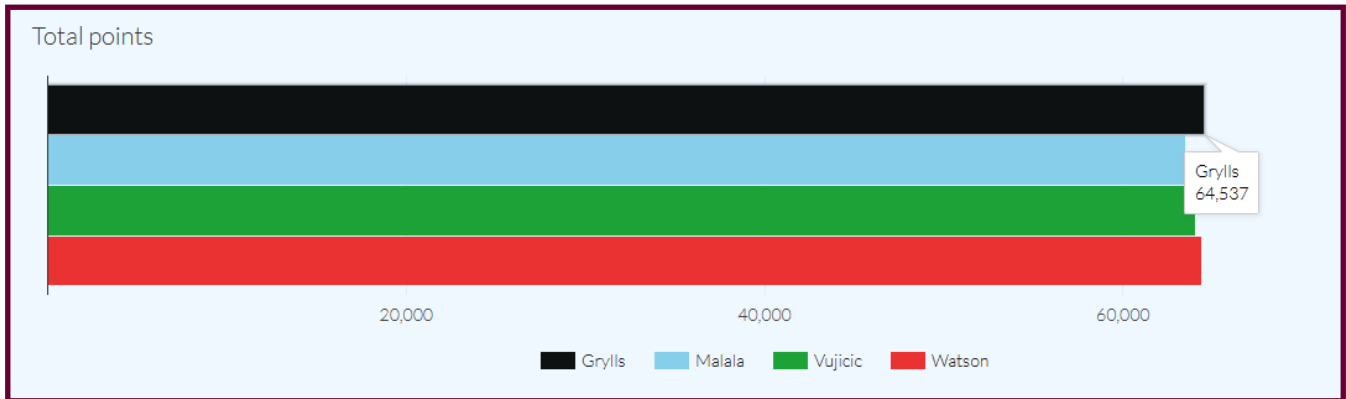


Dear Parents/Carers,

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

House News



Well done to Grylls who are leading the house competition across the year - they hold a narrow lead of only 132 candle credits from second place Watson.

Well done also to the following pupils who are the highest candle credit earners this term:

Year 5
Isaac B
Aisling W
Ethan J
Zoey B
Edward M

Year 6
Jasper N
Isobel P
Caitlin M
Gabriel M
Lucy B

Year 7
Amelia T
Romilly H
Toby H
Evie H
Evie H

Year 8
Teddy P
Siobhan P-B
Alex B
Anastasia A
Lorenzo C

Science week: a message from Head of Science - Mrs Etheridge

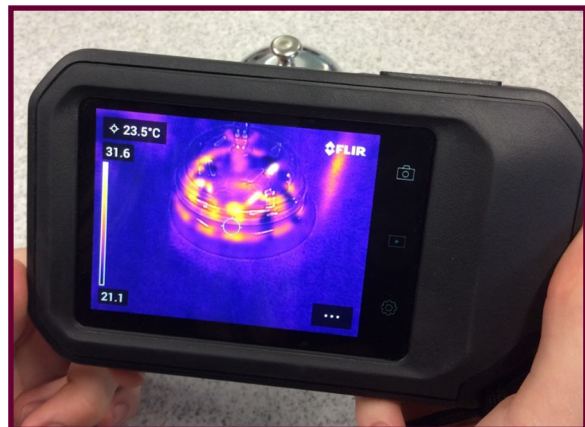
This week, we celebrated Science Week 2026! Tuesday was a highlight, as students dived into spirited house competitions to earn points for their teams. We wrapped up the day with a high-energy whole-school assembly to announce the winners—but the fun didn't stop there. We even squeezed in a 'KS2 vs. KS3' staff challenge! It was wonderful to see the students cheering just as loudly for their teachers as they did for their houses. These are the results from the house competition:

Year	Watson	Grylls	Malala	Vujicic
5	16	16	16	20
6	15	19	27	20
7	18	25	16	16
8	9	15	14	13
Totals	58	75	73	69



The excitement continued on

Wednesday when a group of students enjoyed an inspiring talk from professional scientist, Mr. Nethercott. With his wealth of experience across various scientific fields, he brought the world of space to life! The students were thrilled to learn about satellite technology—and even got to hold a real satellite. They also spent time exploring their surroundings through an infra-red lens, using a specialized camera. We were incredibly impressed by the insightful questions our students asked; their curiosity truly highlighted their deep understanding of the subject. What an unforgettable experience!



To bring our Science Week activities to a spectacular close, the students were treated to a dry ice demonstration—and as you can imagine, the atmosphere was electric! A special, heartfelt thank you must go to my incredible Science Ambassadors. They were truly AMAZING, and I simply couldn't have pulled this week off without them. We've received so many wonderful comments from staff praising their hard work and leadership. They should feel incredibly proud of themselves; I know I certainly am!



Red Nose Day

Thank you to all those who brought in their £1.00 for mufti last Friday to support Red Nose Day. The school raised an impressive £335.85 considering the majority of year 7 were out on the French Residential.

