



Newsletter – Lockdown Edition

15th May 2020

In this edition;

Headteacher's Address	Year 9 Update
VE Day Celebrations	Year 10 Update
Maths, Computing and Science Update	Year 11 Update
Business and Humanities Update	Sixth Form Update
PE Update	House Update
English and MFL Update	Emmbrook Creation Station
Creative and Performing Arts Update	Art Instagram
Year 7 Update	English Creative Work
Year 8 Update	Music Roundup
	Message from School Nurses

Headteacher's Address (nmcsweeney@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that this edition of the weekly newsletter finds you well and that you were all able to take advantage of the three-day weekend. I know that many students engaged positively with work focused on VE Day (although our homemade bunting did not prove to be very robust I'm afraid).

Key Worker and Vulnerable Student Provision

We continue to offer daily provision for a relatively small number of vulnerable and key worker children who complete the remote learning work set for all students under supervision. In the last few days we have experienced a small rise in the requests for places and we will always do our best to support families. In order to ensure that we can maintain a safe provision, should your family's circumstances change then please contact me directly via email (nmcsweeney@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk), with as much notice as possible.

We have consulted the parents and carers who are using this provision and they have confirmed that they do not require us during the half-term break. Therefore we will be closed for the week beginning 25th May and I am grateful for their support with this.

Provision for Years 10 and 12 Students in June

There has been much media coverage this week of the Government's announcements requiring schools to offer some "face-to-face" provision for Year 10 and 12 students from 1st June (though not a return to timetabled lessons). I want to start by stating that it is my sincere desire to see the school return to some form of normality as soon as possible. My paramount concern will always be the safety of students and staff, so we will only make changes to our provision when I am confident that we can do so safely.



The direction we have received from the Government has not yet provided complete clarity and has been subject to revision during the week. We are still expecting further information. Alongside this there has been concern from unions at a national level (though I must commend the sensible and constructive engagement I've received from our school union reps). As a result of these external pressures and conscious that I want to get this decision right, I am not yet in a position to be able to communicate our plans for June with you; I will be writing to you next week to share firm plans for our Year 10 and 12 provision.

I am also conscious of needing to get the balance right for all of our students. Our staff are very much working at capacity currently setting work and providing personal feedback. Therefore, any measures taken to enhance provision for Years 10 and 12 will inevitably require us to scale back the support we can give to Years 7-9.

These are complex and sensitive issues and so I hope that you can understand the desire to take our time so that we make the best of the situation we find ourselves in.

Year 7 Leader

During these unusual times I am finding that any glimpses of normality are very welcome! In that spirit, as we draw towards the end of this half-term Mrs Hodgson will pass another Year 7 cohort over to their permanent Year Leader. I know that Miss Cairns, who has been the Head of Year 11, is very excited to be starting with a new year group and that she will do a fantastic job. It is a shame that this transition happens during the lockdown but I'm glad that Miss Cairns was able to visit each Year 7 form before we broke up to introduce herself and Mr Johnson, the senior leader now attached to the year group. From 1st June Miss Cairns will be responsible for the pastoral care of Year 7 and so parents should direct any questions, queries or concerns to her (rcairns@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

I would like to take a moment to thank Mrs Hodgson for her incredible job supporting our Year 7 students this year. I know that she has received thanks directly from many of you, which is very kind. Mrs Hodgson has written a few words of her own that follow later on in this newsletter.

Mrs Hodgson will now be focussing on the transition for the next Year 7 intake due to start in September.

Clerk to the Governors

This month our Clerk to the Governors, the aptly named Mrs Clarke, is leaving us to take up a new post as the Company Secretary of the Circle Trust. Mrs Clarke has been with us since 2016 and I have had the privilege of working alongside her throughout that period. Without exception, Mrs Clarke has provided outstanding support for all aspects of the work of our governing body with skill, dedication and diligence. Her work may often go unnoticed by the vast majority our community, but I would stress that the role of clerk is vital to the secure operation of a school and Mrs Clarke's contribution has been crucial. As you may know we are



currently in the process of academising and joining the Circle Trust, so I am delighted that we have an opportunity to continue benefitting from the support of Mrs Clarke in her new role.

