



Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Weekly Update

Year 11 have now reached the public exams. They have been a real credit to the school over their last few normal school days and were exemplary in the first whole cohort exam (Biology) this morning.

They are now permitted to be in school only when they have an exam, however, their teachers will continue to be in the lessons throughout the exam period so students are encouraged to be in school as much as possible to revise with teachers. As has been explained to them, if a Year 11 student wants to leave the site, they must sign out at student reception.

We wish them all the best of luck. They are well prepared and we are expecting this year's results to be better than last years.

## Shorts

As the warm weather has (finally) arrived (and let's hope it stays!), I thought this would be a good time to remind you all that we changed our uniform policy at the start of the year to allow students to wear shorts.

Here is a reminder of our expectations, which were originally shared with all parents in my weekly updates back in September: we are now allowing **plain black long tailored school shorts**. This change is in place all year and we will leave it to individuals to decide if it is warm enough for shorts. In this way we hope to avoid confusion or disputes over whether or not it is warm enough for shorts.

A reminder of the sort of acceptable shorts:





We cannot accept casual shorts. Therefore, please do not send your child to school with sports shorts, tracksuit style shorts or shorts with visible logos.

This change was implemented to support the wellbeing of our students and I only received positive feedback back in September. I appreciate your support with ensuring that students are wearing the right types of shorts.

## Year 11 & 13 Public Exams

If you need to contact us during the exam period for any support or have questions then please get in touch:

### Year 11

- Miss Cairns (Head of Year) – [rcairns@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:rcairns@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)
- Mrs Panesar (Assistant Headteacher) – [lpanesar@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:lpanesar@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

### Year 13

- Mr Constable (Head of 6<sup>th</sup>) – [dconstable@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:dconstable@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)
- Mr Whitehouse (Assistant Headteacher) – [pwhitehouse@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:pwhitehouse@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

## PTA Update

Our brilliant PTA are holding a car boot sale on June 23<sup>rd</sup> to raise money for the school. They would like to hear from volunteers, either to support the event or to bake some cakes for them to sell on the day. If you think that you might be able to help then please get in touch via [pta@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:pta@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk). Thank you!

## Careers Update

This week's opportunities:

- [Sector Webinar: Early Years Childcare and Education](#) on May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm
- [Sector Webinar: Sport](#) on June 5<sup>th</sup> at 6pm
- [Sector Webinar: Project Management](#) on 18<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm
- **The ERIC app** is a free careers app helping you break into the creative industries and become work-ready. Browse thousands of internships, events, training schemes, courses and more. You can download the app using these links:
  - [iPhone](#)
  - [Android](#)

## Get Extra Support for Your Child

Registering for free school meals if you're eligible means you can help your child have a healthy lifestyle. This support helps feed millions of children in schools across the country every day and thousands locally. Your circumstances may have changed, which means you could now register for free school meals.

To qualify, your child must be in school and you must be receiving one of the following benefits:

- [Income support](#)



- Income based [Job Seekers Allowance](#)
- Income related [Employment and Support Allowance](#)
- [NASS support](#)
- Guarantee element of [State Pension](#)
- [Child Tax Credit](#), provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- [Working Tax Credit](#) for the four weeks after employment ends
- [Universal Credit](#), provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400

If this applies to you but your child isn't registered for free school meals, complete a form and return it to us. [Download the form and apply for Free School Meals](#) on Wokingham Borough Council's website.

Best wishes,

**Nick McSweeney**

Headteacher

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