



Newsletter – Lockdown Edition

25th June 2020

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Headteacher's Address (nmcsweney@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

Dear Parents and Carers,

The government has now given us a clear expectation that they will find a way for schools to be open fully to all students in September. I believe that this is a positive development and we will await the next round of guidance (which we are expecting next week) so that we can firm up our plans. I am pleased that we continued to recruit during the lockdown to ensure that we can fully staff the timetable come September.

We will be sharing plans regarding the end of term plans, including virtual sports day and celebration assemblies, shortly.

Remote Learning Provision

I am so pleased to have received so many positive comments from students, parents and teachers regarding the new remote provision, which is comprised of three elements:

- 4 daily timetabled remote lessons
- 1 daily live lesson
- 1 weekly live tutor session

I think that the added structure and opportunity for interaction are widely appreciated. We will maintain this provision now until the end of term. We had a few technical teething problems but I think that the live lessons are now operating effectively. In addition, our YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/user/TheEmmbrookSchool/>) now has recorded assemblies and other resources.

Year 10 and 12 Welfare and Academic Review Meetings

Over the last two weeks we have been delighted by the engagement of Year 10 and 12 students with these meetings. Without fail, every student coming on site has followed our safety instructions to the letter and I am very grateful.

Next week we have on-site Year 12 lessons and the following week for Year 10; parents and students in those year groups will have personal emails with timetables, etc. With the changes



to social distancing regulations announced and due to come into force in July we are now working on plans to take advantage of the changes to be able to bring both Year 10 and 12 students in for lessons for the final week of term (week beginning 13th July). We will confirm these plans as soon as possible.

Key Worker Provision (KWP)

The two key worker bubbles have operated very successfully this week, even with the extreme heat! Mr Bhambra continues to lead KWP, so if you require support with your child then please contact him directly via email (tbhambra@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk).

This week Mrs Cooper and Mrs Foster have both begun their maternity leaves; we wish them all the best for the future and look forward to welcoming them back next year.

Best wishes,

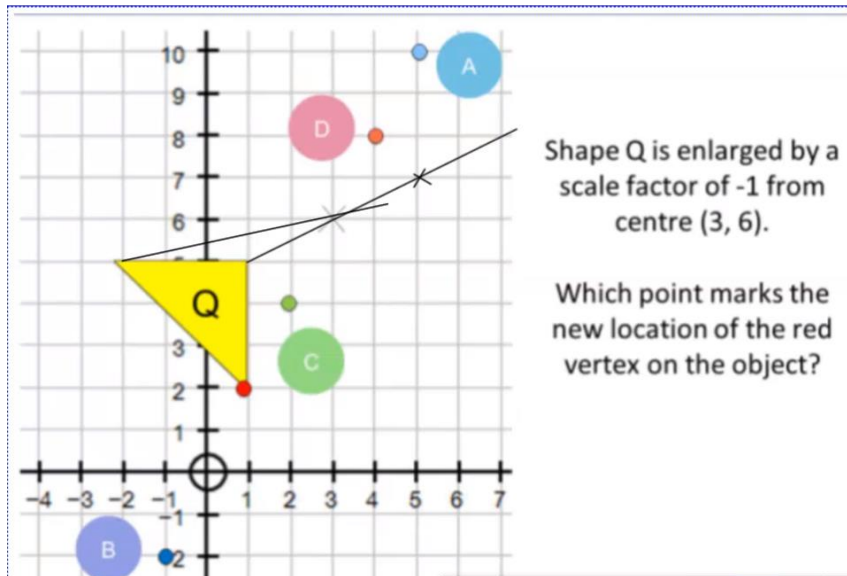
Nick McSweeney
Headteacher



Maths, Computing and Science (lpansar@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

It has been great to take part in the live sessions through Teams this week. Year 9 had some great questions on Mr Parry's session and worked on some tricky transformation questions. The sessions next week for maths, computing and science are Year 7 with Chemistry on Monday and Physics on Thursday and Year 8 with Maths on Monday and Computing on Friday.

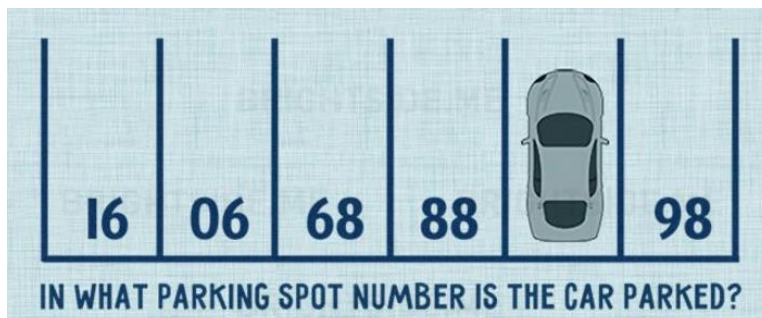
In the meantime have fun with this problem from Mr Parry's year 9 clinic.



