



Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Weekly Update

Congratulations and 'well done' to all the Year 10 students who completed work experience this week. The feedback we have received is testimony to the maturity and sensibility of our students. There will be an activity for Year 10 to complete which Mr Bhambra will go through after half-term. We look forward to hearing the students' stories when they return.

## Staffing Changes

I am always a fan of finding win-win solutions and so we will be making two staffing changes after half-term that will allow us to benefit from the continuing impact of two fantastic colleagues:

- Miss Cairns will be moving from Head of Year 8 to become the permanent Curriculum Leader for Maths. Miss Cairns has been at The Emmbrook for 12 years and as Head of Year for the last 10. She has got Year 8 off to a wonderful start and will, I'm sure, continue to make a stellar impact for our students in her new role.
- Mrs Moorcroft will leave her current role as Assistant Head of Year 9 to take over as the Head of Year 8. Mrs Moorcroft is an experienced pastoral and safeguarding leader who will be well placed to support Year 8 and to help them navigate their options next year, having done so this year with the current Year 9.

We are really lucky to work with such excellent and committed colleagues. I know that they will both miss working so closely with their current year groups but they are excited for their new roles. These changes will come into effect from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June.

## Years 11 and 13

The students have been doing utterly brilliantly so far! I said to Year 11 yesterday that it is really important that they use half-term well by focusing on the three Rs: rest, relaxation and revision. They need to find a good balance, ensuring that they spend lots of time revising in short, well organised blocks of time with a good spread across their remaining subjects. However, they must also ensure they build in time to rest and relax.

During the exam period please contact us at any point should you need support:

<b>Year 11</b>	
Head of Year	Mr Tichband ( <a href="mailto:jtichband@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk">jtichband@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk</a> )
Deputy Headteacher	Mrs Howes ( <a href="mailto:ahowes@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk">ahowes@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk</a> )
<b>Year 13</b>	
Head of Sixth Form	Mr Constable ( <a href="mailto:dconstable@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk">dconstable@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk</a> )
Assistant Headteacher	Mr Whitehouse ( <a href="mailto:pwhitehouse@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk">pwhitehouse@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk</a> )





## **Year 8 Girls' Cricket Tournament**

Yesterday the sun was beaming down on Camberley Cricket Club as the Year 8 girls' cricket team took part in a tournament involving eight different teams. The team played four matches, each consisting of eight overs, with all players given the opportunity to bat, bowl and field.

The day also included a Q&A session with a Middlesex women's player, where the girls were able to ask questions about her professional career, how she got into the sport, and her experiences within the cricket pathway.

There were several outstanding moments throughout the day, including an excellent one-handed catch by Lottie, which resulted in a key wicket for the team. Vishuli also delivered a superb bowling performance, taking three wickets in a single game.

Well done to all the girls for their effort, teamwork and positive attitude throughout the day.

## **Mental Health Awareness Week**

Last week we were celebrating Mental Health Awareness Week. Mrs Guinn and Mrs Woolfenden ran assemblies aimed at helping students to 'take action' to support their own mental health and the mental health of others. The students have been encouraged to develop simple habits to support their mental health, such as connecting with others, getting active, limiting screen time, planning something to look forward to.

The school offers pastoral and mental health support for students who need it and we can signpost to external agencies if required. If you are worried about your child, please do contact the school so that we can ensure that support is put in place.

## **RSE Consultation**

You will see that we have launched our 'Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE)' consultation with parents. There is a link to the draft policy and feedback form which has been sent by email. Mr Bhambra ([tbhambra@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:tbhambra@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)) leads on this, so if you wish to find out more or wish to see any of the resources we are planning to use, please contact him.

## **Local Roads**

Please be mindful of parking before and after school especially within Emmbrook Road as we want to ensure we are positively working with the local community to minimise disruption while being respectful of local residents.

## **Meningitis B Awareness**

Schools have been receiving advice regarding the meningitis B outbreak in the Reading area. While schools have not been asked to take any specific steps at present, we have been asked to share information about the symptoms of meningitis to raise awareness.

Symptoms of meningitis develop suddenly and can include:

- a high temperature (fever)
- being sick
- diarrhoea



- a headache
- a rash that does not fade when a glass is rolled over it (but a rash will not always develop)
- a stiff neck
- a dislike of bright lights
- drowsiness or unresponsiveness
- seizures (fits)

These symptoms can appear in any order. You do not always get all the symptoms.

When to get medical help:

- Call 999 for an ambulance or go to your nearest A&E immediately if you think you or someone you look after could have meningitis or sepsis.
- Trust your instincts and do not wait for all the symptoms to appear or until a rash develops. Someone with meningitis or sepsis can become very unwell very quickly.
- If you're not sure if your symptoms are serious, use NHS 111 online or call 111 to find out what to do.
- If you've had medical advice and are still worried or any symptoms get worse, get medical help again.

NHS advice regarding meningitis can be found using [this link](#).

We hope that all of our students enjoy a lovely half-term break. School resumes at 8.20am on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June. Enjoy the sun!

Best wishes,

**Nick McSweeney**

Headteacher

[nmcsweeney@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:nmcsweeney@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)