



Newsletter – Lockdown Edition

10th July 2020

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have been incredibly proud of how Year 10 have conducted themselves during this week of on-site lessons as, without exception, the students have followed our new safety protocols to the letter. We are all looking forward to having both Year 10 and 12 in school next week and the growing sense of normality that we are all feeling.

Start Dates for the 2020/21 Academic Year

I can now confirm the arrangements for the new school year. As usual, we will have a staggered start to the year, with different year groups arriving on different days:

Tuesday 1 st September	INSET day
Wednesday 2 nd September	INSET day
Thursday 3 rd September	Years 7 and 12 only
Friday 4 th September	Years 7, 9, 11, 12 and 13
Monday 7 th September	All year groups

There are two primary reasons for staggering the start of the year in this fashion. The first is that I am very mindful that the new Year 7 have not had the usual transition process. I feel that they need quality time with staff on the first day to prepare them fully. That day will also be a first for our new Year 12 students and we need to support them to adapt to life in the Sixth Form. The second reason is that I want to spread the arrival of students so that we can guarantee that each year group starts their first day with a safety briefing by Mr Bhambra and me to make clear our expectations regarding safe conduct.

Safety Protocols for September

We continue to work on refining the protocols we will use in September. As I'm sure you'll understand, this is something that we must consider carefully and I have met with governors and staff union representatives to ensure that our plans are robust. On Wednesday 15th July





I will write to all parents outlining the principles we will use to keep students and staff safe, including how our year group 'bubbles' will operate. We will then send detailed plans, including FAQs, to all parents in mid-August. We are not planning significant changes to the length of the day, as this is largely constrained by our reliance on school buses.

Next week is the final week of term and so the last newsletter will celebrate the end of this academic year – it's so important that we support all members of our community to remain positive.

Best wishes,

Nick McSweeney

Headteacher

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

The maths block has been busy this week with year 10 Maths, English and Science, it has been lovely to see everyone and for lessons to be taking place brings a sense of normality.

The clinics that took place this week were year 7 and year 9 Maths and year 8 Biology and Physics, we have been enjoying the clinics and hope the students have also been finding them useful.

I want to congratulate year 7, not only have they topped the poll as the year group who have answered the most questions in the last week (1646 in total!) but they also topped the scoreboard for June also answering a huge 7608 questions over this period!

We have seen an exciting announcement this week as Bracknell based Boehringer Ingelheim published their partnership with STEM learning and announced that The Emmbrook School will be one of the schools who will benefit from the programme which aims to drive the



uptake of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. Miss Smith has been working hard to ensure that we were selected as one of the partnership schools and

so we were delighted to get the news. Further details can be found here: https://www.thamesvalleychamber.co.uk/boehringer-ingelheim-

announces-new-partnership-with-stem-learning/

For our future year 7 students we will be getting in touch about an online summer school run by the popular Eedi platform. They are targeting year 6 students to aid their transition to year 7 with a focus on maths and while there is normally a cost for the school it is now available for free. We would love as many of our year 6 as possible to get involved and if you would like to sign up now you can do so at https://eedi.com/summer-school/application, the school starts on Monday but





you can join any time. The aim of the school is to address any maths gaps which may exist as a result of the lockdown and also to ensure that any common misconceptions are addressed early. The program is designed to take around 2 hours per week across multiple days although the timings are flexible with each child working at their own pace. The course will be lead by Craig Barton who is a leader in maths education and publishes many books, podcasts and You tube videos that our students can benefit from.

As we are focussing on our younger students I thought I would leave today with a year 6 maths question to test us adults on how much has been remembered from school:

Grace buys 2 adult tickets and 2 child tickets for the theme park. Adult tickets cost £51 each. Children's tickets cost £36 each. What is the mean cost of the tickets?

Answers next week!

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

The most 'normal' week that we have experienced so far for Humanities.

Miss Wood was incredibly impressed with her Y8 RS Live lesson on philosophy this week commenting that '*They raised interesting ideas and I was impressed with not only their engagement but also how they were helping to explain ideas to one another too.*' What a proud moment.

The History team have been developing their immigration unit for Year 7 and getting incredibly in depth, so much so that parts of the lesson are having to be removed as there is too much!

Geography has continued their engaging output with engaging live lessons on Mondays.