I can also share that we have appointed a new Clerk to Governors, Mrs Andrews, who is already proving to be an excellent addition to the team. I am also grateful to Mrs Clarke, who will be inducting Mrs Andrews into her new role. I wish both the best of luck in their respective new roles.

Finally, a thanks to the sixth formers (and a parent!) who produced the excellent parody of our recent staff video (both posted online). It's great to maintain the sense of community and fun. A special mention for Olivia Rowell, who made a very convincing headteacher I thought.

Best wishes,

Nick McSweeney
Headteacher

VE Day Celebrations

Here are some VE Day submissions for a challenge that Miss Donovan set for Years 8 and 9, there were a selection of challenges that led to some fantastic results!



Sophie Farmer made some mouth-watering cupcakes and strung bunting in her road.

Joe Dempster made carrot cookies using a ration recipe (he was pleasantly surprised, his dad not so much!!).



Isla Clarke made some more modern cookies, complete with marshmallows and sweets to decorate.

Millie Mihell painted some lovely bunting, Alex Tyszka did brilliant research on the Messerschmitt and Spitfire airplanes, Lewis Taylor enjoyed Dan Snow's VE Day lesson streams, Bobby Hanger designed a 1945 VE Day menu and Hari Moon, Sarah Shields, and Sirayah Dyson completed fantastic research projects on the history behind the day. Well done everyone – house points have been awarded to all who took part.

Emma Smith (Year 9) deserves a special mention for her supreme effort in completing almost all of the tasks! House points awarded. Other students of note include Kylie Chaplin for her detailed research, and Palak Kohli for her excellent presentation of research and diary account.

At school we also reproduced some vintage bunting that was flown in 1945 – with the flags of the many Allied victors. We combined this with research about how each nation contributed to the Victory in Europe

Maths, Computing and Science (lpnesar@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

In maths, science and computing we have seen some excellent engagement with the Amazon Future Engineer project with a special mention to the following students for excellent work on the platform

Year 7: Filip Olbinski, Milo Scott, Lauren Ross, Molly O'Nyons, Eman Abdulla, Benny Hossack, Eva Dougherty and Nedas Baltramatis



Year 8: Ella Sturt, Edward Taylor, Jacob Cutting, Arun Corcoran, Zubair Mostamandi and Kenisha Ghotey

We have been very impressed with the sign up from all students and look forward to seeing the progress in the next week.

Our work on our You tube channel and mathswatch continues and this week we have broken through the 5000 views barrier for the Emmbrook Mathematics channel, we are so grateful to all for the engagement we have seen from students and parents and hope it is



helping. If you would like to see us do some videos on a topic you are struggling with please do email your maths or computing teacher and they will be happy to hear from you.

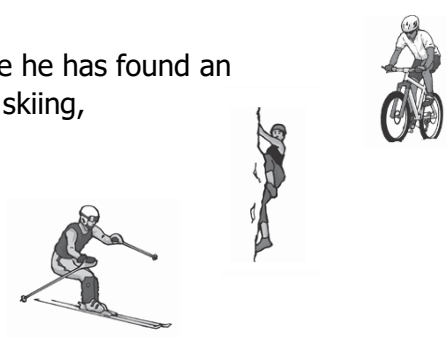
It has been great to see some transition work from Year 11. While some may think that you would have been happy to see your exams cancelled we know this is not the case and we have been delighted to see that you are moving on and getting ready for your post 16 studies.

Miss Smith was in school this week working with the children of the key workers. She was with Mr Whitehouse and therefore focussed on science in a geographical context. Students were learning about what causes earthquakes and investigating the impact of earthquakes on buildings and how they could be designed to withstand the impact of a natural disaster.

