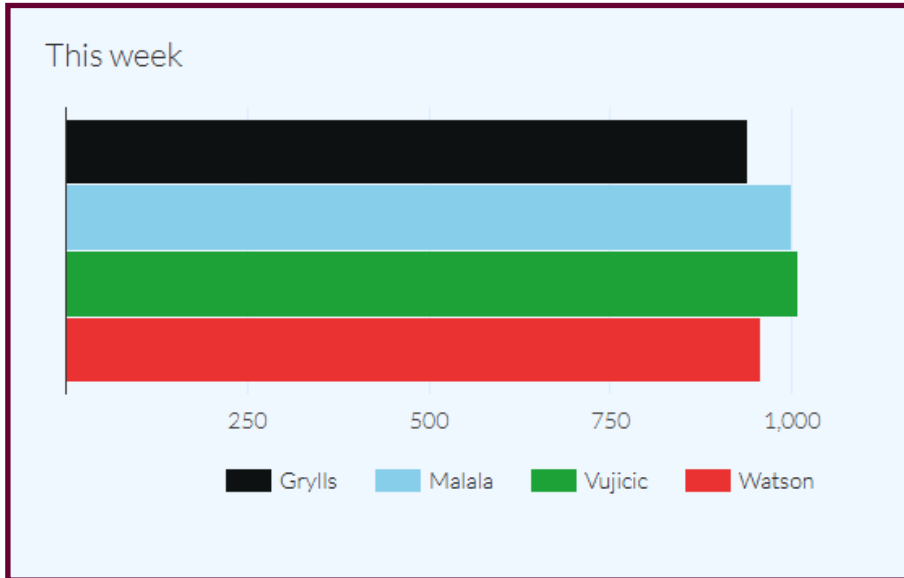


Dear Parents/Carers,

Good afternoon and welcome to this week's parent bulletin at the start of the final and very busy and varied half term of the year.

House News



Well done to Vujcic for a strong start to the second half of Summer term. They just pipped Malala for the most candle credits in the week by 9 points.

Sports Day Dates Update

Due to the poor weather forecast we have had to make advanced changes to our Sports Day schedule. These are the new dates subject to weather being good enough! We appreciate this makes it tricky for parents who are trying to come and spectate - oh for a stable British climate! There will no longer be any sports day events next week.

Wednesday 17th June - NEW KS3 Heats date

Monday 22nd June - NEW KS2 Heats and Potted Sports

Wednesday 24th June - NEW Sports Day Finals date

A request from the Children's Commissioner for England: what's it like being a child or young person (0-18 years) in England?

Have Your Say in The Big Future' Survey!

The Children's Commissioner for England has launched a fantastic national survey, "**What's it like being a child or young person (0-18 years) in England?**", and they want to hear directly from our children! This is a wonderful, empowering opportunity for your child to share their thoughts, dreams, and everyday experiences to help shape the future of support and services across the country. We would love to encourage all of our families to take a few moments to sit down together, explore the questions, and complete the survey. It's a beautifully positive way to celebrate your child's unique voice and make sure their perspective truly counts. You can access the survey directly right here: [The Big Future Survey](#).

Year 5

In Computing this half term the pupils go back in time to look at the history of computers understanding how much change has happened for the tech they now use to exist.

A huge well done to our fantastic Year 5 PE students for conquering a major milestone this week! They've done a brilliant job transitioning to using the changing rooms, showing great maturity while organising themselves and their equipment - a wonderful life skill. Thanks to your efforts in labelling everything, the very few misplaced items were easily returned. The children have been bursting with energy while practicing hard for Sports Day and Potted Sports.

Year 6

As part of our KS2 Writing Moderation visit next week, we have been completing a narrative mystery based on the videoclip 'Francis'.



This is an example of a pupil's adaptation: "I Did Warn Her."

~~I did~~ I DID WARN HER.

When I was a child living in the south of Devon, adventure meant Moors Valley National Park - a million-acre nature preserve on the border of Devon and Dorset. It was so huge that you could go days and days without seeing another soul.

My family used to stay in the log cabins there. We loved it so much that we went once a year. We canoed on the river, we explored the go-ape but the best thing to do was toast marshmallows on the campfire. But, I won't be going back to Moors Valley National Park anytime soon. Not after what happened to a girl named Caitlin Moody.

Caitlin was fourteen at the time, brown hair and with a reckless nature. She never escaped an opportunity for adventure. A few years ago, she was up in Moors Valley with her friend Ava. They stayed in one of the vast log cabins, miles away from anything else.

One night, just as Ava and Caitlin were about to go to sleep, there was a knock on Caitlin's bedroom window. She ignored it at first, thinking it was the wind. Another knock appeared and Caitlin saw an old, skeletal hand with two fingers, both with a green fingernail so long - and so sharp - that she felt they would break through the window and touch her.

Caitlin screamed into Ava's room, checking if she was asleep - she was. Caitlin crept out of the front door and took her diary in her favourite blue backpack. She crept around the log cabin until she came to the wall before her window.