Myself and Miss Horne ran a Year 10 Business lesson this week on ethics and we were both incredibly impressed with the level of thought that went into the answers, coupled with some amazing signs of empathy.

Miss Bundy and Mr Constable have been telling anyone who will listen about the amazing efforts of students in Government & Politics, Criminology and Sociology. Well done all!

There has also been a lot of discussion in the faculty of finalising our plans for September to ensure that we deliver the full curriculum.

Many thanks for your continued support.





PE (chumber@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)



The deadline has been extended until Sunday night (12th July) so get your entries in as every entry scores house points!

See SMHW for the video featuring Mr Edwards and Mr Tichband that has all the information needed in the description.

As it stands the current GCSE average class scores in the SMHW quiz are below but these will be updated weekly:

GCSE PE

This week's Multiple Choice Quiz currently;

10C (Mr Humber) -76% of class attempted the quiz with a class average 50%

10D (Miss Matthews) – 60% of class attempted the quiz with a with a class average 54%

Special congratulations to the top scorers in each class who were:

10D - Tamryn Lester - 94%

10C - Sophie Janes - 82%

Sport SCIENCE

9A (Mr Humber) – 13/22 students attempted the guiz with a class average of 86%.

9D (Mr Tichband) – 11/14 students attempted the quiz with a class average of 82%.

Special congratulations to the 100% super stars:

Kyle P, Freddie B, Alex F, Will K, Kymani R, Jay B, Hollie G, Luke K, Sebastien G, Sebastian M





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

This week in English Mr King has been looking at Stormzy lyrics with his year 8 class. They have been considering whether rap is a type of poetry and have come up with lots of really interesting and thoughtful ideas:

"I now think that rap is a form of poetry because there are lots of powerful messages in rap and there are also lots of powerful messages in poetry." Hannah Blackstock.

"I now continue to think that rap is a form of poetry, but more a modern strand of it. It doesn't use old English vocabulary like Shakespeare, but the key features are there." Tom Drayton

"I think poetry is like rap, because it all rhymes and if you take the singing out of rap then it is poetry. It also rhymes and it explains a lot of things that are happening in the world and that had happened to the writer." Isabelle Hearmon

"It's no different really. Rap uses words to make you think about images in your head, but also puts music to it." Reuben Jacques

It has been a busy week for Mr King as he also took on this week's English subject clinic and was once again very impressed with the turnout. Next week Miss Alder is taking over and has lots of exciting things planned for the last week of term. Mrs Lloyd, Miss Pepper and Mr Myles have also been delighted to see Year 10 in school and have been really pleased with how well everyone has worked on Ozymandias this week.

Over in languages, we have had some very successful subject clinics. Year 8 participated brilliantly in the end of year French quiz and many of them scored very impressive marks. We have also really enjoyed teaching our KS4 classes over TEAMS as it has given us a little taste of what it will be like when we are back in the classroom. Year 7 have been finding out more about Spanish culture and there are some examples of the brilliant work they have been doing below.









La Tomatina

Alex Bento Edwards



The tomato fight has been a strong tradition in Bunol since 1944 or 1945. No one is completely certain how this event originated. Possible theories on how the Tomatina began include a local food fight among friends, a juvenile class war, a volley of tomatoes from bystanders at a carnival parade, a practical joke on a bad musician, and the anarchic aftermath of an accidental lorry spillage.

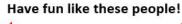
One popular theory is that disgruntled townspeople attacked city councilmen with tomatoes during a town celebration. Whatever happened to begin the tradition, it was enjoyed so much that it was repeated the next year, and the year after that, and so on. The holiday was banned during the Spanish State period under Francisco Franco for having no religious significance, but returned in the 1970s after his demise.



What happens on La Tomatina?

La Tomatina is a festival that is held in the Valencian town of Bunol, in the East of Spain in which participants throw tomatoes and get involved in a tomato fight purely for entertainment purposes.













