

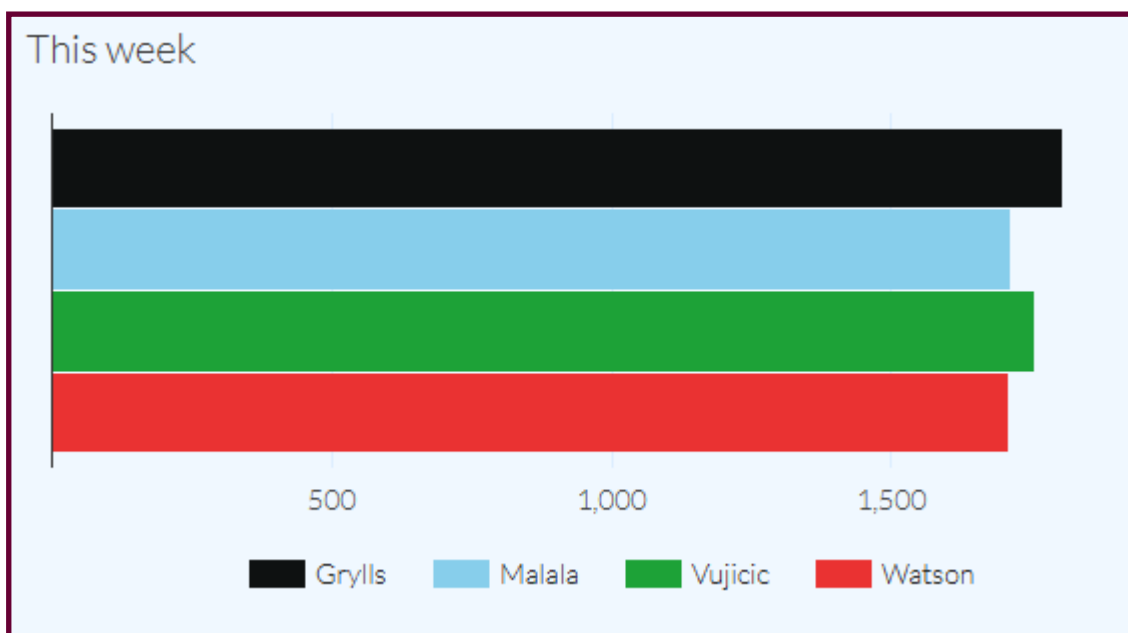
Dear Parents/Carers,

Good afternoon and welcome to this week's parent bulletin.

This week saw a very successful Meet the Tutor event on Tuesday evening - it was great to see so many families attend. Thank you for all the constructive feedback we received in particular around homework and the proposed new uniform. The uniform will be reviewed once this consultation period has ended.

Homework forms an essential part of the school experience. In the core subjects it provides vital opportunities to embed current learning and support long term memory that will ensure future success. In addition, it starts to develop organisational skills that are essential in the long term for further education and adult life but also in the shorter term for being successful at Upper School where homework demands will increase significantly. We thank you for your support at home with this - it is an important part of ensuring pupils maximise their potential in this way - the ultimate goal of both the school and of course our families.

House News



Well done to Grylls for a really strong week this week - Malala were in the lead on Wednesday and they have pulled it back. A day is a long time in the House contest!

Harvest Collection

Harvest collection trolleys are at the front of school and they are looking a bit sad. Please support the local community - and also your House by making a contribution.

J P Morgan Chase Competition

On Thursday, Amy from JPMorgan Chase spoke to the whole school to launch an exciting STEM competition. This "tech for social good" initiative has been developed to inspire students to design, describe and draw ideas onto a paper entry which will be judged on the 24th October.

The winning design will win a fantastic prize (a tablet) as well as having their design developed into a real app by JPMorgan Chase volunteers and it will be published for students to share with friends and family.

All pupils who enter will receive 5 candle credits but the closing date is the 23rd October- so only two weeks to get entries in.

PTFA Sponsored Colour Run

Pupils (and staff) enjoyed themselves taking part in the Colour Run last Friday. We will update you on how much was raised when we have a final figure from the PTFA. Please remember to send in/transfer your sponsor money and ensure your sponsor forms are handed into the office.

