



EMMANUEL CE MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Executive Headteacher: Mr R Jenkinson / Head of School: Mr R Christopher

NEWSLETTER AUTUMN TERM 2019 (1)



Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,

A warm welcome to our year 5 parents and any parents new to Emmanuel; in addition to parents familiar with our excellent newsletter.

I hope you enjoy working your way through this comprehensive newsletter! It's taken two sittings to fully read through.

The year 5 pupils have settled fantastically well, finding their way around school with ease and enjoying their newfound relationships with their year 8 buddies. Only today I saw a group enjoying break-time together, it's lovely to see.

The French trip has been the highlight of the half-term. What a fantastic time experienced by all. The addition of the trip to the Musee D'Orsay made an already great trip even better. The activity set by Mrs Thompson had all the group eagerly inspecting the art work. As always, Disney, Eiffel Tower, Montmarte and Sacre Coeur didn't fail to impress. Current year 6 pupils - we have booked for next year! Make sure you don't miss out on this great experience.

What strikes me in the newsletter is the number of 'hands-on' activities pupils have been involved in. It is so important that pupils are regularly involved in something outside curriculum hours. If your son or daughter is not, please encourage them to do so. We are also proud to hear about pupils' other pursuits in their own time and enjoy celebrating their success and endeavour.

There are other important updates, such as using ParentMail to pay for trips and visits. As a parent myself, this is something we have had to adjust to at home, but very easy to use. Also, on a dietary note - we no longer allow apples or products containing apples in school due to a pupil having been diagnosed with a severe allergy.

We are looking forward to the PTFA Christmas Fayre which is taking place on Friday 22nd November. Look out for further information and raffle tickets which will be sent out after half term. The PTFA are also going to be supporting a new reward system that will be launched after half term.

We are also looking to re-vamp our Millennium Garden. Parent support through contacts to landscape companies or time given to working parties in late November/ beginning of December would be gratefully received. Dates to be confirmed.

Enjoy a great week of rest and catching up with friends and family.

Kind regards,

Rob Christopher



Year 8 Pupils Application for Upper School

Year 8 parents should have received a letter from Dorset County Council explaining the procedure for applying for their child's upper school place. Please note that the closing date for applications is 31st October 2019.



Child Protection

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead in school is Mrs Alice Ponchaud. Mr Rob Christopher, Head of School and Mrs Elaine Robertson, Head of Wellbeing are Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads. If you have any concerns related to child protection issues please contact them through the school office.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION Administration of Medicines

If you wish school staff to administer medication to your child, parents **must** complete the consent form which can be obtained from the school office or on the school website (Parents/School Forms). Staff will be unable to administer **any** medication (this includes Strepsils and similar throat lozenges) without the required form - **a note in the diary or a letter will not be acceptable.**

Staff are unable to administer aspirin or medicines containing ibuprofen unless they are prescribed by a doctor.

All medicines must be in their original box or container.

All prescribed medicines must be provided in the original container as dispensed by a pharmacist and include the instructions for administration.

Lunchtime Supervisor Vacancy

We are currently looking to appoint a Lunchtime Supervisor (12.30pm-1.45pm Monday to Friday). If you are interested in this position please contact the school office on 01202 828100.

School Photographer

The School Photographer will be in school on Friday 8th November to take individual photographs.



LOST PROPERTY - NAMING SCHOOL UNIFORM

We are already collecting a large quantity of lost property in school. Unfortunately most items are not named and therefore we are unable to reunite them with their owners.

Please can you ensure that all items of clothing and kit are named - it makes the job of returning them a lot easier!

PAYMENTS TO SCHOOL

Please note that we are requesting that all payments made to school for trips etc (excluding charity days and PTFA events) are made using the payment system available on ParentMail. If you are not currently using the ParentMail system, we would strongly recommend that you register as soon as possible. Some trips/events will be offered on a first come, first served basis through ParentMail and it is possible that you child may miss out if you are not registered to use this system.