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

Some of the Repackaging work sent by KS3 this week:

Kieron Jones Yr7 - Repackaging



Lily Ogston-Carter Yr.7 Repackaging







Sophie Watson Yr. 8 Repackaging





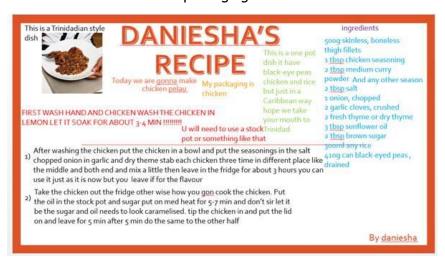
Filip Olbinski Yr 7 – Repackaging







Daniesha Charles Yr.7 - Repackaging



Marwan Hussein Yr7 - Repackaging

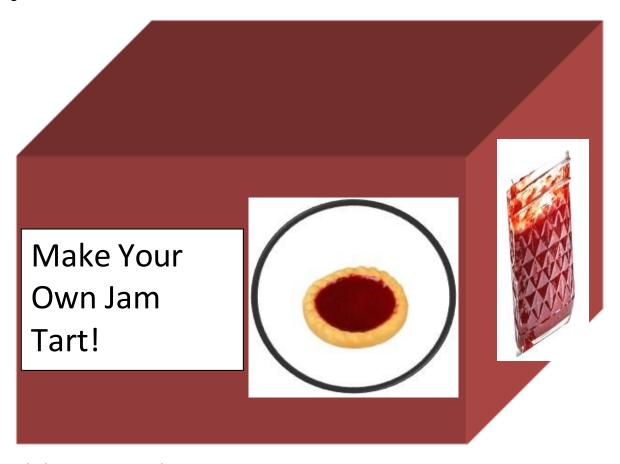


Harry Drayton Yr8 -





My idea is to have a small container of jam, and a tart case, packaged as one, so you could make a jam tart by just putting the jam in the casing. It will be packaged as a small box, for lunch boxes and snacks, and will have ingredients and allergies on the side. Here is what I'd image it to look like:



Sirayah dyson Yr8 - Repackaging







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

We have been finalising the details for next year and collecting all the data from schools and parents. I am so excited to finally meet the new Year 7 students in September. With the government's latest recommendations it looks like we will have a relatively normal (!) opening. As always, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

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

How can the penultimate week of our school year be at a close? How on earth can this lovely group of pupils have only one week left of Year 7? Time sure does fly! Of course, it has been another wonderful week! I think this week has been my favourite in terms of tutor times as I really have been lucky enough to get to know more of the lovely Year 7s – we have had a week of online quizzes, from Kahoot with Miss Pepper to Miss Donovan as the Fact Controller, from Flags galore with Mr Matthews to Dingbats when I have been put in charge! Year 7s who have been present in tutor time have certainly taken to the quizzes and shown just how engaged they are with the school even in these difficult times!

This week I had the pleasure of recording our 'Virtual Awards Evening', for which the link is below. One of my first memories of being a Year Leader, was hosting my first one of these in our lovely Hall, I simply loved being able to reward so many pupils for their progress and attainment over the year, and seeing them so proud of themselves, as well as the faces of their proud families was simply heart-warming. Sadly, this years was a little different, but that didn't make me any less proud to give out the awards. Personal invites to families of children who have won an award will be sent via email today but if you would like to watch the ceremony then you are equally welcome as I am sure many pupils will enjoy seeing their friends receiving these awards. There are awards for progress and attainment in every subject studies and for a standout pupil in each tutor group as well as a Head of Year Award chosen by myself.

https://youtu.be/fmgKgMK4jYU

I hope every pupil in Year 7 has a wonderful last week of school and I simply cannot wait for September when, fingers crossed, we will all be together again!

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

It has been another great week for Year 8. The weekly tutor group check-in meetings are going well, and it's been great to hear what has been going on in the lives of Year 8. Haircuts are also getting better (not mine), and life seems to be getting a little bit more back to normal. It's pleasing to hear that pupils are looking forward to returning to Emmbrook in September.

There has been some more outstanding work across the board, particularly in History, and the work on the 1984 Miners' Strike has been exceptional. Subject teachers have been really impressed with the output and quality of work. In terms of the live subject chats, staff have remarked how brilliant year 8 have been. Miss. Wood (R.S.) and Miss Fry (French), have been singing the praises of all involved in their sessions.





