on their own beliefs and reducing the influences around them.

When we looked at a vintage Coke advert, we thought about how the media can influence public views about stereotypes. You might want to remind yourself of the advert from the 1970s that was the catalyst for Coke going global and becoming the most popular soft drink ever. If Pepsi had made a better advert first, they may have been the top seller.

We have questioned discrimination which has resulted in genocide and why it is still prevalent in our news stories today. We have also studied the Equality Act 2010 and linked it to our work on careers and employment.

Lastly, through lots of discussions and debates, we will be trying to solve the problem of how we recognise and challenge discrimination.

In Science, our Year 8 pupils are currently engaged in a Physics unit on 'Energy, Work and Cost'. Within this topic our children are learning about energy stores, energy transfers and also energy production. They have discussed the pros and cons of both renewable and non-renewable energy sources as well as calculating the running costs of a range of household items. Apparently, the average cost of energy in the UK at the moment is around 27.03p per kWh! You might be delighted to find that your Year 8 son, or daughter is now slightly more frugal with their electricity usage at home having done these lessons.

All that is left is to wish everyone a great half term - fingers crossed for at least one dry day!

A reminder that Monday 23rd February is an INSET day and so we look forward to seeing the pupils back at school on Tuesday 24th February.

Mr Rob Christopher and Mr Alister Barker

EMS WEEKLY BULLETIN

13th February 2026

Key dates: February - July 2026 (subject to change):

DATE	EVENT
Friday 13th February	Break up for half term (finish at 3.20pm)
Monday 23rd February	INSET Day
Thursday 26th February	Year 6 Parents Evening
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day
Tuesday 10th - Thursday 12th March	School Production
Friday 13th March	Year 8 Chelsea's Story Play at Lockyers Middle
Monday 16th - Friday 20th March	Year 7 French Residential
Friday 27th March	Break up for Easter (finish at 3.20pm) PTFA Mufti and Cake Sale
Monday 13th April	INSET Day
Thursday 16th and Tuesday 21st April	Parents' Evenings
Tuesday 5th - Friday 8th May	Year 5 Heatree Residential
Monday 11th - Thursday 14th May	Year 6 SATS
Friday 15th June	PTFA Disco
Tuesday 19th May	Class Group and Year 8 Photographs
Thursday 21st May	Year 5 Treehouse Theatre - Ancient Greeks
Friday 22nd May	Break up for half term (finish at 3.20pm)
Thursday 4th June	Year 5 & 6 Parents in to view work (2.45-3.15pm)
Tuesday 9th June	KS3 Sports Day Heats (AM)
Thursday 11th June	KS2 Sports Day Heats and Potted Sports (AM)
Wednesday 17th June	Sports Day Finals (AM)
Friday 26th June	Transfer Day
Tuesday 30th June - 3rd July	Year 6 Activities Week
Tuesday 7th July	Year 8 Bournemouth University Visit
Friday 10th July	PTFA Summer Fair
Monday 13th - Friday 17th July	Year 8 Activities Week
Monday 20th July	Year 6 and 8 Awards Evening - Verwood Hub
Wednesday 22nd July	Last day of term (finish at 3.20pm)



Online FREE talk by Jane Keyworth

Anxiety Based School Avoidance

March 26th 7-8pm



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