Late to School

The school is open at 8.30am - Registration is at 8.40am. If your child arrives at school after 8.40am they must report to the school office to let us know they are here and safe. If your child is absent for any reason please telephone the school on 01202 828100 by 9.00am or email office@emmanuel.dorset.sch.uk and identify the name of your child, class and reason for absence. Please note if your child is absent for more than one day, their absence must be reported daily.



Bake Off

EMS has a distinct feel of the Great British Bake Off this week with the lunchtime Bake Off club well and truly underway and Year 8 baking with fruit to make a delicious healthier cake.

Bake Off Club meets every Wednesday and the students are set a challenge by Mrs Stewart linked into the show. This week it was a festival bread and Drew and Will both baked some hot cross buns which were delicious. Votes were taken for our favourite competitor to date and our predicted winner which is Steph! The GBBO final is in half term which will be followed by our own EMS Bake Off towards the end of term!



Year 8 Star Bakers with their healthy fruit cakes were Saskia B, Cordy P B, Tilly H, George H and Amelia W.

Mrs Stewart

Parent Volunteers

The food technology department are also looking for parent volunteers to help out in their lessons on a Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. If you feel you would be able to help, please contact the school office for more details.



Year 7 French Trip

Forty-four pupils and five members of staff had the most fantastic residential visit to Paris last week. This is the seventh year EMS has used the PGL facilities just outside Paris and we have already booked our next visit for March 2021!

The pupils were a real credit to the school; we were complimented on their politeness and good behaviour at the local market; in service stations and even at the top of the Eiffel Tower.

We left school at 6.50am on Monday morning and arrived back at 9pm on the Friday. Luckily our coach driver Simon was very experienced and had driven around Paris many times. He stayed with us all week and got a big cheer as he drove us back into Verwood.

The accommodation and food was excellent. We stayed in a newly refurbished building on the 2nd floor. Our PGL guide: Vic, took us out each day and gave us commentary on the coach as we travelled. We also had additional PGL staff organising the evening activities for us.

Ms Fagge and Mrs Johannensen were keen to encourage pupils to speak French and to be immersed in the French Culture. Pupils were able to visit a local market and buy souvenirs, as well as visiting the awe-inspiring landmarks of Sacre Coeur and the Eiffel Tower. When we visited the artist quarter of Monmatre, some pupils had their portraits drawn, it was great fun watching the caricatures come to life in front of our eyes. A new excursion this year was to the Musee D'Orsay where we saw paintings by Van Gogh, Degas, Monet, Cezanne and Suerat.

As you can appreciate, this was a big adventure for our Year 7 pupils, for many it was their first trip abroad. The whole group worked well together and looked out for each other. There was much laughter throughout the week and the highlight had to be the day out at Euro Disney.

In addition to the pupils, I would also like to thank the staff team for making the trip such a success.

Mrs Robertson
Head of Year 7



POPPIES

Thank you for the amazing support given to the knitted poppy display that we will be creating for Remembrance. This has turned into a real community project with help from staff, pupils, parents and relatives all joining in. A special mention to Mrs Dorothy Scott-Douglas, grandmother of Olivia and Grace in year 5, for her amazing donation of knitted poppies.

Mrs K Thompson, Head of Art

Science News

The remaining students in year 7 who did not go on the French residential, had a packed week in Science. They made, tested and redesigned catapults, which gave them links to history and DT. They made their own glue, using 4 different recipes, which they went on to testing the following day. We actually compared them to a hot glue gun and found that at least three of the glues were stronger! We also managed to upcycle (with links to Wellbeing), some old glue sticks and make our own!! We ended the week with an extravagance of exciting practicals, we even set Mrs Whittingham and Mrs Holloway alight! It was Mrs Whittingham's Birthday treat and Mrs Holloway is always up for an exciting practical!



Year 8 have been learning about different organ systems. This week it was the digestive systems turn. We decided to try and make our own digestive system and modelled it using a few everyday items. Ryan particularly enjoyed representing the large intestine by squeezing out the remaining water.