Meanwhile home learning in science continues and we have seen some excellent work this week on the topic of light which includes how we see, the eye and the camera and colour.

<p>Venn Diagrams</p> <p>The primary colors are red, yellow and blue.</p>	<p>Red light has a lower frequency than blue light</p>		<p>How we see</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All image of an object is formed in your retina Light reflected from an object goes through your pupil The cornea and the lens focus light onto your retina This makes an inverted image Your brain flips the image for you to see properly <p>EYE VS CAMERA</p> <p>Glossary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RETINA: a layer at the back of the eye with cells that are sensitive to light PUPIL: the dark circular opening in the centre of the iris CORNEA: the transparent layer protecting the front of the eye INVERTED: upside-down <p>How cameras 'see'</p> <p>At the back of a digital camera, there is a grid of photosensitive picture elements; this makes a camera a charge-coupled device. Light hitting each of these pixels produces charge. When you take a photo, this charge is moved off each of these pixels and is stored.</p>
<p>White light is made up of 7 different colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet. A prism splits white light into those colors, it is called a spectrum.</p>	<p>You can sometimes see a rainbow in bubble, CD's or DVD's</p>		

Mr Edwards' class has been learning about Friction and of course he has found an excellent way to teach this by looking at friction and sport, think skiing, climbing and riding a bike!



Finally I will leave you with a nice logical and computational thinking problem. Answer in next week's edition!

Can you crack the code?

CODE

2 9 1	One number is correct and well placed
2 4 5	One number is correct but wrong place
4 6 3	Two numbers are correct but wrong places
5 7 8	Nothing is correct
5 6 9	One number is correct but wrong place



Business and Humanities (cjohnson@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

We have had another fantastic week in Business and Humanities.

A Level Business students have been investigating the theory of motivation and have submitted their best essays yet. Miss Bundy had a similar sentiment to her Government and Politics class.

Y7 History students have been looking into the crusades and Year 9 delving deeper into their crime and punishment unit.

Mr Baylis was delighted with Mathilde's effort in her urbanisation of China work in geography and Year 8 geographers looked at the effects of climate change in the UK and globally.

Y9 Business students have been completing their CV's as part of their recruitment unit. The future looks very bright as they already have very impressive employability skills!

PE (chumber@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

The PE dept have been setting a number of different exercises for all Core PE classes from Yoga to High Intensity Interval Training. Well done in particular to Ellie K in Year 9, Bobby H in Year 8 and Dylan N in Year 7 for sharing their exercise accomplishments with the department. The GCSE PE and Sport Science classes have been working on their knowledge and understanding of Social Cultural Influences, Physical Training and Musculoskeletal System as well as competing against other classes in the fortnightly online SMHW quiz!

As it stands the current GCSE average class scores in the SMHW quiz are:

9A – 90%

10C – 80%

10D – 79%

Well done to 9A/Pg1 but if you haven't had your three attempts have another go to improve your and your classes score! As it stands the current Sport Science average class scores in the SMHW quiz are:

9A – 97% 9D – 88% Well done to 9A/Sr1 who are leading the pack at the moment! Also Miss Matthews has created the most recent Twitter challenge that can be seen @EmmbrookPE

English and MFL (efry@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

This week, the English and Languages faculty has given students a chance to reflect on the work that they have completed so far during the period of remote learning. We are really pleased to have received lots of emails from students letting us know how they are getting on with their work and asking for help when necessary. Students in English have been working on this week's creative task, which was to design a computer game, and Miss Pepper's live sessions for Y10 have launched very successfully. In MFL, competition is fierce on the Vocab Express leader boards, with Emily McCulloch and Ben Poole in pole position for



Y9, and Kirstie Coelho, Jonathan Dodd and Sophie Janes taking the lead in Y10. Soph Matthews and Owen Ward are the current leaders for the Y9 German DuoLingo competition. Congratulations all!

