



Friday 19th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Weekly Update

I am pleased that for another week Covid-19 cases have been relatively low in our population. We are all really grateful for the support we have received from parents and carers with testing since the middle of October. To try to reduce the proportion of the weekly update given over to Covid-19, and to make key information more accessible, each letter will now start with a simplified summary. **Please send you child to school with a suitable face mask.**

Covid-19 Summary

New cases	Relatively low and stable.
Communication	Use covid@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk for all Covid-19 related queries and to report new positive cases to us.
Symptoms	Do not send your child to school and seek a PCR test if they have a positive LFD test or the following symptoms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Feverish ▪ A new, continuous cough ▪ A loss or change to sense of smell or taste ▪ Headache ▪ Upset stomach ▪ Sore throat ▪ Unusually tired
Home Testing	Twice per week using LFD. Please report all results to the NHS .
Guidelines for Positive Cases in Your Household	Any child who has a household member test positive or has been identified as a close contact of a positive case via NHS Test and Trace or by other means should take a daily lateral flow test for 7 days, in addition to taking a one-off PCR test on day 3. Whilst engaging in daily LFD testing, anyone who tests negative can continue to attend school.
Test Exempt	Do not take LFD or PCR tests for 90 days after a positive PCR.
Isolation Work	Set via Microsoft Teams.
Mask Wearing	Required in communal areas, optional in lessons and outside.

Year 11 Wave Exams

A huge congratulations to Year 11 for their exemplary conduct during their Wave (mock) exams this week. The invigilators have sent back glowing reports and I am really impressed. Teachers will be marking and providing feedback in the days to come.

Richard Carter

I wrote on Tuesday to share the news of the death of our first headmaster, Richard Cater, who passed away peacefully on Saturday. He retired in 1983 and, having spoken with his son



this week, he reiterated that Mr Carter enjoyed a happy and fulfilling retirement. The widespread response shows how respected he was by the community.

Year 12 Work Experience

Thanks to the parents who attended yesterday's meeting regarding work experience this year. Between now and Christmas students in Year 12 need to confirm if they are arranging their own placement or want us to arrange a placement for them. I am so pleased and grateful for all the offers of support from the community for work experience placements.

Uniform Standards

Thank you for your support with the recent uniform push. This half-term we are focusing on three key areas and I appreciate your continuing support with these:

- No unnatural hair colours
- All black footwear
- Blazers (Years 7-10)

In January we will spotlight new areas of the uniform and I will write in December to give you all advanced warning. Through this systematic approach we will maintain uniform standards that will make the entire community proud.

Local Parks

Parents of younger children have been in contact to inform us that our students have been using parks in the area that are for young children. Although our students are lovely, to pre-school aged children they can be intimidating. Please reinforce with your children that they should not be using pre-school parks. There are parks and recreation grounds suitable for teenagers in the area so I would appreciate your support in encouraging them to use these.

School Production: A Christmas Carol

This year's whole school production will be the classic A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens. The company are busy rehearsing under the direction of Mr Malyan ready for opening night. Tickets are available from Student Reception (Adult - £7, Child - £5, Family, 2 adults and 2 children - £20) for the three night run (Tuesday 30th November, Wednesday 1st December and Thursday 2nd December at 7pm in the Main Hall). I'm sure it will be a great show!

Winter Carnival Chocolate Donations

My thanks to those who have already contributed chocolates for the PTA's Chocolate Tombola stall. This stall normally raises lots of money for the brilliant PTA and they invest it all back into The Emmbrook. We would be incredibly grateful for any further donations (they can be sent with your child or delivered to reception). Thank you!

Best wishes,

Nick McSweeney

Headteacher

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