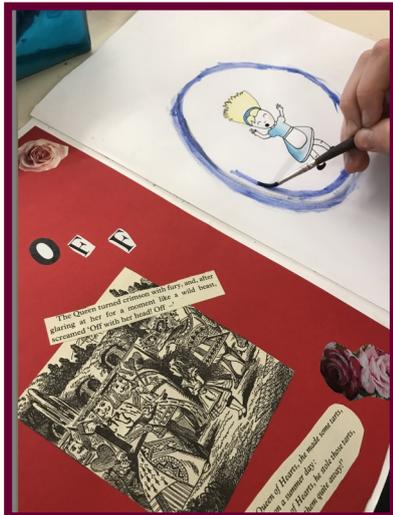
ARTS AWARD - BRONZE AND SILVER

What a cracking start we've made to our Arts Award portfolios this year! I have been really impressed with the high standard of drawings and research taking place. Pupils have chosen a wide range of subjects for Part C "Arts Inspiration" including Mary Quant, Kath Kidston, Roald Dahl and Gaudi to name but a few! My room is packed to the rafters at lunchtime with mini artists, the buzz is fantastic! I am privileged to work alongside them, they make me smile every day! I am running 2 groups due to the sheer popularity of the award, I have my work cut out!

Next term we will be visiting Roche Court Sculpture Park as part of Part B "Explore the Arts as an audience member".

Look out for dates of our end of year exhibition when we proudly show off our work! Follow our progress on Twitter.

Mrs K Thompson, Head of Art



Bournemouth University Visit

On Monday 21st October all of our KS3 pupils had the opportunity to meet with Lauren and Sujata from Bournemouth University's Schools Liaison Department.

Lauren and Sujata showed the children an entertaining and informative presentation explaining life at BU. Their talk covered a broad range of topics, such as: choices of university courses, the social side of life away from home and the financial commitment that university students have to take on.

Our Year 7 and 8 pupils were then given the opportunity to ask the BU staff questions. It was fascinating to note that many of these questions revolved around the type of courses available at university and the cost of student loans.

Following the initial presentation, Lauren and Sujata delivered a workshop to a group of our Year 8 pupils. This was based on each prospective student calculating a monthly budget to allow them to live away from home. It was encouraging to see how engaged in the task our pupils were and how well they applied themselves to this 'real world' practical task.

Well done to everyone involved.

Mr M Rangdale, Head of Year 8



Harvest Foodbank Collection

When I'm not in school, I spend some of my time volunteering as manager of Verwood Foodbank. My job is to make sure those struggling to put food on the table can receive help when they need it, that there are volunteers in place to distribute food to them and to generally raise the profile of the Foodbank in the local community.

Typically 3-4 families a week are using the Foodbank in Verwood and I know from talking to many of them that it is a greatly valued source of practical help at times of crisis.

The harvest period is always very busy as lots of organisations do as EMS has done, and organise collections for the Foodbank warehouse. This year is no exception and, as I write, the four shopping trolleys we have in school are filling up nicely with food and other provisions. I will be taking the items collected to the warehouse before half term, where they will be weighed and logged as having come from EMS, before being distributed widely throughout the local area.

The inter-house competition to gather the largest quantity of donations is becoming a regular fixture in school; with support from the School Council, it is a very visible way of demonstrating Christian love and concern to those in our community who are less fortunate than ourselves.

Grylls House has once again proved the most generous house - but every last donation, however small, provides crucial support.

Thank you to everyone who donated. Your ongoing kindness is so appreciated.

Mrs Johannesen



PE NEWS

Girls Football

The Y8 Girls have qualified for the County Finals in 7-a-side football for the first time, while competing at QE last week. The afternoon started with an hour of futsal (a new and developing sport) training before the tournament began. A competition for this is being planned later in the year.



Emmanuel girls won their first two matches against St. Michael's and Cranborne 2-0 and 2-1 respectively, even though they knew really good players in both teams - from their individual clubs. Unfortunately, they lost the final 4-0 against a very strong Lockyer's team but took the second place medals and qualification place. We also had a number of players competing for the first time, so it was a really strong team performance all round.