Creative and Performing Arts (msimpson@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

We have started a new 'Artist of the Week' to recognise the amazing work that students are creating. This week Mrs Meader has nominated Rufus in Year 7 for his detailed and beautifully drawn interior for his Art & Design home learning task.



Mrs Hodgson: Year 7 (shodgson@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

Year 7 have continued to do themselves proud in this unprecedented time. I have been so proud of all their efforts, their creativity and their kindness to others.

Joshua Du Preez has written a fantastic children's story. Sam Dotchin has spent a long time creating an advert. Jazmine Crawford must have been sitting for hours, to capture the amazing photograph of dragonflies.

It is with sadness therefore, that this will be my final contribution as the current Head of Year 7. My time with them is at an end as Year 6 Transition starts to take form. I have loved being their Head of Year. They have inspired me every day with their community spirit, their desire to help, their sense of humour, their creativity. I am so sad that my time with them ended in lockdown, but we cannot stop the passage of time.

I will always look out for them and take an interest in them as they continue as part of the Emmbrook family.

I have enjoyed working with all the students and their families and would like to thank you all for your support, your honesty and your kind words.

I will miss you all. Miss Cairns is very lucky to be taking over such a fantastic group of students.



Mr Baker: Year 8 (sbaker@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

A warm greeting to all; it's been another fantastic week for Year 8 both on and off the learning pitch.

Year 8 have again been very strong on Maths Watch, with an amazing 189 practice questions and 1559 assignment questions attempted. There have been a large number of pupils who've completed a vast amount of questions, and shout-outs go to Danny Dunn, Christopher Nyaboga, Jacob Cutting, Kahlon Nneke, Ben Attryde, and Lois Belcher for their dedication to Maths Watch.

Year 8 have also got on board with the Amazon Future Engineering Coding program facilitated by the ICT department. A number of pupils have scored heavily and invested a lot of time enhancing their coding skills. A special well done to Edward Taylor, Kenisha Ghotey, Ella Sturt, Zubair Mostamandi, Jacob Cutting and Arun Corcoran for their efforts so far, as well as a big well done to classes 8XCP1-1 and 8XCP2-2 for their work this week.

In terms of Year group participation, Year 8 are simply outstanding, and that is reflected in their commitment to celebrating and honouring VE day. The amount of effort that went in, and the variety of activities Year 8 carried out was simply tremendous. I am so proud of them.

Other notable achievements include, Kenisha Ghotey, who wrote an outstanding piece of English work on a 'view of New York City from a window', and a number of other pupils have been very creative this week. Dom Taylor baked some amazing chocolate brownies, and Holleigh Morton produced a piece of Lego magic – she built the 9 ¾ platform from the Harry Potter films. It doesn't stop there, as Bobby Hanger has been on fire, and has been building a rather gigantic shed in his back garden. A big well done to all!

I would like to thank you, as parents and carers, for your unwavering support. Your support and hard work has really made a huge difference to the learning process, and in developing key skills such as resilience in the wonderful pupils of Year 8.

Mr Tichband: Year 9 (jtichband@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

Hello Year 9! As always, hoping everyone is remaining fit, healthy and as entertained as possible. This week, I have been blown away yet again by the quality of work and enthusiasm shown by you all. I have had many examples of fantastic effort, including Erin Prowse for both English and Spanish and Jayden Gill for Maths and Computing. Maths Watch is still proving a firm favourite for some of you in Year 9. Shout out to Eddie Hudson and Mia Woodward who have been putting in the hours and have collectively completed over 11 hours of practice questions.

I have had many conversations with your tutors and we are all looking forward to when we will be reunited in school. Please do not hesitate to email anyone from the Year 9 team as we love hearing from you. If you are stuck with any work, let us know and make sure you are taking time to relax and look after yourselves.



