



Friday 13th December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Weekly Update

My thanks for all who supported Christmas Jumper Day yesterday. We raised £303.02 for Save the Children.

I'm sure that many parents and carers will have seen the Channel 4 programme 'Swiped' this week which experimented with removing smart phones from a cohort of secondary school students. I am very interested in this and feel that we adults need to consider further how we can best protect young people from the impact of phones on their health and wellbeing. 2025 feels like the right moment to review our approach to mobile phones and so expect more to follow on this in the months to come. Your views are always valuable in matters such as these that require home and school to be working in unison in order to take full effect.

Parents' Meetings

Wednesday's Year 11 parents' meetings were very well attended - thank you! Engagement from home is absolutely pivotal in ensuring success. Whether you were able to attend the event or not, we would appreciate it if you could take a few moments to share your thoughts through our [feedback survey](#).

I'm also grateful to parents of all year groups for supporting the early closure that allows us to provide sufficient meeting slots.

The next parents' meetings will take place for Year 9 on Thursday 6th February (please note that parents' meetings have been spread across different days this year to avoid students missing the same lessons). More information will follow next term.

Contact Regarding Pupil Premium

Should you need to contact us regarding your child's Pupil Premium entitlement, please use pupilpremium@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk. Our apologies if you have previously been directed to an email address that cannot accept external communication.

Sixth Form Applications Closing

There is now only one week until the application deadline and we have already received a record number of applications. If your child is still planning to submit an application then please be aware the window is closing. Contact us should you require support:

- 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





Final Week of Term Attendance

As we enter the final week of term, we appreciate that illness and exhaustion are creeping in for a number of our students which can lead to increased absence. Lessons will maintain an educational focus until the end of term so attendance is key. We are keen to support families to ensure students do not miss out on learning, so if any support is required, please do not hesitate to contact your child's tutor, Assistant Year Leader or Year Leader.

Please use absences@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk or call 01189 070279 if you do need to report your child absent, providing medical evidence where possible.

Christmas Concert

The concert is on Monday at 7.00pm, St. Paul's Church, Wokingham (doors will open from 6.30). Please be aware that the Parish Rooms car park will not be available as they have a regular booking so there will not be any parking close by. We recommend parking on nearby streets, so please leave enough time to walk to the church. The PTA will be serving mince pies afterwards (the concert should end around 8.20pm). All are welcome and we are expecting a full house so the pews may get a little cozy!

The Wizard of Oz – A Panto!

Performances will be in the main hall at 6.30pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. We wish cast and crew all the best!

Christmas Dinner

Will be served at lunch on Wednesday. The price is £3.80 (there's no charge for students who receive free school meals). If your child has put their name down, please ensure that your child has enough money in their account (or ApplePay, etc) on the day to cover the cost.

Christmas Market

The annual Sixth Form Christmas Market will take place on Thursday during lunchtime, under the covered way. There will be a range of stalls including Name the Teddy, chocolate stalls and a bake sale.

This year, we are raising money for the [Me2Club](#), a local charity based in the Wokingham and Reading Boroughs. They support children and young people with additional needs and disabilities, with the aim of tackling social isolation and loneliness experienced by children not able to access mainstream leisure activities. Please send your child(ren) with some cash to support this event. The Sixth Form Team look forward to bringing some festive cheer at the end of term!

Next week is the final school week of 2024 so we will finish at 12.20pm. All school transport buses have been rearranged for the half-day.



I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Nick McSweeney

Headteacher

nmcsweeney@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk