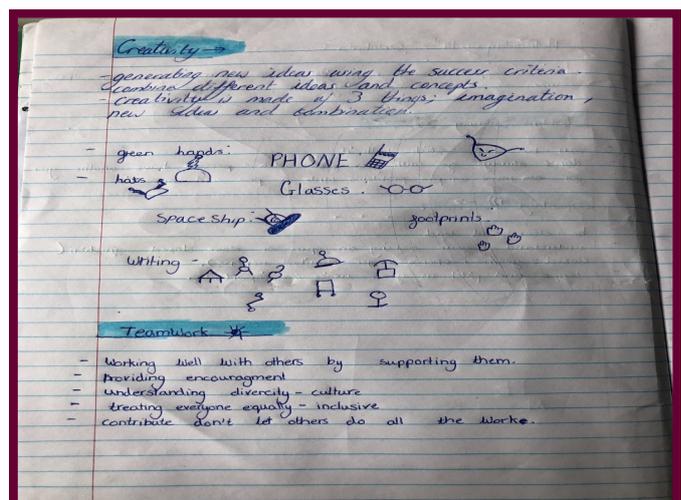


Dear Parents/Carers,

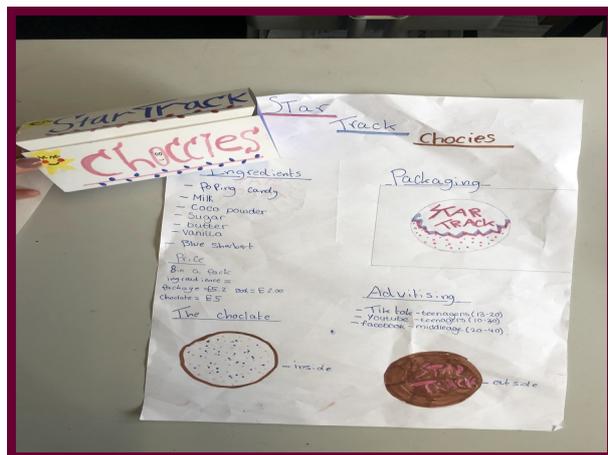
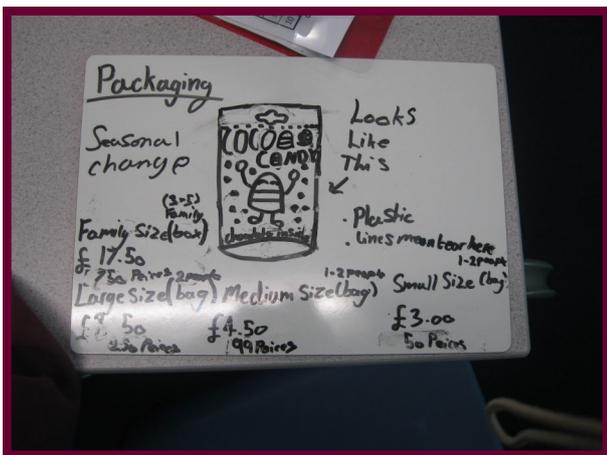
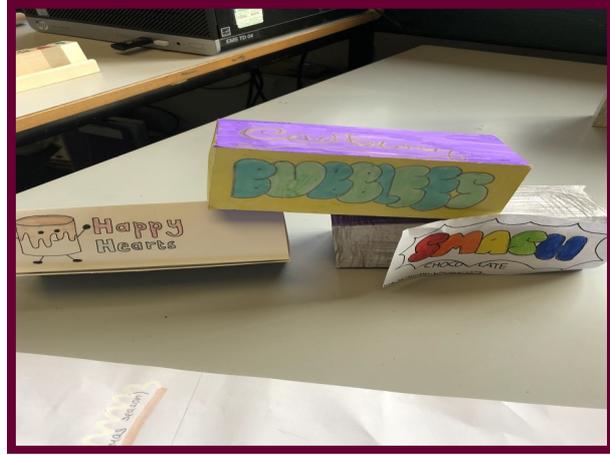
Good afternoon and welcome to our final weekly bulletin of Autumn 1. I was in the process of typing my thanks to you all for your support to the school this term along with the support for your children's learning when the national Hegarty Maths engagement report dropped into my inbox. This was most timely - with once again our pupils performing exceptionally and EMS placed in the top 10% nationally for both accuracy and time spent in their Maths homework. This is a great example of how successful the pupil, parent and school partnership is here.

Today may be the end of this half term but also the start of a new journey for Miss Howe. This is her last day before beginning maternity leave - we wish her the very best of luck and also that she manages to get some sleep! Her class will be taken by Mrs Thorn who started in September. Unfortunately she is recovering from covid and we hope to see her soon. I will keep you updated.

On Thursday, the whole school participated in the first of many Skillsbuilder challenge days this year! KS2 applied all eight essential skills as they considered the question: **How can we welcome and include others?** Pupils worked through a series of activities from decoding alien messages and collecting clues from a crash landing site to designing gadgets and food menus. Although there was some disappointment that real aliens didn't turn up to school, pupils did a fantastic job welcoming them to Earth!



KS3 also applied all eight essential skills as they considered the question: **What makes a successful business?** They researched, developed, figured out cost, appropriate market and pitched their ideas for a new brand of chocolate. There was a big focus on the speaking and listening skills as each group presented to their class/year group and took a vote on the best brand of chocolate. Staff were blown away by the ideas presented. Mr Shooter even said that some of them should apply for the show *The Apprentice!*



Our extra-curricular clubs offer continues to grow with several new ones being added to start after half term. As per the recently sent ParentMail, all club sign ups now take place through epraise - with after school clubs being signed up for by parents. This replaces the permission slips we used to ask for. Please note that pupils who were already signed up to existing clubs have been automatically added to the club lists on epraise and do not need to get permission again.

As an example of the enrichment opportunities available through extra curricular clubs, ART CLUB this half of term has been recreating Van Gogh's paintings of Sunflowers by using oil pastels on coloured paper. Winners to be announced Friday 4th November. Lots more pupils work from this term is on the EMS ART INSTAGRAM account. @emmanuelmiddleschoolart



As part of the epraise reward scheme, some of our pupils used their candle credits to purchase a trip to the skatepark this week. Luckily the weather cleared and all the pupils had a fantastic time. It is wonderful to see the pupils enjoying themselves as part of the reward scheme and there will be several future opportunities for pupils to exchange their hard earned candle credits for reward events.



On Tuesday this week some of our Sports Leaders attended the Dorset Leadership Academy at Bryanston School. Pupils were placed in different groups where they were planning and delivering a variety of activities which they are hoping to deliver at school with the younger pupils. There were dance groups, football coaching along with sports leader workshops. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed it and are excited about delivering their ideas back at school.



A special mention to our year 5 who have settled incredibly well, I am sure they are ready for a break, as are all of us.

With that I wish you all a very enjoyable half-term. Please note that Monday 31st October is an INSET day so we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday 1st November.

Mr Rob Christopher and Mr Alister Barker

PTFA News

We are going to be holding our first school disco on Friday 11th November. Information will be sent out after half term on how to purchase tickets.

If you are having a clear out over half term and have any school uniform, please keep this to one side as the PTFA are looking at holding a school uniform recycle event - more information to follow.

Please also remember that you can purchase your PTFA Raffle ticket via ParentMail for the monthly prize draw.