I would also like to add that Girls' Football Training on Mondays has been fantastic, with around 20-26 girls turning up every week - long may this continue!

Jerry Brenton, Girls' Football Coach

Year 5/6 Football Team

The autumn term has witnessed two fantastic performances by the year 5/6 football team in the opening rounds of the two cup competitions they have been entered in.



Using the 3-2-3 system, the boys have produced a brand of exciting and attacking football. The first round match in the U11 Dorset Schools cup against Talbot Primary from Poole resulted in a comprehensive victory. EMS just had one of those days where every shot on goal was just out of reach of their keeper, even coming off the underside of the bar and inside of the post.

The other cup competition (PEDSSA cup for schools in the Poole and East Dorset area) was another feast of goals, this time against Ferndown Middle School. A competitive and well spirited match resulted in a 5-1 victory for EMS. Again, another match where the clinical finishing and miserly defence of EMS was to be the difference between the two teams.

Aside from the team, the Year 5/6 football club on a Thursday has been a hive of energy, motivation and I can see that all involved are showing a real willingness to improve. After half term, inter school/club matches will begin. Well done to everyone involved and a special thank you must go to the year 8 sports leaders, who support the younger children who attend the club so well.

Mr Brennan, Mr Foord, Mr Humphries



PE NEWS CONT

Year 7 Boys

The year 7 boys played at The Bourne Academy in the Dorset Cup match. Both teams set up in a 3-4-1 formation and looked to keep the ball by playing small triangles in the midfield to open up the defence. The game for the first 10 minutes was fairly stalemate and not many chances going to either team. When Emmanuel was awarded a corner, which was delivered by Oliver Spreadbury, this cross was then inadvertently touched in by the opposition and EMS went 1-0 up. Soon after this, Oliver Hawkins took a quick half volley outside of the box and it took a slight deflection on the way through to put EMS 2 up just before half time.



The next half started with EMS under pressure for 10 minutes with Bourne Academy's game plan to play the long ball with extra strikers. As EMS weathered the storm gaps started to appear and a great ball was played through for Oliver Hawkins to grab his second and Emmanuel's 3rd. Possession shifted and EMS were on top and the ball was played around the opposition's box and Ryan Hathway smashed the ball into the top corner of the goal 4-0. The pressure was starting to tell as more and more holes in the Bourne Academy's defence started to show resulting in a 5th for EMS scored again by Ryan Hathway. A resounding victory and a game all boys deserved to win with excellent determination and work rate. Well done

Year 8 Boys

The Year 8 boys played away at The Bishop of Winchester Academy in the Dorset Cup match. This was played on a pitch that had a huge slope going from one goal area to the other. Unfortunately, home advantage was the reasoning for the first goal as their keeper kicked the ball from one end to the other bouncing in Emmanuel's penalty box and we conceded a goal. The game, after that, was close and Emmanuel edged possession, with plenty of opportunities to score. Again, through no fault of the Emmanuel defence, a ball was deflected straight to an attacker who put TBOWA 2 up. The second half put Emmanuel playing down the slope and hoping to take full advantage and score goals. Constant pressure from the midfield led to an opening and George Dashwood slotted the ball home to make the score 2-1. It was all Emmanuel and they had played themselves right back into contention. With 2 minutes to go TBOWA had a free kick which ended up in the top corner to make the game 3-1. All of the Emmanuel boys walked off the pitch with their heads held high and very positive saying they played really well and were unlucky to have lost. I would totally agree with this and on a different day, the score could have easily been different.

Mr R Foord, Head of PE



PE NEWS CONT

Cross Country

Well done to all pupils who raced at Sandbanks on 10th October. They all did extremely well against the wind and rain! A special mention to Jay Saunders who came 15th in his race, and Leo Wisbey came 18th. Our next race is Thursday 7th November.



Netball

Year 6 played against St Ives on Thursday 24th October. It was a great game. Very close at times. The final score was 11-7 to Emmanuel. Well done to all of the girls playing. Libby Spring's shooting was amazing!!



