



1st May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your families are all safe and well. I can't quite believe it is now May.

We are now the end of the fourth week of school closure, and I wanted to take some time to celebrate some more of the wonderful stories I have heard.

Year 8 pupils are on-fire for the fourth week in a row on Maths Watch. Year 8 have assigned themselves a mammoth 218 questions (the most out of any year group), which is amazing. The top pupils for completing questions and assignments this week are: Natalie Cimlova, Ben Attryde, Evie Boafo, Isabelle Wilkinson, and Summer Balla. Also, a very big shout-out to Alexander Tyszka for smashing Maths Watch as well.



Year 8 tutors and I have received lots of nice emails and stories this week. Ben Thorby has produced some amazing Art work continually throughout the lockdown. Thomas Rogers achieved 100% in two Seneca tests; Isla Clarke has been creative on the baking side, and so has Grace Maple, who made a delicious Victoria Sandwich cake. Ben Attryde scored 100% on a Religious Studies test, and the following were nominated for their superb work in French, and received 15 house points – Amanda Wolkind, Harry Drayton, Miguel Arizabalo-Peralta, Sophie Watson and Oliver Webster. Well done to all!

In terms of options, Mr. McSweeney communicated yesterday that Year 8 are going to be the first year group to return to a three year KS3. Year 8 pupils will therefore choose their options in Year 9, to then start them in Year 10. I appreciate that this is not the news that some of you wanted to hear, but I feel it will be beneficial for Year 8, and will give them the educational experience they need across the board.

I appreciate that the continuation in home-schooling is, at times, very overwhelming. I just wanted to remind you, that you are doing a great job, and the staff at Emmbrook really do appreciate your continued support. The Year 8 Team in particular, are very appreciative of your efforts, and having emails and stories from your children about their experiences during lockdown really does cheer them up.

If you have any questions about the work or the decision to revert to a two Year GCSE, please do not hesitate to contact me at sbaker@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk and I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Stuart Baker
Year 8 Leader