



Friday 22nd November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Weekly Update

My sincere thanks for the huge number of chocolate donations sent in for the PTA Chocolate Tombola at the Wokingham Winter Carnival on Sunday. Unfortunately, we've seen the news today that the Carnival has been cancelled due to the weather so the PTA are working on a plan B to make use of the chocolate. Watch this space!

Year 11 Parents' Meetings & Early School Closure – Wednesday 11th December

We believe that parents' meetings are a vital element of success for our young people – we value working in partnership. To that end, last year we changed the way that we do parents' meetings by bringing the start time forward to 1pm and, therefore, finishing school early on those 5 days (so that teachers can attend the appointments). This was to add more appointments as, in the previous year, a lack of appointments had been the number one complaint we'd received.

At the end of last year, I surveyed parents and the feedback showed that:

- 94.3% of parents valued attending the parents' meetings last year.
- 76.2% of parents found booking an appointment easier than the previous year.
- 75.4% of parents felt that 5 early closures to support more parents' meetings was reasonable.

Given this, we will keep the last year's arrangements and begin Year 7-11 parents' meetings at 1pm. I recognise and appreciate the support parents and carers give to allow this to happen (by having students return home early on those days). One change we will make is to rotate the events across Monday-Thursday, rather than having all of the events on the same day (as we did last year) so that the same subjects or not impacted each time.

Year 11 have their parents' meeting on Wednesday 11th December. You will receive further information about this.

For all parents, be aware that **school will finish for all students at 12.20pm on Wednesday 11th December.**

The E1, E2 and E3 buses have been rearranged for the earlier time, however, we cannot rearrange other shared bus services (so these services will leave at 3.30pm and, therefore, you may need to make alternative travel arrangements).

For parents that require it, we will be able to offer childcare provision until 2.55pm. Please email jrimmer@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk by end of Monday 9th December to notify us that we shouldn't release your child until 2.55pm.





Amazing 24hr Fundraising Race

I wanted to share with our whole community the amazing efforts of three of our students to complete the Le Mans race in support of Children in Need. George Rimmer, Josh Chaplin and Luke Moses drove the full 24-hour race on a computer game from 3.30pm on Friday 15th with the drivers each doing 2-hour stints through the night and the following day. They each managed only minimal sleep and even did additional challenges to help raise more money including eating lemons, chillies and Toxic Waste! A special mention also to Connor Boyce for moderating the online chat.

They did an amazing job, and managed to raise a staggering £860 for BBC Children in Need. They set themselves a target of £1000, so I wanted to share their [JustGiving link](#) to see if we could collectively help them reach their target. If you can support them then please do.

Sixth Form Applications Open

Sixth Form applications can be made via your child's school email account. If they haven't yet received this link or for any other queries, please contact Mr Constable, Mr Whitehouse, or Mrs Panesar for help:

- Mr Constable (Head of Sixth Form) – dconstable@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk
- Mr Whitehouse (Assistant Headteacher) – pwhitehouse@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk
- Mrs Panesar (Assistant Headteacher) – lpansar@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk

Flu Vaccinations

Another reminder to please sign and return the consent forms on time so your children do not miss out on the flu vaccinations that will be provided to our students on Wednesday 4th December.

Save the Date: Christmas Concert

This year's Christmas Concert will take place at St. Paul's Church, Wokingham on Monday 16th December starting at 7.00 pm. More information to follow soon.

Save the Date: The Wizard of Oz – A Panto!

This year's Christmas production will be The Wizard of Oz – A Panto! Performances will be held at 6.30pm on Tuesday 17th, Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th December.

I hope you have a fantastic weekend!

Best wishes,

Nick McSweeney

Headteacher

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