The Year 8 End of Year Awards Assembly is finally available today (sorry for the delay), and can be found on the Emmbrook YouTube channel. I just wanted to say another massive well done to the award winners, and a massive well done to all the pupils for all their hard work this year. The link to the assembly is: https://youtu.be/wawskQFFBtk

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)

Hello year 9,

We are fast approaching the end of the academic year and what a year it has been! This is by far the strangest end of year I have ever experienced and I am incredibly grateful I have such a fantastic year group. I am, and always have been, incredibly proud of you all. Your work ethic alone impresses me on a daily basis. More importantly, you are all growing into fantastic people. This is something I have always been eager to watch, as I think one of the things school teaches you indirectly, is how to be a good person. Please use this link to watch the assembly running through all winners https://youtu.be/5WzyinyZKWI

To celebrate all of your achievements this year, every subject has awarded a progress and an attainment award. These are in the recent assembly and I look forward to those winners celebrating and all their friends congratulating them on what is a brilliant achievement. So for all of our award winners... well done! You have been brilliant all year and your teachers want to recognise this. These awards are really hard to decide as there are so many of you who are showing the best approach to your studies. Not only have awards been given for subjects but they have also been given for tutee of the year. Below is a list of the deserved winners.

A huge congratulations to our winners:

9A	Ellie Keirle
9B	Zoe Byrom
9C	Morgan Anderson
9D	Rachel Yoxall

There is also the award that I have decided upon and this is for the student I feel has really impressed me. I like to think this award is mainly based on someone who is brilliant, not only with work but also as a person. They are kind, caring and well-liked by both staff and students. This year that award has been given to Hollie Glencross who has really impressed me with how mature and caring she has been to every member of the year 9 family over the past year and even more so during the current lockdown period.





Thank you to all of you in year 9. My job is honestly the best because I get to work closely with you all. Your tutors and I are incredibly grateful each day and I hope we continue this pattern for success through Year 10 and into Year 11.

All the best.

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

As the academic year draws to a close, it is the perfect time to celebrate all of the amazing achievements from Year 10 this year. I am so proud of each and every student in Year 10 for their diligence, engagement and attitude. The Year 10 Awards Ceremony celebrating academic and pastoral achievements can be viewed on YouTube by following this link: https://youtu.be/eGTEdmbICNU

Firstly, every subject has nominated two students to receive an award in their subject, one for progress and one for attainment. The deserving recipients can all be viewed in the awards ceremony but I would just like to give a special shout out to Kirstie Coelho who received an incredible 5 subject awards as well as tutee of the year for 10C – well done, Kirstie!

Secondly, the Year 10 Tutor Team have each nominated their 'tutee of the year' this week which goes to an individual in each tutor group that has gone above and beyond this year. I also had the pleasure of nominating a 'student of the year' for Year 10, which has gone to a student who has played a huge role in representing the school and is a constant recipient of praise from all of her teachers.

A huge congratulations to our winners:

10A	Alexandros Baousis
10B	Rachel Swindley
10C	Kirstie Coelho
10D	Jonathan Dodd
10E	Kayleigh Robinson
Year Leader Award	Marina Ramirez

We are so proud of every student in Year 10 but a special mention to each and every one of you that has received an award rewarding your hard work and determination; you should be incredibly proud of yourselves. I hope you celebrate in style and have a wonderful summer.

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

Year 12 are in the middle of their return to school. The first week back was excellent, and they have their second week back next week. All students will have been sent their timetables already and, if they have any questions they should email myself and I will resolve it for them as quickly as possible. As we approach the end of this very strange academic year, I want to offer some reassurances for next year. We are currently working on our sixth form plans to help support our learners when they return to school in





September and we are aiming to start intervention, where needed, as soon as we return. Another area that has come onto my radar more frequently recently is around the wellbeing of our students. Over the past 16 weeks we have been working hard to maintain contact with all our learners and to make sure they are as supported as possible and I want you to rest assured that in the first half term we are going to have a big focus on mental wellbeing, re-establishing the right behaviours for learning, and dealing with any anxieties our students have about being back onsite. To this end I would like to recommend the 'Smiling Mind App' that can be downloaded from the Apple store or Google store. This is a free mindfulness app that comes highly recommend by a team of NHS psychologists and has inbuilt programmes dedicated to the mindfulness of young people. On a personal level, I have found the use of mindfulness techniques during lockdown to incredibly beneficial and I am sure many of our students will benefit from some mindfulness techniques as we go through the process of 'returning to normal'.

I am also excited to announce that we are in the middle of the student leadership selection process. This is always a wonderful experience as we get to see how much our students want to give back to the community but it is also a nightmare as we have to make a selection from some outstanding candidates, this year we have 10 candidates and all are outstanding. I hope to be able to announce the successful applicants in next week's newsletter.

