



Friday 17th March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Headteacher's Weekly Update

I want to commend Year 10 on a fantastic couple of weeks. Last week they took part in Interview Day and Monday they were off timetable to complete a workshop with Soulscape. During both days the students' conduct was outstanding and the visitors leading both events gave incredible feedback on our students (and I think that is significant as they visit many schools!). Year 10 parents can be rightly proud. Well done to them all and to Miss Cairns!

Evening of Culture

Tuesday saw the first Evening of Culture event and what an incredible night it was! The hall was buzzing all evening with students and families who all looked great. It kicked off with a cultural catwalk featuring students from all year groups representing countries from all over the world. This was followed by a phenomenal medley of 6 dance performances. We then enjoyed food from Palestine, Morocco, Ghana, India & more. Thank you to all the families that contributed to the delicious food. The evening ended with a big quiz and a lot of dancing!

My sincere thanks to all the students (including the fantastic REP team), parents and staff who helped make the event such a huge success. Of course, particular thanks go to Mrs Kisubi for being the driving force behind it all. I know Mrs Kisubi has never felt prouder to work at Emmbrook as on Tuesday evening and we all can be proud of such a tremendous celebration taking place within our community.

Year 7 & 8 Spring Concert

A reminder that the Year 7 and 8 Spring Concert will take place at 7pm on Wednesday 22nd March in the hall. Tickets can be purchased via ScoPay (adults £5, concessions £3).

NEU Industrial Action

The two strikes days this week mark the end of the announced industrial action at this time. We have prioritised Year 11 throughout the strikes and I want to thank parents for your support with this. The NEU have today announced that they are pausing further action to resume talks with the Government. If there are any further updates, I will bring these to your attention via my weekly letter.

PTA Pre-Loved Uniform

The PTA will be holding a pre-loved uniform sale before the Easter Holiday (see our PTA pre-loved uniform Facebook page for the date and time). Please bring any uniform you would like to donate to reception or email us at pta@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk.

PTA Easter Raffle

The PTA are again holding their Easter Raffle. Mr McGrath will be visiting forms to sell tickets (£1), so please send your child to school with a small amount of cash if you would like them to enter.





Royal Holloway Research Projects

Researchers at Royal Holloway are looking for children aged 11-13 to take part in two studies to understand better the link between reading enjoyment and learning. For both studies they schedule appointments around school hours (e.g. holidays, weekends and evenings). Their first is an online study examining if children enjoy learning new words (this takes around 2 hours) and children who participate receive £20. The other is an MRI study (this takes around 3 hours, of which 1 is in the scanner at the Royal Holloway campus in Egham, Surrey) where they examine the brain basis of pleasure during word learning. Children receive £40 and a picture of their brain. For more information and to sign-up, please visit their [website](#) or email them at ncodelab@rhul.ac.uk.

Final Day of Term

A reminder that we will finish at 12.20pm on Friday 31st March. WBC school transport services have been rearranged for this time; students travelling home by other means will need to make alternative arrangements on that day.

I hope you have a really good weekend.

Best wishes,

Nick McSweeney

Headteacher

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