

Community spotlight

A snapshot of Emanuel's community and outreach activities | January 2023

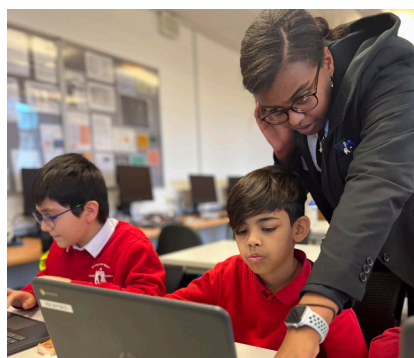
On 1 December, we hosted a seven-a-side football tournament for Year 4 pupils from our partner schools. **Fulham Football Club Foundation**, one of our community partners, joined us to run the tournament and provided referees and organisers, goals, balls, cones and multiple prizes. Referees gave out wrist bands as spot prizes for teamwork and sportsmanship too.

The standard of football was impressive - we had some stunning goals and a nail-biting penalty shoot-out! There was great team camaraderie and enthusiastic fan support. For many of the children it was their first experience competing for their school - and they loved it! The trophy and plate competitions were hotly contested – St Anne's Primary secured the trophy in a very competitive final; and Park Walk Primary won the plate.

We were delighted that mascot Billy, the Badger, joined us too. He was a complete hit with the children – and the adults - and a wonderful addition to the event.

We will hold additional tournaments in the Spring and Summer terms.

Year 4 football tournament for partner schools - Fulham FC Foundation



Primary Ambitions

The first 5-week module of **Primary Ambitions**, our flagship Lower Sixth-led enrichment programme for Year 5 and 6 partner primary schools, concluded on 9 December. Once again, it has been a resounding success!

Our partner schools are incredibly enthusiastic and have loved every minute. Our Lower Sixth pupils have grown in confidence throughout the programme and delivered some fantastic lessons across 19 different topics. Robots have been programmed, clay creatures have been formed and fired, science experiments have been mastered, gymnastics routines have been executed and so much more. Our award-winning programme continues to provide opportunities for 285 partner primary school children to explore new concepts and discover new skills. We are excited to welcome our partner schools this week for the start of the second module.



Return of the CWISL CWIZZ

We were delighted to host 'The CWIZZ', an annual book quiz competition organised by **CWISL (Children's Writers & Illustrators for Stories and Literacy)** on 24 November for a second year. Forty-four pupil teams from independent, state primary and secondary partner schools competed for the overall and junior CWIZZ trophies including several from Emanuel School.

The event is comprised of a series of multiple-choice book and genre-based rounds interspersed with author presentations, readings, spot prizes and a raffle. It is a wonderful way to celebrate the joy of reading and writing and to integrate state and independent schools in our local community. Over 50% of the participating teams were from our partner schools - a great turnout. We are proud of long-standing partner school Christ Church CE Primary for placing second in the 20-team-strong Year 6 category. Our partner schools relished meeting authors and illustrators as well as competing for their schools.

Mr Jones, our Senior Librarian and Archivist and Literary Club lead is instrumental to the success of this initiative. Without his formidable organisational skills and energy, it would be near impossible to replicate the event. Thank you to Mr Jones!



Christmas hampers – thank you, thank you, thank you!



Our lower and middle school pupils put together an astounding 73 hampers for local single parent families in our community. Co-ordinated by our partner, **CHEER**, the hampers were delivered directly to the recipients in the last week of term.

As always, our Emanuel families' generosity was exceptional – each assigned family received wrapped personally chosen age-appropriate gifts for the children and parent as well as delicious Christmas treats and decorations. CHEER is incredibly thankful on behalf of their families - particularly at such a difficult time.

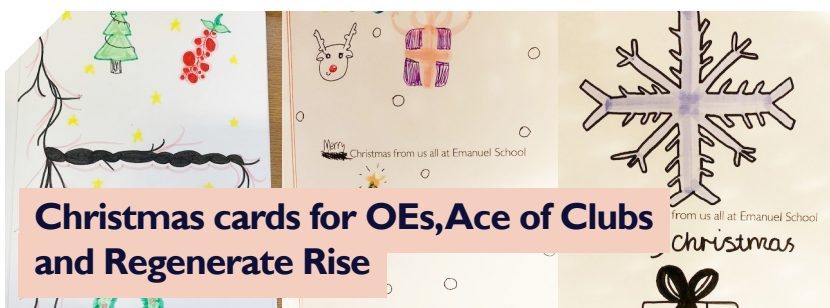
The CHEER hamper coordinator (and past Emanuel School parent) Lucinda Martin-Thomas states, 'We are so grateful to Emanuel School for providing so many generous hampers for our single mums. CHEER stands for Comfort, Hope, Empathy, Encouragement and Rebuilding. This is what these hampers do for our vulnerable families at Christmas time. We couldn't support these families in this way without you. With much love and thanks from the CHEER team.'