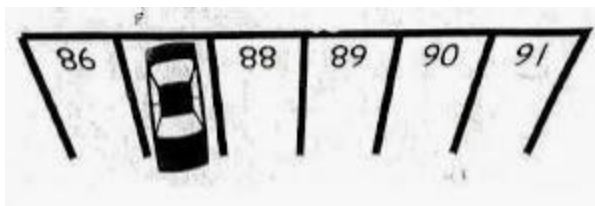
Computing students have been working on denial of service (DDOS) attacks this week with Cisco estimating that the number of DDOS attacks are set to double to 14.5 million by 2022 this is another interesting topic which is very much part of the new cyber wars.

Our scientists in year 7 have been learning about the different type of joints in the body and how they work, year 8 have been working on the Brighter Future tasks and this is something everyone can join in on by measuring your ecological footprint and learning about Earth Overshoot Day (22nd August) the date that marks the date when humanity's demand for ecological resources and services in a given year exceeds what Earth can regenerate in that year, an interesting and extremely important topic.

Finally I left you with this problem last week:



How did you get on did you work it out? Let's rotate the image:



Now, of course it is easy to find the number, 87 would be the parking spot number. Thinking differently is a key skill for cyber security and solving problems.

Business and Humanities (cjohnson@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

There was a sombre mood in the faculty at the start of this week with the news of Mr Furlong from the Holt. Many of the team knew him professionally and some knew him personally. We all thinking of his students, the teachers at the Holt, his friends and his family.

Mr Matthews started an immigration topic in History with Year 7 and has been incredibly impressed with the diligence and thought that the students applied to the task.

In Business, we had some incredibly high scores in the online quizzes;

Year 9: **Sam Williams** and **Rachel Yoxall** scoring 100%

Year 10: **Matteo Harrison**, **Kirstie Coelho**, **Rueben Shaw** and **Emily Williams** scoring 100%

Well done to each of them!

Year 8 Geographers have been creating percentage bar charts and Y12 have been investigating the hydrological cycle.

RS Students in Year 9 have been looking into some philosophy and the causation argument whilst Government and Politics students have been learning about the limitations on prime ministerial power.

Criminologists have been exploring the information available on police databases and Sociologists have been looking at sociological models of disability as identity.

A varied and important range of topics that students have been amazing at engaging with. Many thanks to all of you for your support.

English and MFL (efry@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

This week the English department have been looking at the nature of power with KS4. Through the poem *Ozymandias* we have been thinking about how power can be misused and also about the symbolic nature of statues. This has led to even more interesting discussions on contemporary topics and we have once again been hugely impressed with the way our students have engaged with the issues at hand. Miss Pepper has continued as our resident YouTuber but she now has a little competition! Miss Meanwell launched our subject clinics this week with a Year 7 lesson on creative writing and was very impressed

with the turnout. We are excited to continue this next week and that Mrs Lloyd will have something special planned!

In MFL, students appear to have adapted well to the new timetable for remote learning. The Y8 French subject clinic on Wednesday was successful on the whole, and students asked some interesting questions at the end of the session. KS4 students in French, German and Spanish have been working on some exam practice questions in order to keep their fingers on the pulse in terms of exam technique and vocabulary seen in previous topics.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact your teacher if you require support with any element of your English or MFL work.

Creative and Performing Arts (msimpson@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

Artist of the week:

A late entry for the Big Art Attack task last week but it made us chuckle so this week's Artist of the Week is Olivier Lambourn in Year 9.



Black Lives Matter

Some of our GCSE Art students have been creating artwork in support of the Black Lives Matter movement. We are really impressed with how they have used their creativity as an outlet for what is going on in the world around them. Drawing by Ashley Scottow in Year 9 and installation piece using found objects by Elowen Fox in Year 9. If anyone else has been making artwork in response to the BLM movement, we would love to see it.