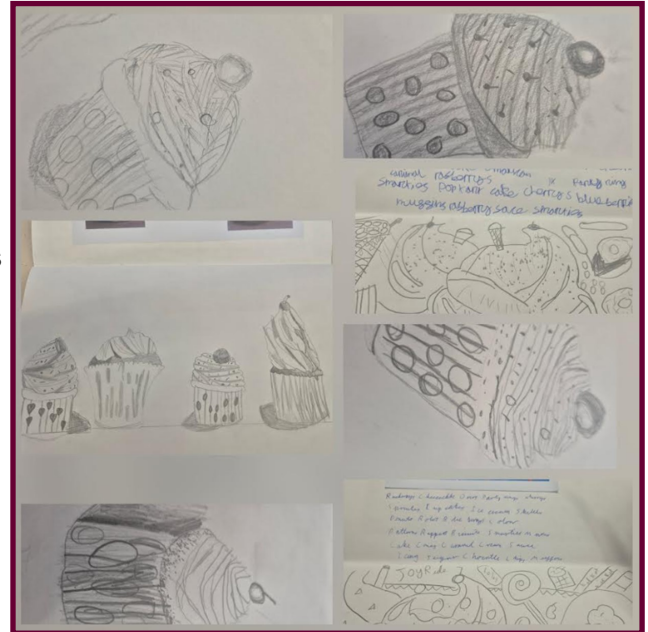


Year 5

In English, Year 5 have been working hard reviewing Year 4 skills as a refresher before starting our year 5 curriculum after the half term. This week, the focus has been on apostrophes for singular possession, adverbials of time and retrieving and explaining details about characters, events and information. Over the next two weeks, we will be reviewing persuasive writing as the children plan to persuade a judge as a defendant of the Big Bad Wolf who was wrongly sent to prison!

The Year 5s have been learning all about Ancient Greece in their humanities lessons this half term. In this week's lessons they have been writing their summaries of the Battle of Marathon and looking at the similarities and differences between the ancient and modern Olympics.

Year 5 have been combining their prior knowledge of the Formal Elements of Art in their pencil sketches of cupcakes. They are looking at the work of American Pop Artist Ron Magnes.



Year 6

In Year 6 English this week the pupils wrote and edited a tall story. Their analysis of their writing was very thorough focussing on both accuracy but also quality of expanded noun phrases - with multiple adjectives used to provide a range of description.

In Computing pupils have been learning to code using Scratch. We have been learning about variables and conditional statements - we are making a Maths game.

Year 7

French this week for Year 7 has been a continuation of the 'Me and my alter ego' unit where the pupils have been developing their understanding of how to describe themselves and compare to others.

The Year 7 product design group have been working on their finger joints over the last couple of weeks, mastering their mark measure and cutting skills. This week they have learnt how to use the pillar drill to cut the holes. They have all been working brilliantly on this.



Year 8

In Year 8 English, pupils have been studying the power of figurative language in Jason Reynold's text, 'Long Way Down'. They have been analysing the effectiveness of similes and metaphors (including other language devices) using the PEARL structure below. After teacher feedback they will be given the opportunity to improve their written responses.

P - point
E - evidence (a "quote")
A - analysis
R - reader's response
L - link (to the writer's intentions or context)

THE MIDDLE DRAWER

was the only thing ever out of place
on Shawn's side of the room,

like a random, jagged tooth
in a perfect mouth,

This term in PE, Year 8 are developing their understanding of invasion games, focusing on Rugby and Netball. Pupils are exploring how these sports involve two key aspects — attack and defence — each requiring different approaches and skill sets. In attack, students are learning how to break down a defence through movement, communication, and effective passing, while in defence, they are focusing on strategies to disrupt play and regain possession of the ball. Alongside this, they are also improving their ability to send and receive the ball accurately, recognising how these fundamental skills benefit both attacking and defensive play.

Epraise, October Ice-cream Reward

On Thursday 9th October, Mr Rangdale and Mrs Hassall accompanied several lucky children to Verwood 'Rec' for their well-earned ice-cream reward. The ones who'd forgotten and were plucked from their lessons were particularly delighted!

The weather was terrific, the children's behaviour was exemplary and an enjoyable time was shared by one and all.



All that is left is to wish you all a great weekend and we look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday.

Mr Rob Christopher and Mr Alister Barker