

Dear Parents,

Another week whizzes by, but totally understandable when there are so many wonderful events running each day! This week will be a shorter bulletin, thanks to all of you who took the time to read and feedback on our journey.

In running order, well done to our year 5&6 and year 7&8 girls tumbling teams who competed at Rossmore Centre on Sunday. Thanks also to Mrs Stocks for her time on Sunday. In each category there were 15 teams. All girls performed to a high standard and worked well as a team. The year 5&6 team narrowly missed out on making the final. The year 7&8 team made the final and were placed 4th overall. A fantastic achievement.

Fixtures are on-going with various netball and football fixtures across the year groups. Our KS3 netball teams drew and lost in their fixtures with Cranborne. Our year 6 team also ran Cranborne close with a score of 3 - 2. On the football front, the year 5 and 6 teams played each other with the younger year coming out on top. Our year 8 boys team qualified for the next round of the cup with a 2 - 1 win against Wey Valley. Well done all involved.

We launched No Put Down Week with an assembly from Ferndown Upper School. This is the third year we have run this event working in partnership with them. Three former pupils were amongst the visiting team; it was lovely to see how they have grown as people and spoke very articulately in front of the whole school. A range of activities including acknowledgement slips, praise pyramids and coffee and biscuits delivered to staff Wednesday afternoon from the School Council. Thank you to parents who joined in the event by emailing in to the school office. These messages were forwarded on to everyone.

Over the past two weeks we have held Parent Consultation evenings. From the feedback received you went away with information about next steps in learning and positive comments regarding attitude to learning and work produced. The next round of evenings is 27 March and 2 April with reports coming home on Friday 8 March. The delay in evenings is due to the Year 7 French residential and allowing time for booking appointments. At this stage it is likely bookings will be made using the paper system; this will be sent out on 18th March.

We continue our relationship with Sustrans. This week they worked with our Bike-It Crew identifying different routes into EMS. The weather prevented them from completing their walking survey but they are looking to map out 10 and 15 minute walks with a view to pupils being dropped off further away from school and walk the final part into school. More information to follow. On this point, we are constantly talking to our pupils about road safety and being responsible. We have weekly reports of near misses outside school so please keep sharing and enforcing this message at home.

We held our third and final Open Day yesterday afternoon. It was well attended and another opportunity to share with the community our progress. Our latest data drop shows results across the school have matched where we were in February last year. This is not a surprise as I have shared with you the level of engagement we are seeing in class, the quality of work produced in books and the quality of teaching from lesson drop-ins.

Tonight is our Christmas Fayre. Thanks to the PTFA and staff who have invested considerable time in planning and preparing the evening. The funds raised go directly back into school to support the pupils and their learning. I am sure it will be a fun evening.

Miss Howe is currently planning the staffing for the Year 6 Isle of Wight residential taking place from 1st to 5th July 2019. If you are interested in volunteering for the week as a group leader, please contact the office for further details.

Have a great weekend and look forward to seeing many of you this evening.

Mr Christopher

A WEEK IN PICTURES



Our wonderful pupils delivered tea or coffee and a delicious biscuit to all staff members during last lesson on Wednesday as part of No Put Down Week.



Well done to our girls' tumbling team.

A WEEK IN PICTURES



Year 8s have been learning about the periodic table and have been conducting experiments in the labs this week. It was like having our very own firework display!