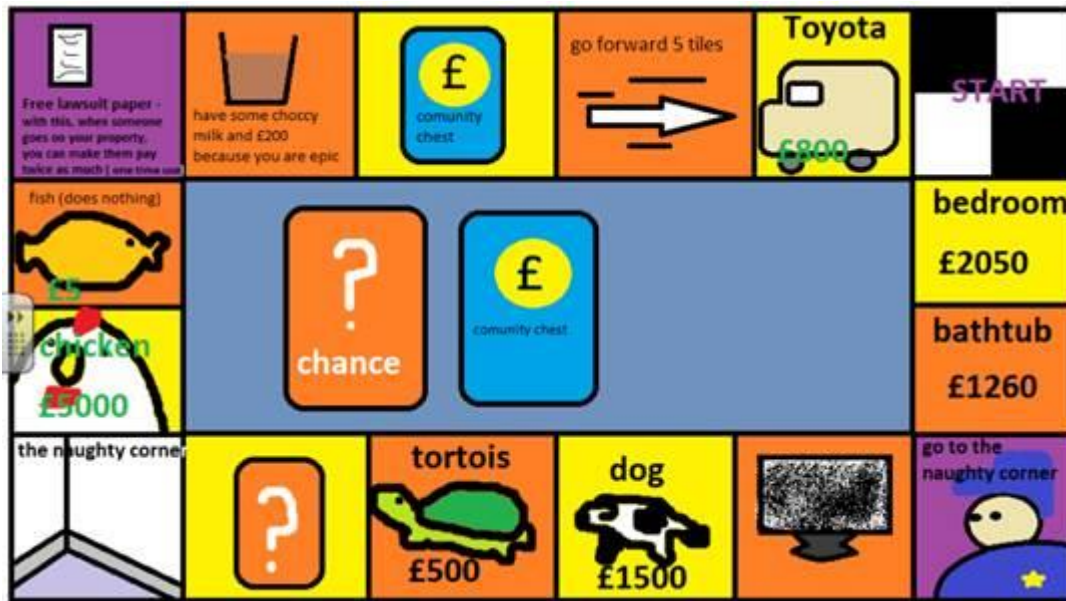




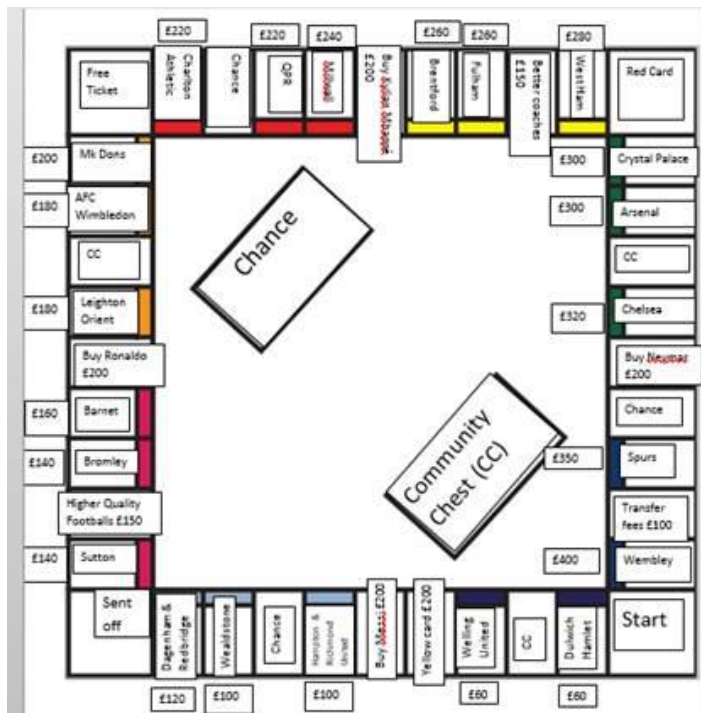
KS3 Design Technology

This week KS3 students have been redesigning monopoly boards and we love the creativity and inventiveness of these submissions!

