



Friday 18th June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Weekly Update

It was great to be able to give Year 11 a socially distanced/Covid-secure leavers' day this morning. I am incredibly grateful to Miss Horne and the huge team of colleagues and students who worked so hard to produce a memorable day.

Covid-19

Please continue to engage with home testing and remember to report your results to the NHS [here](#) (please inform us of a positive result).

Remember any student with symptoms (new persistent cough, high temperature, loss of sense of smell or taste) must self-isolate (along with all members of the household) until a negative PCR test is secured.

There are emerging reports that the delta variant can present with different symptoms. These include:

- Headache
- Sore throat
- Runny nose

At present the official guidance regarding symptoms remains unchanged, so I am drawing this to your attention only so that you are aware and can be vigilant.

GCSE Pod

Students in Years 9, 10 and 11 now have access to the e-learning platform [GCSEPod](#). Students will be able to log in, using their school email accounts and will have access to a wide range of learning and revision resources across all their subject areas.

- Year 9 are encouraged to become familiar with the site and work through the transition material available as they move into their GCSE courses.
- Year 10 should utilise this resource as part of their revision schedule for their upcoming assessments.
- Year 11 also have access to transition material from GCSE to post-16 study which they may find useful to complement the summer preparation work they have already been assigned.

Please support your child to ensure they have accessed the site and are using these resources effectively. For further information on this resource please contact Lucy Fyfe (Assistant Headteacher) via lfyfe@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk.



Diversity Week

Mrs Kisubi has been working closely with a LGBTQ+ youth charity called [Just Like Us](#) and next week we will be celebrating LGBTQ+ Diversity Week. The students will be taking part in lots of fun and interesting tutor time activities throughout as we raise awareness and celebrate what makes us all different and unique at The Emmbrook.

On Friday 25th June, we will hold a non-uniform day to raise money for some incredible LGBTQ+ charities that not only help and support a huge community outside of school, but hold a special place in some of our own students hearts too. In line with Pride Month celebrations, we encourage students to wear bright colours and rainbows to show their support. We will be asking for a £1 donation to take part and we will post on our social media accounts how much we have raised and where the donations will be sent. If you have any queries or would like to speak to somebody in school regarding LGBTQ+ Diversity Week please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Kisubi (rkisubi@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk).

Drugs Awareness Education

Last week the students received a day of drugs awareness education provided by Bob Tait from [DRED UK](#). Bob was incredibly complimentary of our students and their behaviour and engagement and we felt that he shared very valuable knowledge with the students. After school he provided training for staff and that evening an event for parents. A recording of the event for parents can be seen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eEkp77pak7A>. As a parent of teenagers myself, I feel it is worth a watch (stick with it beyond the technological problems at the start!).

Year 11 Prom

With the delay in unlocking announced recently it is no longer possible to offer the prom on the original date. Following a very swift response to Miss Horne's survey, we have moved the prom to Wednesday 11th August (the day before GCSE results). More details to follow.

Sanitiser Donation

I am very grateful to [BITC](#) for their incredible donation of 11,000 bottles of hand sanitiser. We will be issuing students with individual bottles over the coming days. Given the large quantity we are also reaching out to local schools and community groups to share this kind gift.

We all wish Year 12 the absolute best for their assessments next week. I am very much looking forward to the Year 13 leavers' day on Monday. As with the Year 11 today, a great deal of effort has gone into making the event Covid-secure and I think it right that we appropriately acknowledge a group of students who have been with us for 7 years. It was brilliant to see so many students about to start their journey with us in September taking part in Mr Johnson's school sign photo competition! I have been really impressed that these new students are already demonstrating our values!

Best wishes,

Nick McSweeney
Headteacher