Shaking with fear, Caitlin looked around the corner - ~~there~~ ^{there} was nothing there. A bang came from inside the forest. Caitlin ran into the forest, not escaping this choice ~~of~~ ^{of} danger. She recorded everything in her diary while she was running. Caitlin saw the same fingernails and began to panic and run, deeper and deeper into the forest, carrying on writing in that very diary.

Caitlin's story.

It is because of this diary that we know this ~~that this happened~~.
Caitlin can't tell us - she was never seen again.

The diary was found the next day in that forest along with her blue backpack. Every page was written in her distinctive handwriting. Every page but the last one. When the diary was found, the last page was wet, and on it ~~was~~ ^{were} four words, looking as if it they'd been written in blood. They reads 'I did warn her -'

The children are currently writing an information text about the Humboldt Squid, using David Attenborough's 'Life on Earth' series, to celebrate both his 100th birthday and our assured and conscious control of formal language register.



In Art this week, Year 6 have started their Natural Forms project. They have produced pencil studies of seed pods using Shape Line, Tone and Texture.



Year 7

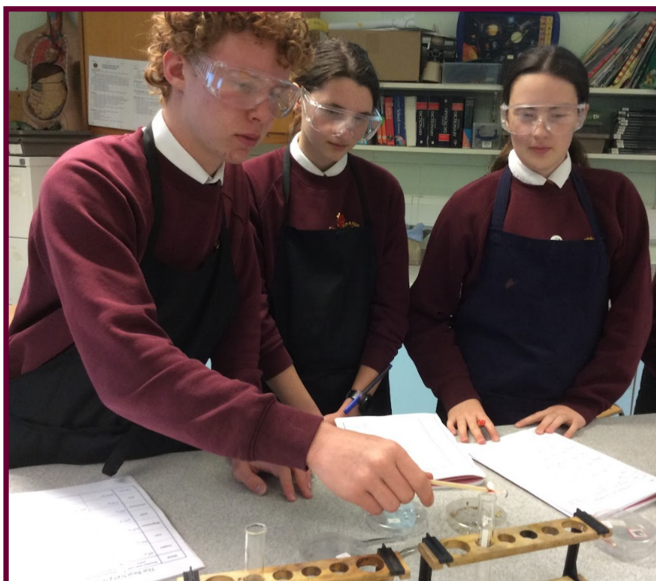
In English, this term has begun with an investigation into the world of film. The children have been learning about what makes a good film review, and have had the chance to view a wide variety of film clips allowing them to apply the review criteria in real time. Students have been learning about mise-en-scene: the French term for 'placing-on-stage' and how this applies to everything that we, the viewer, see, including: locations, placement of actors (close, middle, and long shots); set design, lighting, costumes and props. Within this topic, we have also looked at how the writing of reviews is focused towards a particular purpose and audience, and how author techniques can persuade and influence audiences.

This term in PE, our Year 7 students have been working incredibly hard focusing on their preparations for the upcoming Sports Day. They have been actively developing their skills across a wide range of both track and field events, from sprinting and middle-distance running to throwing and jumping disciplines. It has been fantastic to see their energy, determination, and team spirit shine through during practice as they get ready for the big day!

Year 8

In Maths the pupils in Year 8 are currently learning about angles in polygons & parallel lines. This is an interesting unit that involves the children investigating how alternate, corresponding and co-interior angles can be identified, on a transversal, within a pair of parallel lines. In addition to this, our older children will be exploring facts about the interior and exterior angles of a range of polygons, using formulas to calculate answers and solve problems.

Science this week has been based in Chemistry with Year 8 investigating the Reactivity Series as part of their ongoing unit on Chemical Reactions. Students conducted practical experiments to see how different metals respond to water, acid, and heat. The practical yielded some highly unexpected reactions, much to the shock and delight of our young scientists!



KS3 STEM Club

This week in KS3 STEM Club, our young scientists created **"reacting pufferfish"** using the power of chemistry. By combining a carbonate with household acid, students successfully trapped the resulting gas to make their fishy balloon creations inflate and puff up. A few fish needed a little extra encouragement to react, but in the end, it was brilliantly bubbly fun!



Year 8 Transition Workshop

Sarah Holman from the Mental Health and School Team held an assembly and then a workshop on transition and how to cope with any anxieties linked to moving on to upper school. She shared some breathing and grounding techniques which are useful for any of us to use, if we feel stressed. The powerpoint will be added to the Year 8 Google classrooms, so pupils can access it again at home.

Grounding and Breathing Techniques

5, 4, 3, 2, 1

5 things you can see
4 things you can feel
3 things you can hear
2 things you can smell/taste
1 deep breath

Box breathing

Breathe in for 4 seconds.
Hold for four seconds.
Breathe out for four seconds.
Hold for four seconds.
Repeat.

Colours and shapes

Choose a colour or shape.
Look around you. How many objects can you name with that colour of shape?

Physiological sigh

Inhale deeply through your nose.
Take a second, smaller inhale through your nose.
Exhale slowly and completely through your mouth.
Repeat this process one or two times.

Descriptions

Look around you.
What can you see?
Describe it.
What does it look, feel, sound, taste and smell like?