Year 5 News

A Warm Welcome to Year 5!

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to Year 5 at Emmanuel. The children have made an incredible start to the year and should be so proud of how they have begun their Middle School journey. They continue to impress us every day with their enthusiasm, determination, resilience and talents and it is wonderful to see so many of them taking on the challenge of a new club this term. Long may these passions and zest for school life continue.

Year 8 Buddies

To support the children settling in, our Year 8 Buddy Scheme is now well underway and the children have been enjoying spending time with their new Year 8 friends. In addition to playing some 'getting to know you' games, the children have also enjoyed sharing their favourite books with their Buddies through our shared reading sessions.

Curriculum Highlights

In English, we have reached the end of our compelling fairytale, *The Iron Man*, by Ted Hughes, which the children have enjoyed. In addition to writing a detailed character description, the children worked so hard to bring the story to life in their recent, eye-catching newspaper reports.

In humanities news, we have begun our geography focus on the tropical island of St. Lucia and have thoroughly enjoyed sharing all the children's amazing homework on this topic. We will be looking at the geography of the island, local traditions and culture, as well as undertaking map work and comparing life in St. Lucia to life in Verwood and the UK. After half-term, we'll conquer the Ancient Greeks and the children will participate in a Greek Day, on Thursday 21st November, led by the fantastic Treehouse Theatre Company. We'll communicate more details closer to the date, but all the children will be invited to come to school in fancy dress on the 21st to celebrate our Greek Day.

Our Science topics this half-term have included, 'Safety in the Lab', 'Using a Bunsen Burner' and 'Measuring'. The children have already familiarised themselves with our well-equipped science labs and have completed their first experiments, earning themselves their eagerly-awaited Bunsen Burner Licence! Well done Year 5, you should be so proud of yourselves.

Heatree Residential

Our sincere thanks for your prompt responses and keen interest in Heatree 2020. We reached our target numbers and look forward to sharing more detailed plans for the trip in due course. In the meantime, the remaining instalments will be set up for you via Parentmail, so please do contact the office should you have any queries regarding this.

Diaries and Homework

Thank you so much for supporting your child with their homework and reading each week. We have been really impressed with the quality of their work so far and would like to say a huge thank you for all your support with their learning. It is essential that these tasks are completed as they are set to support your child's learning in class. We do run a Year 5 homework drop-in club at lunchtime for those who need time or assistance and the computer room is also available on Thursday lunchtimes for children who need to complete online homework.

Mrs Weir (Head of Year), Mrs Prestage, Mr Brennan and Miss Stinson



Year 6 News

On behalf of Mrs Anderson (Mrs Boyes), Mr Brenton, Mr Humphries and myself, I would like to welcome you and your child to year 6. We have made a great start to the year 6 curriculum covering place value and the four operations of number in maths. In English, which we incorporate Humanities, we started with some geography map skills and a focus on North America's climate and then moved to the history of the Native Americans. This fitted perfectly into reading our first text, 'The Wolves of Currumpaw', which we have also based our writing on.

This is a significant time in the children's education, as they will be completing their Key Stage 2 curriculum with their Statutory Assessment Test (SATs) in May (Monday 11th - Thursday 14th). We will be holding a Year 6 information evening on Thursday 21st November for more information regarding SATS.

Homework

During year 6 your child will have homework set weekly for English and maths and will also have homework for other subjects set by their individual teachers, when it is appropriate for their learning. They will be encouraged to record this into their diaries. Please give your children an appropriate amount of support and encouragement whilst completing their homework.

Diaries

Diaries act as an important means of communication between home and school and will be signed by Tutors weekly. Please use the diary in the first instance to write any messages for the tutor and ask your child to show their tutor first thing in the morning.

Attendance

We want your child to achieve their very best and for that to happen, we need them here every day. On the days where they don't feel 100%, we ask that you send them in for us to monitor and of course, if they aren't able to continue with school, then we will contact you. We really want the children to be resilient and try their best to come to school.