Outdoor Classroom

We are thrilled to announce that we are officially ready to break ground on the **second phase** of our outdoor learning space! Research shows that an outdoor classroom is more than just a change of scenery; it significantly boosts student engagement, reduces stress, and fosters a hands-on connection with the natural world that indoor settings can't replicate. To make this vision a reality, we are looking for community partners, parents, or local businesses who can offer their expertise or resources. We're looking for support with **initial design concepts, materials** once plans are finalised, and **hands-on help** with site preparation or construction. Whether you are a landscaper, a DIY enthusiast, or have access to building supplies, your contribution would directly impact our students' well-being and academic growth.

If you are able to assist in any capacity, please **email the school office** to get involved. Together, we can create an inspiring space where our children can thrive under the open sky!

Sparx Reader

Well done to everyone who has worked so hard this term on their Sparx reader homework - the single biggest support for pupils being successful across the curriculum is to read regularly. With two weeks of holiday now incoming, what reading challenges can your family set? Below are the pupils who completed the most Sparx reader this term.

Year 7

Toby H	12177
Ava G	5610
Ava L-B	4514
Isabella U	3323
Zara P	3313
Brodie P	3285
Saul B	3210
Phoebe B	3194
Alice Y	3122
Amelia T	3113
Elvis A	3108
Josef B-E	3067
Evie H	2910
Maisie W	2905
Rocky B	2892
Amber F	2816
Delilah R	2759
Millie P	2748
Thea A	2694
Romilly H	2691

Year 8

Annie A	8190
Alex B	5557
Lorenzo C	4795
Lucas O	4480
Amelia E	4387
Kasey T	4188
Zoe S	4133
Megan W	3948
Roxi D	3819
Jasmine D	3789
Henry J	3750
Summer S	3638
Maeve W	3618
Mason D	3598
Jasmine K	3591
Kai L	3571
Harriet W	3555
Pavlo K	3534
Olivia A	3524
Katie J	3469

Year 5

Year 5 Heatree Residential

The final parent information meeting will be Wednesday 22nd April at 5.30. This is an important evening to attend as we will be discussing specific trip information including kit lists and medical information.

In DT, Year 5 have added the finishing touches to their Fairground Rides this week. Some fantastic additions including ticket booths, signs, popcorn stands and more! Being a shorter term, the children have worked double-time to get their projects finished, lots of effort has gone into these - hopefully they've made it home in one piece!



In Music, the pupils have been learning some basic chords on the ukulele including F, C7, Am and C to play some popular songs together as a class. Ask your child to tell you a fun fact about the history of a ukulele!

Year 6

Yr 6 have been completing their final piece of this terms project; Insects and Birds. They have combined the two Artists that they have studied and fused together in an A3 mixed media composition. Abby Diamond and Alex Konahin.



In English and Maths, Year 6 continue to prepare for their end of key stage tests which start on 11th May. They are working so hard - revisiting old units and learning new content. A large part of the preparation is about preparing to work with real intensity for the full test time and ensure accuracy of work. Many missed marks are due to either incomplete papers or small errors where they knew the correct answer. Homework that is set over the holiday period will help the pupils prepare - please provide the best working environment and support for this to be done accurately and purposefully.

Year 7

STEP into the NHS Careers Competition Year 7

Year 7 have now had all the information about the competition. Mrs Robertson will give each class one more lesson after half term as well as Monday and Tuesday lunchtimes to make resources. All pupils are expected to submit an entry - this can be individual or as part of a team. All information is now on Google Classroom, including a guide for parents/ guardians. The closing date will be Monday 20th April.

Reviews are an incredibly important part of literary writing and Y7 have started a new unit that is focusing on writing informative film reviews. The skills learned in this unit are transferrable and can be used to review a whole range of media, as suggested above.



Film Review

What is a review?

A review is a critical evaluation of literature, films, video games, events, locations, art, fashion, restaurants, performances, etc.

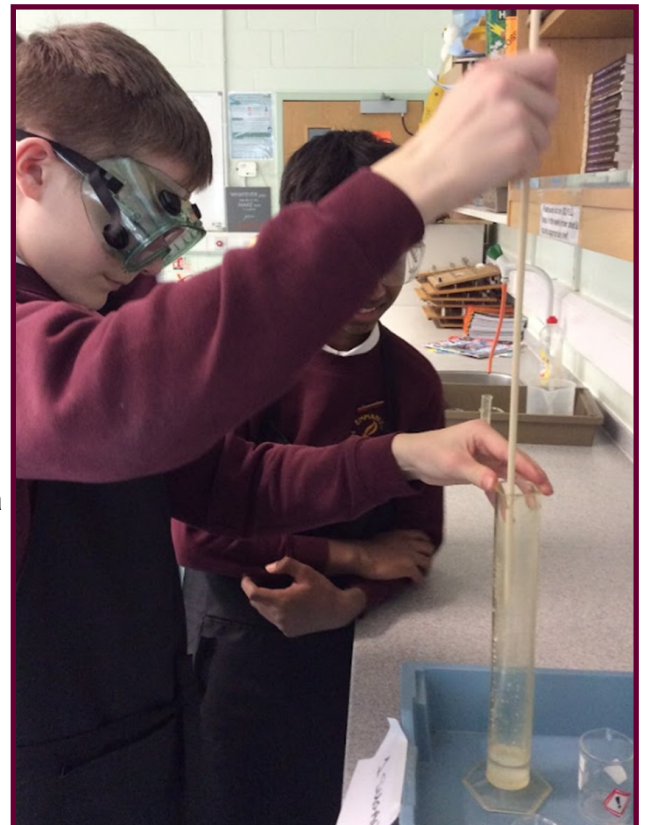
You can find reviews in newspapers, magazines, on television and online.

