



Friday 19th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Weekly Update

I'm delighted that our students in Years 11 and 13 have now completed their exams! They have worked so hard and conducted themselves brilliantly over the last few weeks. The invigilation team have said that this has been the best year that they can remember. Well done to all the students!

We're looking forward to seeing Year 13 back for their Leavers' Day on Monday and Year 11 on Friday for their Sixth Form Induction Day. Year 11 Leavers' Day (Monday 6th July) plans are being finalised and you will receive more information directly.

Year 11 and 13 Leavers' Evening

We're hoping to see lots of students and families at the Year 11 & 13 Leavers' Evening on Thursday 2nd July (6pm). To help us prepare, if you are planning to attend then please RSVP using [this link](#). There will be some awards given during the evening and you will receive advance notification in the coming days if your child is an award winner.

Uniform

It seems that we're in the midst of another heatwave. For many families (Year 7 in particular) you may not have experienced a heatwave as a member of The Emmbrook Family. We use 30 degrees as our benchmark for making uniform adaptations.

Currently, the weather forecasts are showing 30+ degrees for Monday, so we will be allowing students to wear PE kit on Monday. We're making the decision now as communicating on a Sunday can be challenging. I recognise that the weather could turn and it might easily end up being cooler than expected Monday but we will just have to live with that. It must be PE kit (it is not a non-uniform day).

On Monday we will make a decision regarding the following days and send an email if PE kit is allowed.

Peterhouse Kelvin Science Essay Competition Winner

I am so pleased to share that Vanessa Zhao in Year 12 was selected as one of the winners of this year's [Kelvin Sciences Essay Competition](#). The competition is an opportunity open to all students educated in the UK and Ireland provided by Peterhouse College, University of Cambridge. To win this is a stunning academic achievement.



Having read Vanessa's essay, I am confident that it is the strongest piece of academic work that I have read in my 25-year teaching career (and not being a biologist, well beyond my expertise), clearly the product of a great deal of reading and thought.

I was pleased to have the opportunity to meet with Vanessa this morning to talk with her about how she went about writing the essay. Not only is Vanessa a great student but she is also a wonderful member of our community, a very humble, engaging and kind individual. We're all very proud of her achievement.

Sixth Form Leadership Team Appointed

We have appointed the new team of student leaders for the year ahead. Mr Constable and I were given a very tough job because the field of candidates was outstanding. The students taking on roles are:

- Head Students: Freya King and Medha Vemuri
- Deputy Head Student – Fundraising: Oliver Swannell
- Deputy Head Student – Wellbeing: Joshua Sene
- Deputy Head Student – Ecosphere: Sophie McCulloch
- Deputy Head Student – Wave: Ariadne Kalatzi
- Deputy Head Student – Enrichment: Vanessa Zhao
- Deputy Head Student – Marketing: Abigail Stevens

I'm sure that they will all contribute a huge amount to The Emmbrook and I am very grateful for their efforts.

Book of the Month

Our Book of the Month for June is *The Sun and the Star* by Rick Riordan and Mark Oshiro.

A new story from the world of Percy Jackson, demigods Nico and Will embark on an action-packed journey to rescue an old friend. The book explores themes of friendship, identity, courage and mental wellbeing through an exciting blend of mythology and fantasy.

Safe Steps Book Scam

We've been warned by our good friends at Emmbrook Infants that some local businesses have been targeted by the Safe Steps Books scam. We're not aware that we've been targeted but we thought it was wise to spread awareness. If you have been approached by people claiming to be acting on behalf of Emmbrook Infant School advertising the Safe Steps Book please report this to the authorities through Action Fraud. Please do not hesitate to contact either school if you have any queries.

PE Department – World Cup Celebration

A huge thanks to all who supported the World Cup shirts event this week to help raise funds for a new trampoline for the PE department.



Annual PTA Quiz

This year's PTA Quiz was brilliant. My sincere thanks to all who attended, the excellent quiz masters and the wonderful PTA volunteers who all made it possible. The staff team came second (again) so we're going to revise hard to see if we can go one better next year!

Summer Concert - 'The Power of Music'

You are warmly invited to this year's Summer Concert, entitled The Power of Music. This will take place on Wednesday 8th July at 6.30pm in the school hall.

Tickets can now be purchased via [ScoPay](#) (adults: £7.50, child/concession: £4.50). Please note that this will include a drink and a small snack. As The Emmbrook is now a cashless school, it will not be possible to purchase additional tickets or refreshments on the night via card/cash.

We hope that many of you will be able to join us!

Surveys

As shared last week, there are two surveys seeking views at present:

- The Children's Commissioner national survey for students via [this link](#).
- WBC's SEND survey for parents, carers and students via [this link](#).

Have a wonderful warm weekend!

Best wishes,

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