Alternatively, if your child has an important appointment during school time, where possible I would ask that you send your child in to be registered and then collect them for their appointment and return them straight after.

If a child's attendance falls below 95% that is deemed as 'requiring improvement' and should a child's attendance fall below 90% he, or she is considered as being a 'persistent absentee' by Dorset County Council. With this in mind please think twice before booking family holidays during term time (as this has an impact on a child's attendance record) and consider the impact on their learning, should they then need to take further time off school to recover from illness.



Year 6 News cont

Uniform

Please remember that socks should be grey, black, or white and school shoes, not trainers should be worn. If your child needs to wear trainers, please write a message in their diary explaining the reason and the timescale for the trainers. Please check that all items are labelled and any new items are labelled throughout the year. We do have lost property bins, which are located along the year 8 corridor; children can check these during breaktime, lunchtime and with permission, tutor time for lost items.

If at any time you have concerns or require extra information, please write a message in your child's diary, phone the office to make an appointment to speak to your child's tutor or to speak to the teacher of the specific subject in question. Many thanks for your continued support; the children have made a productive start to Year 6. Have a restful half term and we look forward to seeing you at the year 6 SATS information evening.

Kind regards,
Miss J Howe
(Head of Year 6)



YEAR 7 NEWS

I am delighted to be leading the Year 7 team this year. Mr Cotton, Mr Foord and myself are the three class tutors with Mrs Webster and Ms Fagge sharing the pastoral care of the pupils.

The year 7 pupils will have noticed significant changes to their school life, routine and responsibilities, compared to year 6. Our expectations of them is very high and that includes behaviour and personal organisation. Pupils have the opportunity to use lockers this year, this will help to keep their belongings tidy. Those who choose to use the cubby holes in the corridor instead, will also be expected to store their equipment away with care.

Homework

Pupils have had Wellbeing lessons on how to cope with homework. They have shared ideas on where and when, as well as ironing out problem areas. At the beginning of the year, homework was purposely introduced slowly, to help pupils become accustomed to it. Homework tasks are set by each subject throughout the term. English and Maths homework is set every week and the expectation is that it is completed by the due date. The homework diaries are used to record clear instructions - often printed instructions are stuck in. Weekly spelling lists are also stuck in so they can be tested at home. Parents checking and signing the diaries, supports both the pupils and the staff and acts as a point of communication. Please do contact us if you feel that your child is struggling with homework, there are many ways we can help.

Uniform

Please refer to our website as well as the homework diary for our uniform expectations. Trainers are not acceptable. We have also noticed pupils drawing on their hands and arms recently, we would like to discourage this.

Equipment

Pupils are all expected to bring in their own blue pens and pencils. They are also expected to have a reading book with them in school. Library slots are provided on a weekly basis and pupils can take out two books for two weeks at a time. Reading records should be completed as a log of their reading experience throughout the year. Pupils can bring in books from home and we actively encourage sharing recommendations with classmates.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's class tutor if you have any concerns.

Mrs Robertson
Head of Year 7



YEAR 8 NEWS

Dear Parents,

On behalf of Mrs Richardson, Mrs Etheridge and myself, I would like to welcome you and your child to Year 8. We are looking forward to teaching your children and helping them develop as individuals. This is a significant time in the children's education, as Year 8 begins to prepare for their eventual transition to Upper School. It is an exciting time for the Year 8 team and a privilege to be involved in the learning of students who we watch mature into young adults.

As you are no doubt aware, post Ofsted and since becoming part of the Wimborne Academy Trust, Emmanuel Middle School has gone through a period of rapid improvement. As such there has been a sense of immediacy - in that all our older pupils meet our learning expectations, set the example to the younger children and help to maintain exemplary standards. With suitable encouragement and reassurance our 8 pupils have benefitted hugely from the implemented changes.