Miss Horne: Year 10 (ehorne@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

Last week was our best week yet - we beat the record! Year 10 completed an insanely huge 1094 assignment questions on MathsWatch. A huge congratulations goes to Themba Jere who completed 127 of those questions himself!

Not only was it a good week for Maths but Miss Matthews loved hearing about the exercise regimes being done at home to keep active and Business enjoyed reading about the employees that Year 10 would like to hire at home, from chefs and personal maids to professional photographers.

I am constantly impressed by Year 10s commitment and enthusiasm for their learning, support for one another and contact with us. We are really enjoying hearing about all that Year 10 are getting up to, please do continue to share your stories with us.

Miss Cairns: Year 11 (rcairns@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

It still baffles me that my Year 11s have essentially finished their secondary education and are already looking forward to their post-16 choices. I'm not quite sure how they all grew up so fast. However, they are still giving me plenty of cause to be proud of them! Only a few weeks ago we released work for pupils to complete for their subjects that they are hoping to study next year and some pupils have been super engaged with these, ploughing through the work that will no doubt put them in good stead, and indeed ahead of the game in many cases, for their A Level courses next year! I hope you are all keeping busy and learning new things as well as taking some time for yourselves. Please do keep me updated with anything at all that you are getting up to, as always, I would love to hear from each and every one of you!

Mr Constable: Sixth Form (dconstable@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

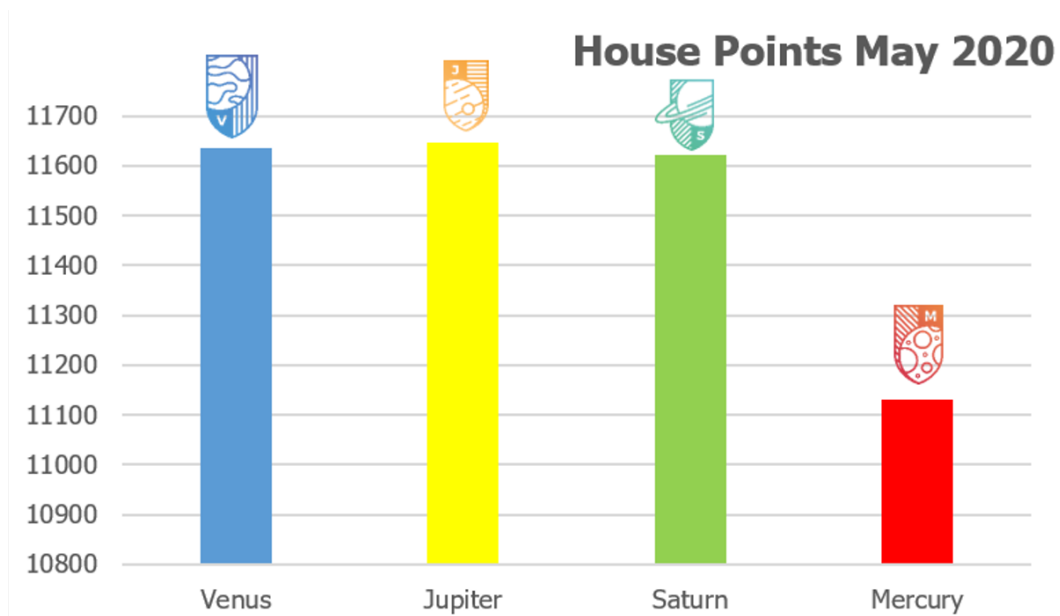
Overall, Year 12 continue to engage effectively in the distance learning process. I have had a number of communications around UCAS progression from Year 12, which is excellent to see and shows the year group wanting to push ahead with their progression planning. However the highlight of the past week from Year 12 has been the wonderfully constructed, Year 12 parody of the Emmbrook Staff happy video. The students who put this together, did so in such a clever and tasteful way that it was a joy to watch and is probably the most I have laughed since the school closure. The response from staff has been universally positive and it really goes to show how valued Year 12 are at the school.

