

Dear Parents/Carers,

Good afternoon and welcome to this week's parent bulletin. It was a pleasure to see so many of you on parents' evening calls this week - this is such a valuable event to ensure that we can work together to get the best for your children.

Christmas Lunch

Thank you to all those who pre-ordered a Christmas lunch for their child for next Wednesday 13th December. Please remember to ensure that there are sufficient funds (£3.95) on your child's Dinner Topup account on ParentMail to pay for this. If you have not pre-ordered lunch, your child will need to have a packed lunch with them on Wednesday.

Textiles

Here is a sample of work that the students across all year groups have been working on this term. The Year 5 have put in an amazing effort learning different types of hand stitching and using the sewing machine independently to produce their reusable bag. Year 6 have been developing their skills and learning how to sew a zip onto their fabric to make their graffiti style pencil cases. The Year 7s have embraced the new projects of making soft toys which they have done brilliantly, a project that they have all loved doing. Finally the Year 8 have again taken on the mad hatter hat project, with the theme of Best of British, putting together all the skills they have learnt over the last 3 years. A fabulous end to the year in Textiles, well done all.



Cakes!

Our wonderful Year 6 Food Tech students have made and decorated their own Christmas cakes! They baked their mini fruit cakes last week in preparation for the decorating extravaganza of this week. Our students fully embraced the challenge, some creating fabulous bespoke pieces! The DT department hopes that Santa will be delivering extra toothpaste this year!



Young Carers Pantomime Visit

On Wednesday, a group of 18 of our Young Carers attended Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs at Bournemouth Pavilion. This event was organised in conjunction with MyTime and all pupils were given an ice cream too. Everyone enjoyed the performance very much and there was plenty of singing and dancing in the aisles! There was also a lot of loud booing at the Pantomime villains but luckily this didn't continue when we got back to school!

If you think your child may be a young carer, please contact the office for more information.



Bereavement Cafe

On Thursday, we held our Bereavement Cafe in the library. This is for pupils who have previously lost a loved one and provides a welcoming space for them and gives opportunities to remember their special person. They can share their experiences if they wish to and also have refreshments. They wrote a special message and put it on the tree and made a bauble to take home and put on their Christmas tree.

Mr G - Movember

Thank you to Mr G for being an advocate for Movember. He wore his tash with pride all November before sharing the ceremonial shaving of it in front of the whole school.



Accelerated Reader

The AR winners are in!

- 5BH 14/16 points (were tied with 5CS but win on the WORD COUNT tie-break)
- 6DG 14/16 points
- 7RDF 16/16 points
- 8NS 16/16 points

Congratulations to the winners who enjoyed their well-earned mufti reward today.

Year 8 Young Voice Assembly

During their weekly, Thursday assembly, Year 8 were lucky enough to enjoy a presentation from Dorset's Pupil Voice Team.

Hannah and Michelle explained to our pupils how Dorset's Youth Parliament and Youth Council functioned, the importance on voting on an issue raised through the Youth Parliament and how they might seek to become involved in the democratic process.

Having delivered their presentation, Hannah & Michelle then played a 'Q & A' game with the Year 8 children whereby they were asked to vote on issues that might interest them and also back up their opinion with an explanation.



It was a lively and interesting assembly and on behalf of the Year 8 pupils and team I would like to thank the two adults from the Pupil Voice Team for joining us here at EMS.

Year 8 Art

Year 8 tonal still life studies are being finished this week. Pupils showing resilience and discipline, completing a three hour extended drawing learning objective.



Christmas Service

As we build towards Christmas our carol service plays an important part in allowing the children to reflect on the original meaning of Christmas and also provides an opportunity for musical performances and readings from pupils.

All pupils will watch the carol service during the school day on Tuesday 12th December - this is only for pupils to attend. We warmly welcome parents to our evening service at 7pm (pupils are welcome to attend this evening service but are not expected to). Booking is not required.

Year 5

Year 5 have been focusing on formal methods of multiplication this week, multiplying 2, 3 and 4 digit numbers by 1 and 2 digit numbers. They have taken particular care with their presentation so that their working out is clear and readable. **Please continue to work with your child on their times tables at home** - it makes multiplication and division tasks so much easier for them when they are secure on times tables or have a strong method to work them out if they are unable to recall from memory. A fun online multiplication checker can be found at [urbrainy.com/mtc](https://www.urbrainy.com/mtc)

Staff News

It is with great sadness that we are saying goodbye to Mrs Collins from the office team. I am sure you will join us in thanking her for all her hard work, dedication and care for our pupils during the 5 years she has worked at Emmanuel Middle School and wish her all the very best for the future (and yes she is going to kill me for this photo!).

Mrs Bartlett, who currently works part time in the office, will be taking over this role in the New Year.

On Monday we are also welcoming Mrs Timmins as a Teaching Assistant in Year 5. Mrs Timmins is an experienced TA who previously worked at Hillside First School.

I feel I should close by saying thank you to all the wonderful staff at Emmanuel who have ensured that such a wide range of opportunities take place here. Putting this bulletin together has reinforced this fact. We now move into the last week of term - please be aware that our last day is Thursday 14th December with a normal finishing time of 15:20. I wish you all a great weekend and look forward to the festive joy of carol services and Christmas lunch next week with all the children.

Mr Rob Christopher and Mr Alister Barker

