

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to this week's parent bulletin at the end of another busy and varied week at Emmanuel.

The theme of our daily worship this week has been 'Remembering God in our busy lives' in conjunction with Remembrance Day. Pupils have learnt about the origin of Remembrance Day, how the symbol of the poppy has been taken on and how November 11th is now used to remember wider events than World War 1. This culminated in a 2 minute silence at 11am today - during break time - where the pupils showed wonderful maturity and respect.

I must take this opportunity to congratulate all the Year 6 pupils for completing their first set of mock SATs this week with so much endeavour and resilience. For many, this will have been the first sustained period of formal testing and it was a pleasure to see not only the pride in their work but also the high level of knowledge and skills they have. Feedback from these tests will be shared in the upcoming parent consultations.

On Wednesday, the Lion King production company came together for our first rehearsal. Following on from a very successful audition process last Monday, the children have shown the utmost enthusiasm and commitment in learning songs! We all know that it will be hard work with departments including Art, Design Technology and PE all getting involved with the set design, costumes and dancing however we are all very excited by the new venture! If I can kindly remind all parents and carers that the children will be needed for every rehearsal after school on a Wednesday from 3.30pm until 4.30pm in the Music room. Your support is warmly welcomed. There will also be weekly reminders for the students via Google classroom that will be updated regularly, so please make sure they are checking this. The performances will be held in school in the Main Hall on Tuesday the 21st to Thursday 23rd of March, the ticket information will follow, and we hope to see many of you there!

On Monday and Wednesday evening we welcomed parents into school to share information about our Year 5 and Year 7 residential. It was great to have such a big turn out. For those of you who couldn't attend, information in relation to both these trips has been sent out via ParentMail. The payment systems have also gone live on ParentMail so if you wish your child to take part, please ensure the required deposit is paid before the deadline. If you have any questions, please contact Miss Stinson (Y5) or Mr Foord (Y7).

Reading is such an important part of children's education and as such we prioritise this both in school and as homework. As part of our commitment to continuing to raise reading standards at EMS, English teachers may be setting Accelerated Reader targets as part of weekly homework commitments. In KS3, English teachers are not usually the same teachers as their tutors, so pupils will be encouraged to read as much as possible by both English teachers and tutors. Please help support your children's progress by encouraging them to complete books and quiz on them at home.

We also run a termly challenge between classes for a MUFTI day at the end of term for the winning tutor group in each year. Every pupil's participation is important for winning this competition.

The link to the EMS Accelerated Reader page is below:

[EMS AR LINK](#)

The AR Bookfinder web page is useful for checking whether books at home are on Accelerated Reader

[AR BOOKFINDER LINK](#)

Finally, a huge congratulations to our KS3 netball teams. The Year 7 and 8 girls played against St Michael's away on Thursday. Both teams were amazing and came away winning both matches. Year 7 won 17-3 and Year 8 won 16-7. Well done to all participants with a special mention to Layla W for getting player of the match.

I wish you all a great weekend and look forward to seeing everyone on Monday morning.

Mr Rob Christopher and Mr Alister Barker