Lastly, we had a very productive virtual parents evening with parents of students who are planning to stay on into our sixth form. There were some outstanding questions and I am so excited to be working with such wonderful students and their parents from September. If there are any further questions about sixth form, please do email me.

Stay safe.

Speakers for Schools

WEEK STARTING MONDAY 13TH JULY 2020

DATE	SPEAKER	INFO
Mon 13 th July 10am Add to calendar	Reemah Sakaan, Group Launch Director, Britbox	Hear from Reemah Sakaan, Group Launch Director, BritBox on what it takes to have a career in TV, the skills and qualities that you might need and more about their career journey.
Mon 13 th July 2pm Add to calendar	Andrew Bailey, Governor of the Bank of England	Join us to hear from the Governor of the Bank of England, Andrew Bailey, as he talks to students across the UK about the work of the Bank and answers YOUR questions.





Tues 14 th July 10am Add to calendar	Richard Aylard, External Affairs and Sustainability Director and Rebekah Kenyon, Senior Sustainability Awareness Advisor, Thames Water	Reflections on sustainability in a lockdown world: Join us to hear from Richard Aylard and Rebekah Kenyon as they discuss sustainability and lockdown, from home working to how lockdown has impacted Thames Water's activities and our new appreciation for the environment.
Tues 14 th July 2pm Add to calendar	Sara Crofts, Chief Executive, The Institute of Conservation	Who looks after the dinosaurs in the Natural History Museum? Who uncovers the hidden stories in old paintings? Who keeps Big Ben running like clockwork? Join Sara Crofts to find out how professional conservators care for the treasures in our museums and galleries.
Wed 15 th July 10am Add to calendar	Anna Turney, Paralympian	Paralympian, Anna Turney, is joining SFS virtually to reflect on her own journey and share life lessons with young people including the important of goal setting, working hard and developing resilience.
Wed 15 th July 2pm Add to calendar	Alejandra Castaño GHG Air Quality Lead Advisor, Upstream - GOO, BP	This talk will be given by an environmental engineer with BP about her career at the company and the kind of work she's involved in with the company's carbon ambitions.
Thurs 16 th July 10am Add to calendar	Sharon Walpole, Director, Careermap	We're delighted Sharon Walpole, Director, Careermap has kindly agreed to join us to discuss how young people can prepare for their future careers from understanding what your passion is, how to research to find out more about the careers you might be interested in and sharing the resources that can help you think about your future.
Thurs 16 th July 2pm Add to calendar	Julia Angeles, Investment Manager, Baillie Gifford	Interested in learning more about the skills it takes to succeed in the future job market? Julia Angeles has joined us to give insights in to the investment industry and to highlight the importance of collaborative and creative thinking in any career!

HOW TO JOIN THE VTALKS

- Join 10 minutes before the VTALK to be ready
- You can join without needing an account Watch how here
- For full speaker descriptions visit the **VTALK Schedule here**

VTALK LIBRARY & MORE

- Watch pre-recorded VTalks from our library here
- Please see our **Schools Guide here.**





- Below my signature is more information on the SFS activity sheet
- The colour codes can be found under my email signature below

PTA 'Thank You'

We would like to extend our appreciation to the PTA who work tirelessly to raise funds to allow more opportunities to enrich the opportunities of our learners. We join with the PTA in thanking you all for your generous donations last weekend as part of the Happy School Bag programme.

As you can see below – it was a great success!



BERKSHIRE MAESTROS PRESENTS

THE BIG MUSIC DAY

Find the instrument that's right for you

Saturday 11 July

JOIN US LIVE ON FACEBOOK:

https://www.facebook.com/events/3632756920071982/

Does your child enjoy music? Are they curious about different instruments?

Come and join us LIVE on Facebook for a fun discovery session. Learn about our instruments, our lessons and ensembles and the amazing things you can do with music.

Learn how instrumental lessons can help your child to grow, encouraging key skills such as confidence, perseverance, teamwork, concentration and communication.

Berkshire Maestros is the county music service and the leading provider of instrumental lessons across Berkshire.

11.00am Welcome

11.05am Woodwind

11.30am Piano/keyboard

11.50am Brass/percussion

12.25pm Guitar

12.50pm Strings

1.20pm Q&A

How easy is it to play guitar?

How big is a

double bass? What's the

difference between

What does a bassoon sound like?

a cornet and

a trumpet?