



Friday 24th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Weekly Update

Year 7 have settled really very well and Mrs Hodgson has been delighted by their progress already. The students have now sat their CATs tests and their conduct was perfect. If your child missed their test due to absence there will be catch up sessions next week.

Covid-19

We recommend that you continue testing twice weekly. Please remember to report your results to the NHS [here](#) (and ensure that you inform us of a positive result). If your child has Covid-19 symptoms or returns a positive LFT result then please **do not send them to school** and seek a PCR test.

Under the current guidelines, if your child is identified as a close contact of a positive case (by NHS Test and Trace) then they are advised to seek a PCR test. They may continue to attend school pending their PCR result.

Early Closure at 12.20pm on Thursday 30th September

A reminder that school finishes at 12.20pm this Thursday. Please be aware that school buses will not be able to arrive earlier and therefore students who wish to leave at 12.20pm will need to make alternative arrangements on that day.

The buses will arrive at 2.50pm so the small number of students who will have been supervised on-site will be able to catch their bus as usual. Students who will have left the site for the afternoon may return at 2.50pm to catch their bus then.

Open Evening at 6pm on Thursday 30th September

I am really grateful that so many students will be helping at Open Evening. It would be helpful if students can arrive before 6pm to be ready for the start time. Please support your child to have perfect uniform/presentation. I am very grateful to all those providing a parent-taxi service so students can attend to help – thank you! Collecting your child at the end of the event (8.30pm onwards) is made easier if they have a mobile phone so that you can make contact with them directly. We will be on hand to help.

Covid-19 Vaccinations

We have been notified of a revised date for students in Years 8-11 to be offered the vaccination on our school site; it will now take place on Wednesday 13th October. The vaccination programme will be managed by the NHS and our involvement is limited to supporting the NHS with gathering consent and offering a physical space for vaccinations. General information about the vaccine for children can be found [here](#) and I will share more details when I have them. Students in Years 7-11 will also be offered the flu spray vaccination at the same time.



Catering Supply Issues

Our caterers continue to experience problems with supplies (I am very aware that Year 11 are really missing cookies at present – as they have been telling me daily). This is a symptom of national shortages and they are doing all they can to secure supplies. This does mean that the menu is more limited than usual.

Uniform Support

Please continue to support our uniform standards but ensuring that your child has the full uniform (including a blazer). We will continue to sanction students who do not meet our expectations and we can easily avoid any potential conflict if students arrive with the correct uniform.

School Photographs

Years 7, 9 and 11 will have their school photographs taken this Tuesday.

Staff Local Advisor

The Local Advisory Board provide strategic oversight of The Emmbrook and are a vital element of our governance structure. All local advisors offer their support to the school on a voluntary basis. After many years of service, Mrs Moorcroft has decided that the time is right to stand down as the staff local advisor. Mrs Moorcroft has been an outstanding member of this board, making an invaluable contribution, including as a committee chair. I would like to thank Mrs Moorcroft for her service to the staff and students (and to avoid any panic, I'd like to confirm that she will be remaining as a teacher!).

I am delighted to announce that Mrs Lloyd has been appointed as the new staff local advisor and I am confident that she will be a strong contributor to governance over the coming years.

We have two parent local advisors coming to the end of their terms and I will write to all parents to explain the process for appointing parent advisors to new terms of office shortly.

Best wishes,

Nick McSweeney

Headteacher

nmcsweeney@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk