



Friday 24th May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Weekly Update

This week the Year 10 geographers were out on two field trips as part of their GCSE studies. I wanted to share that they were exceptional on both days. The accompanying staff came back with glowing reports about their conduct and effort over the two days. Members of the public even approached our staff to comment on their excellent conduct. The students were a real credit to The Emmbrook!

Half-Term Revision

The exams have continued to go very well! A big well done to all of the students. It's really important that the students use next week wisely by balancing rest and relaxation with revision. Parents have been contacted directly about the holiday revision programme so please support your child to make the most of these opportunities.

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
- Mrs Panesar (Assistant Headteacher) – lpanesar@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk

Year 13

- Mr Constable (Head of 6th) – dconstable@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk
- Mr Whitehouse (Assistant Headteacher) – pwhitehouse@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk

Year 8 Parents' Evening and Early Closure Day on Thursday 13th June

We have the final parents' evening of the year next half-term and so Year 8 parents will be meeting with teachers on Thursday 13th June. To allow time for enough appointments, school will finish at 12.20pm on Thursday 13th June. The E1, E2 and E3 have been rearranged for this earlier time, however, the other services cannot be altered (as they are shared), so apologies for the inconvenience this may cause. As with previous early closures, we can supervise students until 2.55pm, so should you need this please email Jane Rimmer (jrimmer@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk) by 4pm on Monday 10th June to notify us.

I have been transparent throughout that we made the change to the start time of parents' evenings in direct response to the complaints from parents in previous years that there were not enough appointments to see teachers. I have also been clear that we would survey all stakeholders to gather views on how successful this change has been and review. Once the



final evening has been completed all parents will receive a survey and we will appreciate your feedback.

Year 10 Mock Exam Preparation

Year 10 students have been sent an information pack about their mock exams next half-term. These are an important step in the process of preparing for the real thing this time next year. Please support them in their preparations and contact Miss Taylor (Head of Year 10) via dtaylor@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk or Mr Whitehouse (Assistant Headteacher responsible for examinations) via pwhitehouse@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk should you need any further information or help.

Holidays During Term Time

School attendance is incredibly important and the evidence is clear that there is a very strong correlation between good attendance and good outcomes. At this time of year I start to receive requests from parents for their children to attend family holidays in term time. While I appreciate that it can lead to a significant saving, I will not be able to authorise such absences. I strongly encourage all students to be in school and learning during term time.

High Expectations

As you will know we have had an 'expectations re-set' this week focussing on four areas uniform, punctuality, toilet use during lesson time and mobile phones/AirPods. The students have risen to the challenge brilliantly and I want to thank parents for your support with this. We will continue to make these areas a priority after half-term.

Shorts

Students are taking up the option of wearing shorts so one final reminder of our uniform expectations, we are allowing **plain black long tailored school shorts**.

Examples 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.

Summer Concert

On Tuesday 25th June our Music Department will be hosting the annual summer concert (please note the earlier than usual start time of 6.30pm). Tickets will be available on ScoPay after half term, adults £6 and child/concessions £3.



PTA Update

Another reminder that our wonderful PTA will be holding a car boot sale on June 23rd 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 are able to bake (or donate) a cake then please drop these at reception on Friday 21st June. If you think that you might be able to help then please get in touch via pta@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk. Thank you!

Careers Update

This week's useful careers links:

- [Upcoming Webinars](#) on apprenticeships
- [National Careers Service](#) provides careers information, advice and guidance
- [GetMyFirst job](#) latest opportunities
- [Parents and Carers - Pack May 2024](#) guide for parents and carers on apprenticeships, T-Levels and HTQ qualifications

I hope that the students have a great half-term break. School will return at 8.20am on Monday 3rd June.

Best wishes,

Nick McSweeney

Headteacher

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