



Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **RE: Weekly Update**

It was lovely to return this week to the Halloween Inter-house Bake Off and charity cake sale. The creations were absolutely incredible and at least one was so gruesome that it genuinely put me off eating the cake! I am really grateful to all involved and for the £130 raised for the Wokingham Food Bank.

## **Reporting Covid-19**

Please use [covid@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:covid@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk) to report any positive Covid-19 test results. This email address should be used for any Covid-19 queries.

## **Covid-19 Cases**

Reported Year 7 cases rose over the holiday so we asked students in that year to seek a PCR test before returning to school – my sincere thanks for all the support with this request. At present the number of new cases has declined across the school and so the situation is improving. We remain vigilant.

## **Covid-19 Symptoms**

Please be vigilant for the symptoms of Covid-19:

- Feverish
- A new, continuous cough
- A loss or change to sense of smell or taste
- Headache
- Upset stomach
- Sore throat
- Unusually tired

If your child has Covid-19 symptoms they should not attend school and seek a PCR test.

## **Current Covid-19 Mitigation Measures**

- Students and staff are required to wear face coverings in all communal spaces (corridors, canteen, hall, etc.).
- Face coverings during lessons are optional.
- Split break and year group zones at break and lunch.
- Online assemblies.
- Enhanced ventilation.
- Suspension of after school clubs when cases rise in a year group.

## **Please Continue Home Testing**

Report your results to the NHS [here](#) (and ensure that you inform us of a positive result). If your child has Covid-19 symptoms or returns a positive LFT result then please do not send them to school and seek a PCR test.



If a member of your household tests positive via a PCR then we do request that your child stays at home and takes a PCR test on day 3 of the household member's positive result. (Day 0 is the first day of symptoms or their positive test if they did not show symptoms). If the PCR test is negative, they can return to school. PCR tests can be accessed [here](#).

Students at home with a positive confirmation of Covid-19 or awaiting the results of a PCR test will be set work via Teams.

### **Sixth Form Taster Day**

I hope that Year 11 enjoyed their experience of life in the Sixth Form today and that it will help them focus on their options for Year 12. If you have any questions or we can help at all then please contact us:

- Mr Tichband (Head of Year 11): [jtichband@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:jtichband@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)
- Mr Constable (Head of Sixth Form): [dconstable@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:dconstable@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)
- Mr Whitehouse (Senior Leader for KS5): [pwhitehouse@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:pwhitehouse@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)
- Mr Johnson (Senior Leader for Transition): [cjohnson@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:cjohnson@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

### **New Prefects Appointed**

I am very excited that the new prefect team has been appointed. I am grateful that these students are stepping up to support and improve The Emmbrook and I look forward to seeing them at work this year. Our new prefect team:

- Year 7: Holly, William, Hannah, Sian, Kartik, Izam, Jessica, Natasha and Isabella
- Year 8: Emmanuel, Arthur, Hannah, Elsie, Tom, Jayke and Summer
- Year 9: Leon, Daniel, Zara, Zacchary, Jazmine, Oliver and Ruth
- Year 10: Erik, Kylie, Holleigh, Alfie, Baron, Gabby, Ed and Kenisha
- Year 11: Skye and Olivier

### **Year 11 Exam Preparations**

Year 11 parents will be receiving a letter today from Mrs Fyfe summarising the additional provision available for Year 11 students and how parents can support. Your support is absolutely crucial so please look out for the letter and find some time to go through it with your child.

### **Admissions Consultation**

The Circle Trust has launched a consultation to review our admissions arrangements. The main changes are to the oversubscription criteria:

- The addition of children of staff of The Emmbrook School.
- Change the oversubscription criteria and the order of criteria to consider those siblings of children in the school before those living within the large designated area of the school.

Both of these changes support The Emmbrook's core value of family by prioritising the children of staff and current siblings for places when we are oversubscribed. Full details of the consultation, including how you can contribute, can be found on our [website](#).



For those who celebrated Diwali this week I hope that you enjoyed the festival, which I hoped included time with family enjoying lots of festivities, including good food and fireworks. As today is the November 5<sup>th</sup> I'm sure that the fireworks will continue and I wish you all a good weekend.

Best wishes,

**Nick McSweeney**

Headteacher

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