Year 13 have continued to push on with their work around the yearbook, which is now almost complete and we are aiming to have this ready for results day in August. In addition, I have been very heartened to see the amount of contact Year 13 have maintained with the school, both around academic progress and just staying in touch with the school. The way Year 13 have maintained contact, has once again highlighted the community spirit that the Emmbrook School has.

I wish all of the Sixth Form well and hope to see them all again soon.

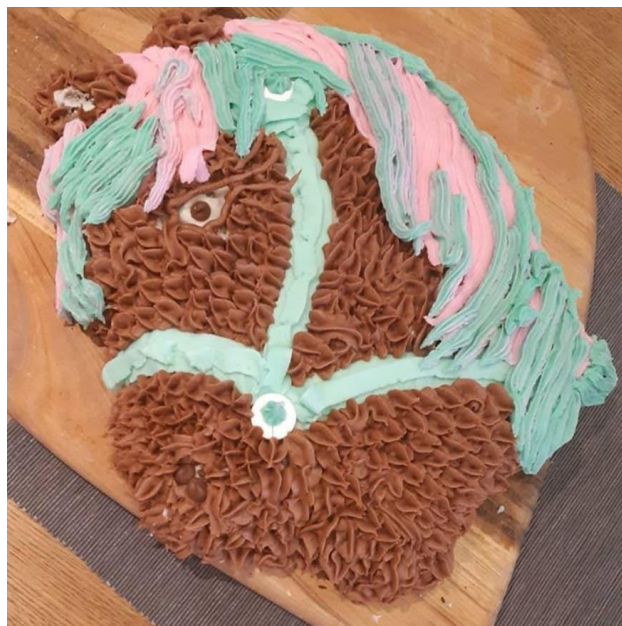


House Update: Miss Wood (rwood@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)



Emmbrook Creation Station (kandrews@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

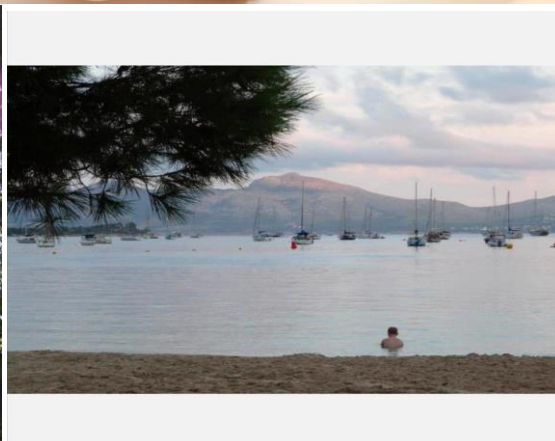
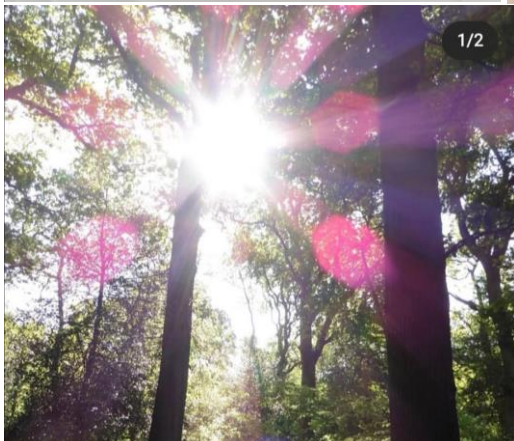
Every day, Miss Andrews sets an optional creative task for students (and parents) to join in with. Here are a few of her favourites from the last week;