A review is analytical, informative and persuasive. It is not just a summary of your subject, but an evaluation in which you give your opinions.

We will be focusing on the purpose, audience, language and layout of reviews. This will involve carefully crafted sentence structures, using a range of new and technical vocabulary to impress our audience.

Year 8

This week, our Year 8 Science students took a deep dive into the world of respiration by investigating the fermentation process. Through hands-on experimentation, students discovered a surprising scientific limit: excessive sugar can actually inhibit fermentation rather than accelerate it. It was a great lesson in chemical balance—proving that when it comes to the perfect dough, more sugar doesn't always mean a fluffier result!



In year 8 French, as part of the holiday topic, we created dialogues to replicate going into a shop to buy souvenirs.

Sporting News

KS2 Handball Competition

Well done to the Year 5 students who took part in the KS2 Handball tournament at QE School on Thursday. Coming up against a mix of Y5/6 students they showed great teamwork, togetherness and resilience with the two EMS teams both finishing 2nd in their groups, meaning they met in the Plate Final! Big congratulations to all involved and to the Plate winners!

Cross Country

Huge congratulations to everyone who took part throughout the season. All weathers and primarily poor running conditions, but some amazing results:

Year 5/6 Girls - Erin P 1st place
Year 5/6 Girls - Lily K 3rd place
Year 5/6 Boys - Toby S 2nd place
Year 5/6 Girls Team 2nd place

Congratulations to William Dibben (8MR) for an amazing Bournemouth Bay Run. Last weekend, William Dibben delivered an outstanding performance in the 2026 Bournemouth Bay Run 5K, finishing 93rd out of 515 runners! Crossing the line in an impressive 26:14, he shaved 35 seconds off his previous personal best - marking a significant achievement and a testament to his dedication and progress.

Very well done William - a future star in the making?

Message from Dorset Council Transport

SEND School and College Travel

Please share the below message with your parents and carers

We are encouraging families to apply early if their child will need SEND (special educational needs and disabilities) travel for September. Early applications help us plan the right type of support and make sure everything is in place for the start of the new school year.

September feels a long way off, but if your child needs SEND (special educational needs and disabilities) travel for the new school year, now is the time to apply:

- Children under 16: apply through your SEND Provision Lead
- Young people aged 16 or over: apply directly on our website

Deadline for all applications: 31 May

For more information, please see [School and college travel assistance for students with SEND - Dorset Council](#)

All that is left is to wish everyone a fantastic Easter holiday. Fingers crossed we see more of the sun! We hope you have a restful time and finish by reminding you that we have an INSET day on April 13th and so we will welcome pupils back to school on Tuesday 14th April.

Mr Rob Christopher and Mr Alister Barker



EMS WEEKLY BULLETIN

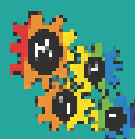
27th March 2026

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

DATE	EVENT
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
Wednesday 22nd April	Year 5 Heatree Info Evening (5.30-6.30pm)
Tuesday 5th - Friday 8th May	Year 5 Heatree Residential
Monday 11th - Thursday 14th May	Year 6 SATS
Friday 15th May	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) PTFA Dress for your Dream Job Mufti Day
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)



@DORSETMHST



Dorset
Mental
Health
Support
Team in
Schools



Dorset Health Care
University
NHS Foundation Trust

WATCH NOW

PARENT/CARER WEBINAR

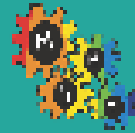
SUPPORTING SLEEP

Join the Mental Health Support Team (MHST) for a practical and informative recorded webinar focused on helping children and young people develop healthier sleep routines. In recognition of World Sleep Day, this session will explore why sleep matters, common challenges that affect young people's sleep, and simple, evidence-based strategies families can use at home.

<https://forms.office.com/e/RgrSpKcc2V>



World Sleep Day
Sleep Well
Live Better
World's Sleep Day
March 13, 2026



Dorset
Mental
Health
Support
Team in
Schools



Dorset HealthCare
University
NHS Foundation Trust

PARENT/CARER WEBINAR

EMOTIONALLY BASED SCHOOL NON ATTENDANCE

The Mental Health Support Team in Schools invites you to an online webinar on Emotionally Based School Non-Attendance (EBSNA). This session, suitable for parents and carers of secondary-school young people, will explain why some students struggle to attend school due to emotional distress or anxiety and will offer practical strategies to help them return to and stay in education.

During the session, we will explore:

- What EBSNA is and how it presents
- Common triggers and underlying causes
- Impact on school attendance
- Practical strategies
- Where to find additional support



Tuesday 21st April
12.30 - 13.30
Online

For more info & sign up: bit.ly/4rxjYIW