Ukrainian Coffee and Conversation Hub Christmas special

On Saturday, 10 December, we hosted a Christmas celebration for our Ukrainian neighbours as part of our **Coffee and Conversation Hub**. We decorated delicious shortbread cookies and enjoyed some spectacularly tasty traditional Ukrainian Christmas treats. A highlight was joining the Emanuel School parent choir - our Ukrainian contingent sang a traditional Ukrainian carol a cappella and then joined our choir to sing Silent Night and other songs. It was a wonderful way to share a little Christmas spirit in such difficult times.

The Hub will continue this term on Saturday mornings from 10.00 to 11.30 am. Dates are yet to be finalised but we expect the sessions to run on 21 January, 4 February, 25 February, 11 March and 25 March. If you or your children would like to volunteer, we are extremely keen to have your help.



Christmas cards for OEs, Ace of Clubs and Regenerate Rise

Pupils from Years 6, 7, 8 and the Sixth form wrote and, in some cases, illustrated hundreds of Christmas cards for our elderly OEs, the elderly at **Regenerate Rise** and the homeless supported by Sixth form charity, **Ace of Clubs**. Regenerate Rise is a locally-based social club for the elderly in our community and the Ace of Clubs, a long standing Emanuel School partner, supports the homeless. As you may have seen in the Christmas edition of The Edit, our sixth form collected and then donated non-perishable goods to the Ace of Clubs too. Christmas can be such a lonely time and we were keen to reach out to the most vulnerable in our community.



Christmas book drive

We collected thousands of much-needed books for our partner schools and **HM Prison Wandsworth**. Thanks to the efficiency of our wonderful parent volunteers, we unpacked, sorted into genres and age categories, re-boxed and delivered over 4500 books. We work with the **Children's Book Project** to distribute books to our partner primary schools - they are an amazing organisation and offer weekly DoFE volunteering opportunities too.

www.childrensbookproject.co.uk

Our book collection for the prison was hugely appreciated. Katie Nutley, Head of Reducing Reoffending at HMP Wandsworth stated, 'I am responsible for education and rehabilitation in the prison and wanted you to know how much it means to the men here to have free access to books on the prison wings aside from their designated library visiting days. Please pass onto your school community how grateful we are for their kindness.' Liz Bridge, the Chair of trustees, Wandsworth Prison Welfare Trust, reported, 'The books are now all out on our 14 book trolleys - they had been looking thin and are now all full and look very tempting and full of interest.'

Thank you to everyone who had a good rummage through their bookshelves and then delivered the books to school. Please know that they have been wonderfully rehomed with a new set of eager readers!

Our next book drive will be in the summer term.

Opportunities to get involved

Year 6 enrichment activities

In the Autumn and Spring terms, we organise enrichment activities for our Year 6 pupils and pupils from partner schools. This term, we will be running a film-in-a-day workshop on 2 February with John Burns Primary and exploring St Paul's Cathedral, including a mosaic workshop, with Christ Church CE Primary on **8 March**.

We are looking for several volunteers to support the St Paul's trip. If you are interested and would like to find out more, please get in touch.

Ukrainian Coffee and Conversation Hub

Our weekly Hub, launched in the Summer term 2022, continues to thrive. The Hub will run on the **21 January, 4 February, 25 February, 11 March** and **25th March** this term from **10:00 to 11.30 am**. Our aim is to enable our Ukrainian neighbours to learn and practise English and to connect with one another. We typically have a guest speaker to provide useful information, or an organised activity, followed by English practice and networking. Our volunteers have found the experience incredibly rewarding and have built some wonderful relationships. Volunteering is as easy as dropping in for some coffee and a little conversation! If you are interested, we would love to have you involved.

For more information on our community partnership and outreach activities, and to volunteer for any of the initiatives, please contact Mrs Irwin, Head of Community Partnerships and Outreach at Lisa.irwin@emanuel.org.uk