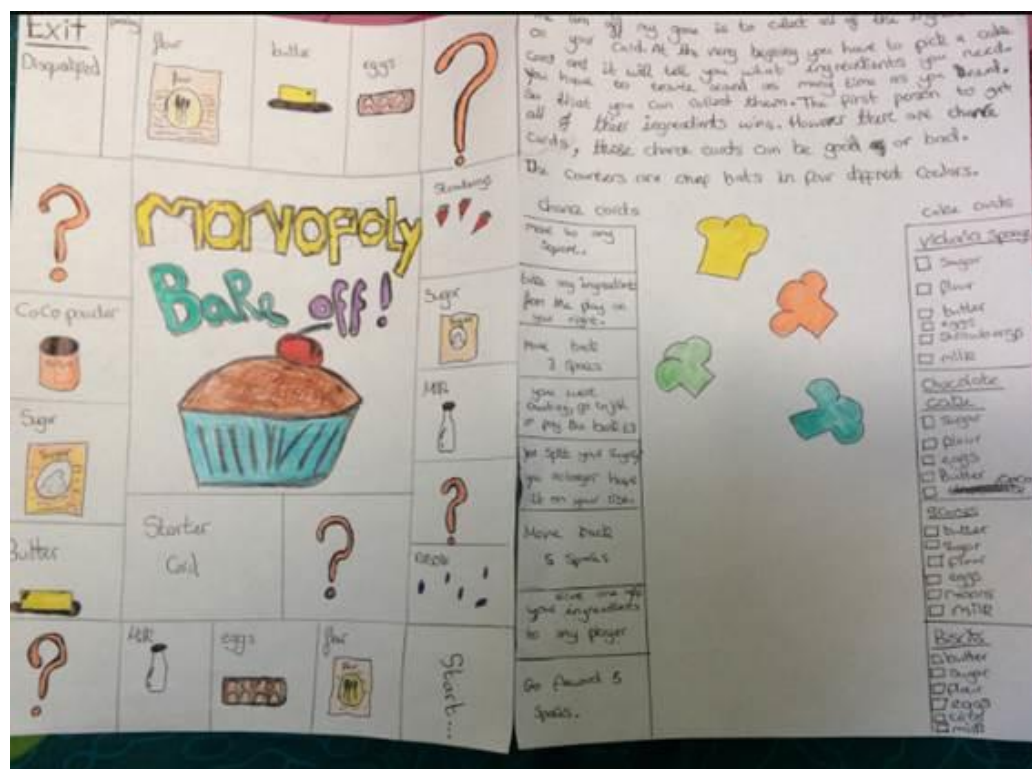
Harry Drayton – Yr 8 – Monopoly



Callum Warburton – Yr8 – Monopoly based on Football teams.



Lily Ogston Carter Yr. 7 – Bake Off Monopoly



Mrs Hodgson: Transition (shodgson@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

This week has been very busy as far as Transition is concerned.

I have had lots of virtual meetings with Year 6 teachers and some parents, gathering information about the Year 6 students. I have also taken part in videos to provide information about Transition and to answer the questions that year 6 have asked me.

On Wednesday the 24th, instead of holding our annual New Parents Evening we held a Question and Answer session for parents. I hope this proved useful and would ask you once again to consult the information that was placed on the website, to help you to prepare for September. A recording of the session can be accessed here: <https://youtu.be/rFvw8RcqGLc>

As I've said before, if parents are confident in their knowledge, then your children become less anxious.

Please see the link below for access to the information.

<https://www.emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk/page/?title=New+Joiners+September+2020&pid=1129>

I am really looking forward to meeting with my new families in the hopefully not too distant future and to helping you all with the next stage of your child's future.

Mrs Hodgson



Miss Cairns: Year 7 (rcairns@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

As week four of this Half Term draws to a close, I have reflected on what a lovely month it has been getting to know some of my new Year 7s and their parents! This week was particularly lovely as it saw the inaugural tutor time sessions for all six of our Year 7 Tutor groups. We kicked off the week with 7B and will finish today with 7E and 7F – we have had a god turnout for these sessions, considering they are our very first ones. These tutor times and getting to 'hear' and 'see' lots of my Year 7s has been a real treat and another reminder of how lucky I am to do the job I do, it really is a privilege to take on a year group in Year 7 and watch them grow for the next 4 years! Please do encourage your child to attend their tutor session as both myself and their tutor really would love to see them!

Yet more lovely work has made its way to all of our teachers from Year 7 this week and I have had good feedback from teachers in regards to Year 7s attending subject clinics, pupils, on the whole, have been sensible and come to these sessions ready to learn and with lots of thoughtful questions. From the Tutor Time sessions, I have garnered some feedback about the new timetable and way of working from home – again, on the whole this has seemed positive and the Year 7s I have been lucky enough to talk to are preferring this way of working.

All of Year 7 have also had this week's assembly emailed to them via their outlook; it is entitled 'We are not alone'. Although it sounds 'out of this world' and most likely 'alien' based, it is not! It is about how we are all part of a team and how people have done amazing things because of the team around them. Please find the assembly here; <https://youtu.be/-BWSS9q0qDw> Hopefully, it will act as a reminder that we do not have to face our challenges, and indeed our successes, alone!

I hope everyone has had a lovely week in the sunshine and is looking forward to the weekend! As always if you have any problems at all, please do not hesitate to email me.

Mr Baker: Year 8 (sbaker@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

Year 8 have been on top form this week. No surprise there! I have been so impressed with the way that Year 8 have adapted and excelled with the new system of learning. The quality of work has been fantastic, and many teachers have commented on the increased engagement and excellent effort put in to the work. The Live Subject chats have been really successful, and many pupils have benefitted from the interaction with other pupils and the member of staff.

