

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a week! I am pleased to be able to share lots of other information and opportunities that do not include the word 'COVID'. Well done to everyone for keeping learning going, whether working online at home or in the classroom. It is not easy and everyone has shown fantastic resilience. The curriculum has still been delivered and staff have adapted lessons to allow access for all learners.

Did you know that 26th September is the European Day of Languages (EDL). The French Department have set pupils 5 challenges we would love pupils to engage with:

1. Flags - a composition of one or more European flags. Use whatever media you like!
2. Recipes - this could be an excellent practical and photo follow-up.
3. Greetings - how many different languages to say 'hello' 'goodbye' 'how are you'
4. Fact File - presentation about a country, really dig deep about its history and traditions.
5. Poster - to promote EDL.

Deadline for completion of tasks is Monday 4th October. This is a huge opportunity for pupils to earn candle credits for themselves and for their House.

I am delighted that we are able to support the Rotary Club of Verwood Shoebox Appeal this year. This is an important way of our community coming together to support others. Currently, the collection date for boxes is 5th November, but flyers giving more details will follow.

My daughter is already giving me a daily countdown until we start singing Christmas Carols and I always have a chuckle to myself how early the supermarkets bring out the (not so big these days) tubs of chocolates. However, for those keen to get into the Christmas spirit early there are two Christmas Card competitions: Churches Together in Verwood and West Moors Town Council with the winning cards being printed. Form tutors have information about this and I know 5LE are already planning! Good luck.



A warm welcome to Geoff Bates who will take on the role of Interim Chair of the Local Academy Committee (LAC). Please read on to find out more about Geoff:

I became a parent member of Merley First School's Academy Committee back in 2015 when my two sons were at the school, mainly so that I could get a better understanding of how schools are run and how education is delivered. I've also enjoyed the opportunity to use the skills I've acquired in my professional life to support the senior leadership team and help make sure our AC makes an effective contribution to the governance of the school. Since becoming Chair at Merley, I also volunteered to support Witchampton and St John's First Schools when they needed an interim Chair for their ACs. Working with different schools has broadened my knowledge of how different settings work and how each team approaches the unique challenges of their own school and benefits from the support offered by the Trust. Becoming interim Chair at Emmanuel will help me to understand more about how the middle school settings work, which is something I am looking forward to as I get to know your school. I hope to be able to use my skills and experience to support Rob and his team, as well the AC, to continue the successful journey the school has been on over the last couple of years. I have already met Rob and enjoyed having a tour of the school and meeting staff and pupils – clearly everyone has settled in well and it was great to meet an enthusiastic team and engaged group of pupils. Thank you for inviting me to support Emmanuel Middle School's AC, and I look forward to meeting you all at our first AC session of the year. Geoff.

Finally, bookings can be made for Meet the Tutor through Parent Cloud. We changed the date to Wednesday 29th September once we were aware of FUS Open Evening and other Parent Evenings. Hopefully everyone can take part in all activities.

Enjoy the weekend and I will give you an update about school routines next Friday with a view to relaxing some measures and most importantly give the pupils the very best they deserve.

Mr Rob Christopher

Glen Cleaning (the company contracted to clean the school) are currently looking for a Supervisor and cleaning staff for Emmanuel.

Monday to Friday 3.30pm-6.00pm or 4.00pm to 6.00pm

£9.50/£9.75ph for Supervisor and £9.00/£9.15ph for cleaning staff

If interested please contact Naomi Love on 07780990719