



Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Weekly Update

A huge congratulations to the Sixth Formers who took part in the sponsored walk today for [BEAT](#). When I last checked the total was well over £500. Even though the walk has happened, it's not too late to sponsor the students via [this link](#).

### Year 7 Parents' Evening & Early Closure on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March

A final reminder that Year 7 parents will be meeting with teachers on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March. To allow time for enough appointments, school will finish at 12.20pm on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March. 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. We can supervise students until 2.55pm, so should you need this please email Jane Rimmer ([jrimmer@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:jrimmer@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)) by 4pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March to notify us.

### Year 11 and 13 Easter Revision Programme

Mr Whitehouse will be writing to all Year 11 and 13 parents separately with details of the Easter Revision Programme. I am grateful to staff for giving up some of their holiday to be in school delivering sessions for the students and hope that the uptake is strong from students.

### Year 11 Exam Leave

Many Year 11 students have had non-examination assessments (akin to coursework) in the last week with more to come. The examinations will begin for most students with Science on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May. Therefore, this year exam leave will begin on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May. Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> will be a normal day. Following the Science exam in the morning, students will be able to leave the school to study at home (and will only be required to be in school for exams from that date onwards).

Throughout the examination period students can be in school if they wish and their timetabled teachers will be present in the normal classroom. We would always encourage students to be in school working with teachers but we recognise that many students feel they can be more productive revising independently at home during the exam season.

Year 11 students will then be invited into school on the morning of the prom (24<sup>th</sup> June) for their leavers' assembly/shirt signing. We have done it this way for many years and find that it gives the students a great end to Year 11.



## Year 9 Options

The options deadline is today and our thanks to all those who have already submitted. If you have any outstanding queries then please contact Miss Fry (Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for options) by email ([efry@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:efry@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)).

## Cars on School Site

A reminder that parents shouldn't be driving onto the school site to drop off or pick up children. We have had a number of instances where the school buses have not been able to get passed cars parked up on double yellows on the drive, leading to disruption.

## Miss Matthews' Charity Cake Sale

At this year's London Marathon, Miss Matthews will be running to support the charity [Get Kids Going!](#) She will holding a number of cake sales on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> and Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March and, after Easter, on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> and Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April. If you would like to support Miss Matthews directly then you can do so via her [JustGiving](#) page.

## Careers Update

- **Adviza:** Parent Webinar – Year 10 Post 16 Options on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024 (6-7pm). Bookings are free and can be made via the [events](#) page on the Careers Portal now.
- **Grant Thornton:** In-person Business & Accounting Work Experience Event in Reading with the 5<sup>th</sup> largest accountancy firm, Grant Thornton. Limited places are available on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024 (5-7.30pm) via [this link](#).
- **Prospects:** if you want to know more about careers and what qualifications your child need for a particular job, please use this [free website](#).
- **Emmbrook Careers Resources:** [the school website](#) has a myriad of careers related links to help parents supporting their children

## Funding to help your child and the school

Schools receive extra funding, known as the 'Pupil Premium', for every child registered as eligible for a free school meal if their parents are receiving benefits. Schools use this money for activities such as art therapy, booster classes, educational trips, and after-school clubs. 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 your child's school. [Download the form](#) and apply for free school meals on Wokingham Borough Council's website.



Have a lovely weekend!

Best wishes,

**Nick McSweeney**

Headteacher

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