The Pastoral Welfare Meetings have also been hugely beneficial, and it's been so good to see all the friendly faces (and Mr. Humber's!) of the Year 8 Tutor Groups. There have been a number of lovely moments when pupils have shared the best things about lockdown, learning a new skill, and the all-important question of when they are getting their haircut. There has been a fair amount of Arsenal bashing, but I will let that slide for this week.

Again, I would like to thank the parents and carers of Year 8. Your support has been fantastic, and made this difficult time, much more workable. If you do have any queries then please do not hesitate to get in contact. I hope you all have a lovely weekend.



Mr Tichband: Year 9 (jtichband@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

Firstly I would like to say how brilliant it has been to catch up with so many of you over the tutor session this week. Myself, Miss Fry and your tutors have loved every second of it. There have been many stand out moments, for example 9A's lively discussion and Max and Andy's game of who can get furthest from the camera. With 9B everything seemed calm until Lola joined and brought her sparky personality. 9C was by far the most organised with Morgan showing us his lovely dog. 9D was rather shy but Zoe has clearly been busy baking! I have had some incredible emails from both maths and science regarding the drop in sessions, with Ben Poole and Eddy Hudson being mentioned by name for their fantastic contribution.

Overall the first week of the new structure has appeared to be working really well with year 9 and I hope it continues. As always, keep us updated. We do mean it when we say we miss you and love to hear how you are getting on.

Miss Horne: Year 10 (ehorne@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

This week has been the absolute best! It has been wonderful to see so many Year 10 students virtually and in person throughout the week; the Year 10 Team and teachers that have been part of the WAR meetings have thoroughly enjoyed being able to catch up with your child this week. Miss Pepper and I have thoroughly enjoyed being showered with Netflix recommendations, even old school classics like 'Miranda' are making a comeback!

We are really glad to see that many of you are enjoying the new structured timetable, hopefully meaning that you are able to have more free time in the evenings now, particularly with this lovely weather. The subject clinics have gone live this week; Mrs Simpson loved the clinic with Year 10 on Monday: *"Even though there were a few technical hiccups it was still lovely speaking to our fab YR10 art students. Thank you to Darci and Jess for the humour-they were a brilliant comedy double act! To all YR10 art students, please remember to keep in touch. Always ask if you need help!"*

Next week sees the start of the Year 10 Virtual Tutor Time Sessions: there will be 2 members of staff, your child's tutor and I, attending each session and your child will receive an invitation to the TEAMS meeting the morning of it. The timetable is as follows:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10A	10B	10C	10D	10E
Mr Downes and Miss Horne	Mrs Simpson and Miss Horne	Mr McGrath and Miss Horne	Mr Edwards and Miss Horne	Mrs Moorcroft, Mr Amin and Miss Horne

We are really looking forward to seeing Year 10 at 10am one day next week. If they, or you, have any questions about anything before then then please do not hesitate to get in touch.



Mr Constable: Sixth Form (dconstable@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

Year 12 are preparing to return to school next week and we are excited to get them back in lessons. All students should have had their timetables by now. I am also pleased to report that the feedback from our welfare meetings last week was extremely positive and the majority of the year as a whole should be very proud of how they have adapted over the last 13 weeks.

I also fills me with pride that we had 10 applications for the student leadership roles. While this makes our job quite difficult, it is fantastic to see so many learners who want to contribute to the running of the Emmbrook School.

Lastly, I would like to make reference to the fantastic applicants we have from year 11 for our sixth form next year. They undertook a virtual induction day today and 45 students joined me and Mr Whitehouse for a live Q&A, in which they asked some brilliant questions. I am very much looking forward to working with them in September.

Stay safe.

House Update: Miss Wood (rwood2@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)

Over the last couple of weeks we have seen Venus not only holding the lead but widening the gap between them and Jupiter in second place. A couple of weeks ago there was only 27 points between them, but that has now increased to a 63 point difference.

After spending the first part of 2020 with a battle between these two houses, will Venus keep their momentum right up until the end of term and be our 2020 Champions?

There is still the chance for any of the houses to change the position, but it all rests upon earning as many house points as possible over the next few weeks! Keep up the fantastic classwork and the extra tasks and challenges set!

Just a reminder that students in EVERY year group can earn house points (including sixth form!) so all of you can play your part.

The current totals are as follows:

1st: Venus: 11869

2nd: Jupiter: 11806

3rd: Saturn: 11759

4th: Mercury: 11285

Keep up the great work Emmbrook!