I've outlined one or two important points below and I apologise in advance if certain elements sound a little draconian:

Homework

During their time in Year 8 your child can expect to receive homework in English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities, French, DT and Art. It is up to each subject teacher to set this homework on a regular basis. As well as this structured homework there will also be times when your child will have to either finish off, or prepare some work for a subject. Your child will be asked to record homework in their diary on the day it is set, as well as recording the date it is to be completed by. Please give your children an appropriate amount of support and encouragement whilst completing their homework and help them to establish positive routines. Also be aware that the amount of homework that your child receives is only likely to increase in Year 9. As such, it is vital that our Year 8s establish an organised and positive approach to their homework now.

Diaries

Please monitor and sign your child's diary on a weekly basis. These diaries are used by staff to reward good pieces of work and as an important means of communication between home and school. In addition (if you have not done so already), could I please remind you to read and sign the parents' section of the home/school agreement which you will find on pages 12 and 13 of your child's homework diary. Diaries are normally checked by the class tutors on a Monday.

Attendance

As you may well be aware-the relatively poor attendance levels of some of our Year 8 pupils was highlighted in our most recent Ofsted report. Clearly we have all been focused on improving our pupils' attendance and again, over the past couple of years there has been a perceptible rise.



YEAR 8 NEWS cont

If a child's attendance slips below 95% it is deemed as 'requiring improvement' and should a child's attendance fall below 90% he, or she is deemed as being a persistent absentee by Dorset County Council. With this in mind please think twice before booking family holidays during term time as this has a marked impact on children's attendance data and often triggers fines. Moreover, consider the impact on their learning, should they then need to take further time off school to recover from legitimate illness.

Uniform

Our KS3 pupils are role models for their younger peers. As such it is very important that they take pride in their school uniform and always come suitably attired. Unfortunately, over the past couple of weeks I've had to lend ties to quite a few children who have not been wearing one under their jumpers and have also had to remind certain pupils that they need to wear black, leather school shoes—as opposed to their own 'trainers'. Please periodically check that your child is wearing the correct uniform as historically 'one or two' of our older pupils are given to attempt to customise it - which erodes standards.

Socks should be grey, black, or white and school shoes and not trainers need to be worn (Vans are not acceptable). I fully appreciate that many of the children will be growing at an alarming rate during Years 8. Please try to ensure that the girls' skirt lengths are appropriate (i.e. just above the knee) and not too revealing. If you have questions regarding permissible haircuts / styles, please refer to the Behaviour Policy (available on the school's website), or let 'common sense prevail'. All items of uniform still need to be labelled to prevent loss. If you have any questions regarding the uniform please use the homework diary to communicate with your child's tutor.

KS3 Lockers

The majority of KS3 pupils have now been allocated a locker - 'fingers crossed' they don't lose too many keys. It's good to see that so many pupils have taken up the opportunity to have their own, secure storage space and are using them maturely.

Mobile Phones / E-Safety Issues

May I remind everyone that mobile phones must continue to be placed in the phone boxes and not be concealed in pupils' lockers as this undermines the school's e-safety / acceptable use policy regarding electronic devices. Mobile phones must be switched off on entry to the campus (as this reduces opportunities for misuse).

We do have episodes of internet misuse (fortunately few and far between last year) and in the event that your child has been received threatening, inappropriate, or offensive messages from other KS3 pupils - please 'screen-shot' the relevant material. I will contact parents to make them aware of their child's internet conduct and in some cases recommend the information be passed onto the local PCSO.

Year 8 Ambassador Selection

The first wave of Year 8 Ambassadors have now been selected. The standard of their applications was very high and their selection was (as agreed) linked to their attitude to learning and attendance data. Applicants who may have initially fallen short - have been given individual targets to meet and I look forward to appointing further Ambassadors in the New Year.



YEAR 8 NEWS cont

I am always proud to see our Year 8 pupils representing our school so well and being prepared to take on the duties and challenges presented to them. Our Ambassadors have already conducted numerous tours of the school, proving to be excellent chaperones; guiding prospective pupils and their parents around EMS. In addition, the Ambassadors who helped out during our recent open morning and open evening drew a great many complimentary comments from the visiting adults and children. Already they are becoming a credit to their school.