The Cake With A Flake
By Dylan Nanda Year 7

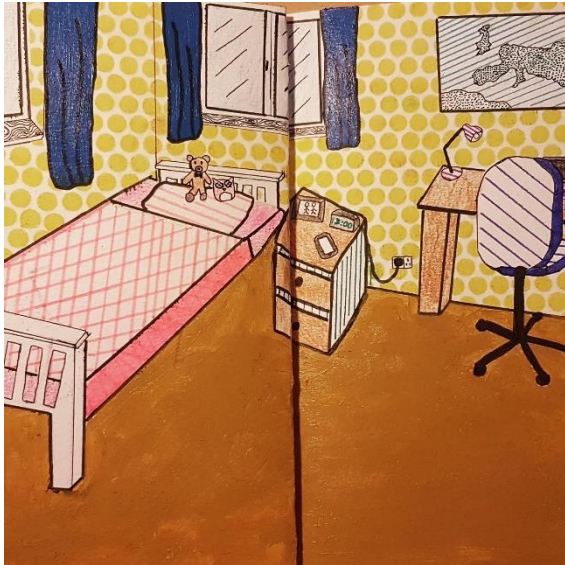
Cake oh cake, how delicious you are!
With your sweet divine taste,
You seem ever so far.
It was on my birthday,
That we were apart.
Let me take you,
Right to the start.
Usually I share you with those I love,
This year I felt like a lonely dove.
You're a postponed treat,
When will we meet?
You're the perfect cake,
With a golden flake.
Birthday cake, I'm thinking of you,
Birthday cake, you're too good to be true!



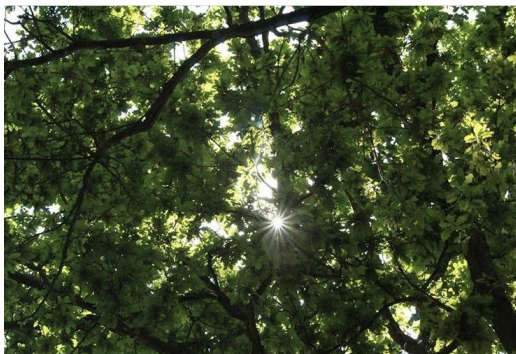


Art Instagram (jmeader@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

Here are a selection of some of the artwork the students have shared on Instagram;



daniella.photography1



ella__photography





English Work

Below are some examples of the amazing English work that has been completed this week

My favourite quotation in Romeo and Juliet as a postcard

“ I do but keep the peace”



Music Roundup (awellman@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)



**Musical Challenge House
Competition**

**BRILLIANT RESPONSE
WELL DONE EVERYONE**

1st – Saturn **2nd – Jupiter** **3rd – Venus** **4th – Mercury**



Well done to so many students for entering this competition – fantastic range of different challenges from y7 – y12! Original compositions, performances, song/rap lyrics, STOMP-style pieces, learning new instruments, tap dancing ...

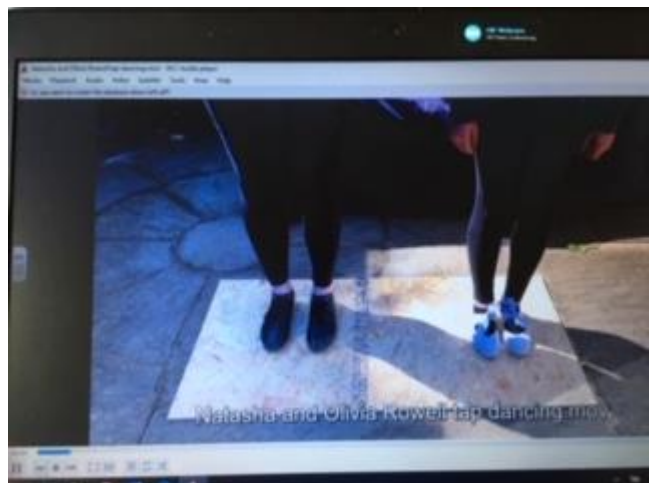
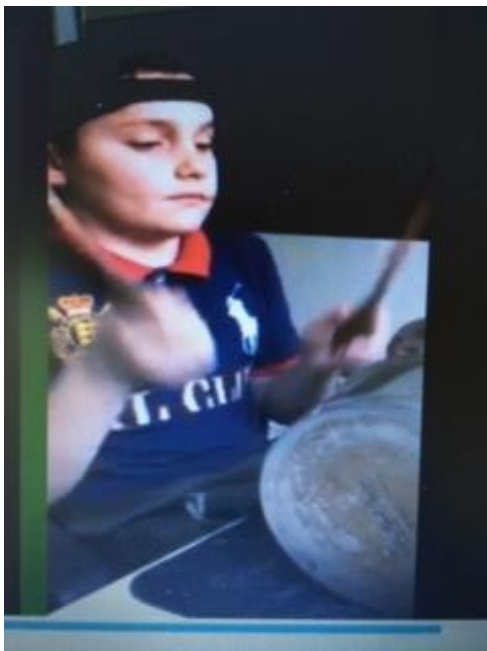
Here are just a few examples, with some Youtube links:

<https://youtu.be/r0wkdSLdriM> 'Mistakes' – Gui Duarte-Pereira (Y8)

<https://youtu.be/Wygnk2Dthkk> 'Love Lies' – Luke Fyfe (Y8)

<https://youtu.be/w9Fu9-t85FM> 'Worlds' – Calum Batty (Y8)

Nedas Balmatraitis (Y7) – brilliant STOMP-inspired kitchen piece



Natasha (Y12) and Olivia (Y7) Rowell – feet rhythms

Locked In – Kaiyah Dosanjh (Y7)

Locked in the house and there's nothing to do,
I got ma school work and my phone,
And then maybe some food,



This quarantine is driving me,
Absolutely cra-azy,
Please corona go away and don't come again another day.

I haven't seen my friends in forever boohoo,
I'm all alone with ma sister even then it's uncool,
I just wanna go to school,
Not sit around and drool waitin for lockdown to ease up no I'm not that type of boo, yeh.

I got so much work it's not even for you,
I'm stayin' up till 1 am work just comes from the blue!
Online school would be fun,
More organised and like school,
I wish that's what they'd of done,
At least that way it's cool, yeh!



Jazmine Crawford (Y7)
learning the keyboard



Cody Saunders (Y7) –



You Know When There's Something Up - Kieron Jones (Y7)

You Know When There is Something Up,

And I really Wanna Get This Message Out there Into This Vast World Of Hate, Racism And Fraud.

When You Feel Down Like A Un-Elevated Balloon You Cant Let Discrimination Get To You. Because all it does is make things worse, depression aint no joke It drove people insane and still will. Its like a K9 Gripping its Prey it Don't let Go, Grasping To Your Hope Slowly Destroying it!

Trust Me here, I went through all this, this whole snitch thing. "Snitch that snitch here, hee hee," Look At these looneys losing there hair when pull out your poker face, don't let these hurtful words hurt, even though they hurt just let them flow over your head like the summer breeze.

Over-Time all this nonsense will go and your life will be smooth as this flow just it takes some time, let these people be who they want to be, listen to the words that the bulllys say, imagine that they are saying "get me in trouble im a horrible person!" Then tell of them but don't lie, see its as easy as making pie



Corona Virus

Corona virus picks no friends,
watch your back and I recommend
to wash your hands and use
sanitizer, do it now it will make
you wiser!

Covid-19 is not your mate do it
now before it is too late. This
virus is spreading like mad, do
it now it will make you glad!

Ever since this quarantine my
family and I have a routine. We
try our best but we all are
stressed!



Trust me now it is not fun, but
if we stick together it will be
done!

By: Sarah Shields (Y8)

Message from the School Nurses

Some of our school nursing team have been redeployed and are doing an amazing job working on the wards at our local hospitals, however the rest of the school nursing team is still available to help support children and young people and their families with health concerns and to stay safe. Please contact your local team:

Wokingham

0118 949 5055

csnwokingham@berkshire.nhs.uk

