



Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Headteacher's Weekly Update

We have really hit the ground running this term, particularly for students in Years 11 and 13 whose exams are now looming. If you or your child needs any support then please contact us:

- Year 11: Mr Tichband – [jtichband@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:jtichband@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)
- Year 13: Mr Constable – [dconstable@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:dconstable@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

## Covid-19 Summary

We are now very much in the 'living with Covid' phase. This means that:

<b>Symptoms</b>	If your child is unwell and has a high temperature they should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They should return to school when they no longer have a temperature and feel well enough.
<b>Covid-19 Testing</b>	Although testing has now ceased, should your child test positive they should stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days.
<b>Communication</b>	Use <a href="mailto:covid@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk">covid@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk</a> for all Covid-19 queries.

## Remembering David Carter

I would like to share with the wider school community the sad news that David Carter, a former governor, has passed away after a period of ill health. David had been a member of the Governing Body for two decades until he stood down last April.

David was a passionate supporter of young people in general and The Emmbrook in particular. He was always very generous with his time and had a determination to ensure high standards. During his long period of service he made many significant contributions; his most tangible legacy is the Matthias Block, which opened in 2015 following a good deal of input from him.

Our thoughts are with David's family at this time.

## Meningitis Research Foundation Fundraiser

I am pleased to share that the fundraising efforts on the last day of term yielded £783.60. I am very grateful for the efforts of all the students and staff involved in making the day happen and, of course, my huge thanks to all who contributed.

## Ski and Wales Residential Trips

It was a fantastic sight, after all this time, to see substantial trips going out either side of the Easter holiday. The trips, initially conceived as pilots to test the way following Covid, have been very successful. I know that there were students who were disappointed to miss out and so I am so pleased that we can now have the confidence to plan similar trips again next year. I would expect our trips offering to return to normal and I hope that we can create many



more opportunities for our students in the years to come. My sincere thanks to all staff who gave up their time to facilitate these and other trips.

### **Absences for Religious Celebrations**

As a school we try to be as inclusive as possible and enjoy incorporating a wide variety of cultural and religious events into our learning, both inside and outside of the classroom. We know many religious celebrations do not take place in the holidays and so if you are celebrating a religious event, we are happy to accommodate time off for this. Please ensure you contact us beforehand for approval [using this form](#) which can be sent to our Attendance Officer via this email: [absences@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:absences@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk).

### **Year 11 Hoodies**

Our Year 11 students were issued with their leavers hoodies today and will be allowed to wear this as part of their uniform until the beginning of their exams next month.

### **Support for the Ukrainian People**

We continue to think of the plight of the Ukrainian people and these are good charities:

- [Oxfam Ukraine Appeal](#)
- [DEC Ukraine Appeal](#)
- [British Red Cross Ukraine Appeal](#)

### **Emmbrook Road Nos 80-98 Even**

We always endeavour to be a good neighbour and so in that spirit I would like to draw your attention to the private road near the school signed as 'Emmbrook Road Nos 80-98 Even' (located opposite Emmbrook Drive). This is a private road and there are clear signs indicating this. Local residents have been in touch to say that they are experiencing considerable disruption by school traffic using the road (which they are responsible for maintaining) including being unable to access their homes and that there are no parking spaces for visitors or even carers. I would always ask that parents respect local residents and especially so in this case where there is a private road. I appreciate your support in the matter.

With a three-day weekend ahead, we look forward to seeing the students return at 8.20am on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> of May. I hope you all enjoy the bank holiday.

Best wishes,

**Nick McSweeney**

Headteacher

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