I'd like to congratulate Harry Mason and Charlotte Geary who have been appointed 'Lead Ambassadors'. I'm confident that they will flourish in their roles.

Year 8 Activity Week

This summer's Year 8 Activity Week proved a terrific success with our older pupils. It was inclusive (all our pupils attending) and also proved excellent value for money - 'coming in' at only £110 for seven brilliant events.

Activities included a day out at Splashdown & Cineworld (the pupils choosing their own film), a field trip to the lovely Leeson House, an excursion to Paultons Park and a day out in Bournemouth involving both Laser Tag and Rock Reef. Being sandwiched between the Year 7 French trip and potentially expensive Year 9, Upper School excursions - the Activity Week seems to have provided a winning formula in Year 8 which I will be aiming to repeat in June 2020.

Upper School Applications Deadline

There's been a real buzz among the Year 8 tutor groups over the past couple of weeks as pupils discuss the open mornings and evenings which they have recently spent looking around FUS and QE. Please be aware that the deadline for upper school applications to be with the local authority is Thursday 31st October.

And finally . . .

If at any time you have concerns or require extra information please phone the office and make an appointment to speak to your child's tutor. As the year progresses and the transfer process to upper school begins, please read and digest the communications sent out via ParentMail and check for key dates and events.

I know we have many talented pupils in Years 8 - I am looking forward to enabling all our children to have a happy and successful year at Emmanuel Middle School.

Kind regards,

Mark Rangdale
Head of Year 8



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Autumn Term

Half Term	Mon 28th Oct - Friday 1st Nov (inc)
Deadline for Upper School Applications to be received by DCC	Thursday 31st October 2019
Staff Training Day (school closed)	Monday 4th November 2019
Return to School	Tuesday 5th November 2019
Individual School Photographs	Friday 8th November 2019
PTFA School Disco	Friday 8th November 2019
Year 6 Mock SATS	w/c Monday 11th November 2019
Year 5 and 6 Flu Vaccinations	Monday 11th November 2019
Children in Need	Friday 15th November 2019
Bags to School Recycling Collection	Friday 15th November 2019
School Reports Home	Friday 15th November 2019
Open Afternoon for Year 4 Parents	Tuesday 19th November 2019, 2pm
Year 6 Height & Weight Measuring	Wednesday 20th November 2019
Year 5 Treehouse Theatre	Thursday 21st November 2019
Year 6 SATS Information Evening	Thursday 21st November 2019
PTFA Christmas Fayre	Friday 22nd November 2019, 6pm-8pm
Parents Evening	Wednesday 27th November 2019, 4-7pm
Parents Evening	Tuesday 3rd December 2019, 4-7pm
Year 8 Beacroft Christmas Party	Friday 6th December 2019
Carol Service	Thursday 12th December 2019 (7pm)
Christmas Jumper Day	Thursday 19th December 2019
Christmas Lunch	Thursday 19th December 2019*
End of Term	Friday 20th December 2019

Spring Term

Staff Training Day (school closed)	Monday 6th January 2020
Return after Christmas holiday	Tuesday 7th January 2020
Year 6 Mock SATS	w/c Monday 3rd February 2020
Year 5 Residential	Tuesday 11th Feb - Fri 14th Feb 2020
Break up for half term	Friday 14th February 2020
Return after half term	Monday 24th February 2020
Break up for Easter	Friday 3rd April 2020

Summer Term

Return after Easter holiday	Monday 20th April 2020
May Day	Friday 8th May 2020
Year 6 SATS	w/c Monday 11th May 2020
Year 6 Residential	Fri 15th May - Mon 18th May 2020
Break up for half term	Friday 22nd May 2020
Return after half term	Monday 1st June 2020
Year 8 Activities Week	w/c Monday 22nd June 2020
Break up for Summer	Friday 17th July 2020
Staff Training Day (school closed)	Monday 20th July 2020

* Christmas Lunch must be pre-ordered online with Chartwells. See the school website for further details.