Rainbow breathing

Breathe in as you trace one colour.
Breathe out as you breathe the next.
Keep going until you've reached the end of the rainbow

Hand breathing

Trace your hand with your finger.
Breathe in for 3 as you move up a finger,
breathe out for 3 as you move down.
Repeat.

A-Z

Can you name one animal beginning with each letter of the alphabet? How about a type of food? A country? A film or a fun activity you like?

Dorset Mental Health Support Team in Schools

The Annual Queen Elizabeth's School Transition Assembly

Many thanks to 'Team QE' for delivering their annual transition assembly to their prospective Year 9 students this week. In addition, to give them an early flavour of life in an upper school - our Year 7 pupils were also invited to attend this year's assembly.

In addition to this, QE's 'Heads of Houses' described different aspects of life and the learning environment at the Upper School. Following this session, our transitioning Year 8 pupils were given the opportunity to question their Year 9 counterparts about various aspects of their forthcoming school life, before finally being 'interviewed' within their House groups. The QE staff commented on how commendably our Year 8s conducted themselves during their interviews.

As always it was great to see how maturely our Year 8 pupils interacted with their older peers and also to be involved so positively with the staff of Queen Elizabeth's School with whom we have established a 'tried and tested' transition process over the course of many years.

It may well be worth starting some conversations with the Year 7 pupils who were present at the transition assembly regarding their choice of upper school. There will be open evening sessions in the Autumn Term whereby I'd urge everyone to explore the opportunities offered by both Queen Elizabeth's School and Ferndown Upper School.

All that is left is to wish you all a great weekend and we look forward to seeing everyone return on Monday morning.

Mr Rob Christopher and Mr Alister Barker

EMS WEEKLY BULLETIN

5th June 2026

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

DATE	EVENT
Wednesday 17th June	Sports Day KS3 Heats (AM)
Monday 22nd June	Sports Day KS2 Potted Sports & Heats (AM)
Monday 22nd June	Year 8 Group Photograph (rescheduled)
Wednesday 24th June	Sports Day Final (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)

FREE ACCESS WITH SCHOOL CODE: EV180225



June 2026 Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours

Understanding Anger	1 June 10am
School Anxiety	1 June 7pm
Facing Defiance	2 June 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	2 June 7pm
Anxiety Explained	8 June 10am
Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	8 June 7pm
Introduction to OCD	9 June 10am
What is ACT?	9 June 7pm
Decreasing Depression	15 June 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	15 June 7pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	16 June 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	16 June 7pm
Improving Family Communication	22 June 10am
Autism-Improving Communication	22 June 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	23 June 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	23 June 7pm
ADHD and Homework	25 June 7-8pm

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Visit the PARENTS page of the FACE website (facefamilyadvice.co.uk) to view the 16 regular talks for parents.

Click through the booking calendar to find a date and time that suits you.

Click through the booking calendar to find a date and time that suits you.

At the payment stage of booking, enter the code **EV180225** where it says **ADD PROMO CODE** to get access for FREE

****Note:**** Links to recordings of the talks are available for 48 hours after the session. If you cannot make a live session, book on and then email to request the recording link.

Please avoid booking the FREE sessions for parents, as these are for parents from schools that have not purchased the discount code. The code can only be used for Parent Talks and cannot be shared with parents from different schools. Improper use can result in immediate code cancellation for the whole school.

SCOOOSC

SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUB

NEW 8AM-1PM SESSION AVAILABLE!

HAF PLACES AVAILABLE!

THURSDAY 23rd JULY – FRIDAY 28th AUGUST

Bookings are now open for the Summer Holidays!

Join us for a summer full of fun, friendship and adventure. Children can enjoy a variety of activities including arts and crafts, outdoor play, sports, Lego, cooking, board games, water play, nature activities and much more!

SUMMER HOLIDAY DATES

Thursday
23rd July

to

Friday
28th August

OPENING TIMES

Tuesday – Thursday

- 8am–1pm
- 8am–3pm
- 8am–6pm

Friday

- 8am–3pm only

PRICES

- 8am–1pm – **£18** per day
- 8am–3pm – **£25** per day
- 8am–6pm – **£35** per day

★ STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER?

Children starting school in September are very welcome to attend over the summer holidays. Holiday Club can be a lovely way to support their transition, helping them build confidence, make friends and become familiar with the school environment before they start.

🍴 HAF PLACES AVAILABLE

We are pleased to be accepting HAF vouchers this summer.

HAF sessions will run from:

9:00am–1:00pm

Eligible children will receive a fun programme of activities and a hot meal.

✔️ WHAT'S INCLUDED

- ✔️ Ages 4–11
- ✔️ Tax-Free Childcare Accepted
- ✔️ Childcare Vouchers Accepted
- ✔️ Universal Credit Support Available (where eligible)
- ✔️ Safe, fun and welcoming environment

📍 VERWOOD FIRST SCHOOL

✉ admin@scoosc.com

☎ 07595 470857

🌐 scoosc.magicbooking.co.uk

Scan to book!

