

**Introduction from Kerry:**

Welcome to the final Spring Term update from Exeter Maths School. It is lovely to see the evenings getting lighter together with some much needed sunshine! Year 13 Mocks have concluded, and I hope the feedback they receive today following their Further Maths Core paper will be valuable in informing their revision over the next couple of weeks: Easter of Year 13 is the only time we recommend students study during holidays, but I nevertheless advocate for some down-time too. I'd like to extend my thanks to Year 12 for being so thoughtful in keeping the noise down in the building whilst Year 13 sit their mock papers.

I would like to highlight our search for Homestay families – it may be of particular interest to the parents of Year 13 students in Exeter, perhaps your child's departure to university could be subsidised by making good use of their bedroom whilst they are away? See below for further information.

Please can I ask that parents of boarding students ensure they have read the letter Grace has sent regarding sickness in Boarding. It is crucial that we have the correct contact details for you so you can be reached at anytime, both day and night and you are able to collect your child if they are not well enough to remain in boarding or school.

I am due to have a minor operation in the second week of the Easter holidays and will therefore be unavailable the first and possibly the second week back. Recovery is usually quick, so I hope my absence will be brief. In the meantime, it will be business as usual in School so please use the usual channels to contact us; Yasmin will be able to respond to any pastoral or safeguarding queries, Liam for academic matters and Henry for anything related to health and safety and finance.

**I hope you all have a lovely Easter and we look forward to welcoming students back on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April - more details available below.**

**Dates for your Diary:**

Date	Year	Time	Event	Description
30/04/2026	Year 12	1700 - 1800	UCAS Parent Information Event – online	An explanation of the university admissions process. An online event.
22/06/2026	Year 13	1600 - 1800	EMC and Curriculum X Celebration	A get together to celebrate the achievements of Year 13 and to award certificates. We have a special guest speaker this year!
07/07/2026 and 08/07/2026	Year 12	Individual appointments	End of year review with Tutors	Post assessment review of the year's progress, target setting for the year ahead and receive UCAS predicted grades.

The Parents Page on our website has information on key parent events, term dates, internal assessments and the Summer exams timetable - [A page for parents and carers - Exeter Maths School](#).

## All – FOR ACTION – Can you Help?

Thank you to all of you who read my letter about fundraising for the school and responded. We have reattached it with this newsletter in case you missed it the first time. Also enclosed is a leaflet that you could share with others who may be interested in supporting the school.

## Year 13 – FOR ACTION – Can you provide a room for an EMS student?

Do you have an empty room next year? Could you help an EMS student for one term or longer?

We need to recruit some families in the Exeter area to host EMS students four nights a week (Mon to Thu) during term time.

We have an increase in demand for boarding and are aiming to purchase an additional building to meet this demand. The building is likely to be purchased and renovated in time for students to move in in January, but we need some hosts to support students from September to December. If there is a delay to the new building, we will also be looking for hosts for the remainder of the year.

If you are interested in exploring the option of providing Homestay accommodation, please get in touch by emailing [jobs@exeterms.ac.uk](mailto:jobs@exeterms.ac.uk) or phoning the school to speak to Grace. Alternatively, you can complete this application form: [Questionnaire for Host Families – Fill out form](#).

## Year 12 – FOR ACTION – Do you want to switch from main boarding building to Homestay?

Our demand for boarding next year means that we are able to offer places in the main boarding building and Homestay (for at least the first term). It is our intention to have additional boarding rooms available from January, in a smaller boarding building that will initially have one member of staff with about 9 students on site.

Homestay is typically cheaper than staying in the main boarding building and also may suit a student that wants to be in a smaller family setting.

If you would like your child to switch from the main boarding building to a Homestay place in the Autumn term, please let Grace know by emailing [gracestrachan@exeterms.ac.uk](mailto:gracestrachan@exeterms.ac.uk).

## ALL – FOR INFORMATION – Arrangements for the Start of the Summer Term

EMS lessons begin on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April, lesson 2 (10:30am)**. Staff will be back to work on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April for a training day. Boarding will be closed on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April, opening again at 09:00 and 16:00 as usual on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April.

Exeter College lessons begin on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April** and students are expected to attend Exeter College lessons as usual. We appreciate, however, that because boarding is not open until Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April, boarding students may be unable to attend their College lessons on the Monday and lesson 1 on Tuesday. We have let Exeter College know, but please can these students log their absence on the College systems in the usual way.

## ALL – FOR INFORMATION AND SHARING – Vacancy for Deputy Head of Boarding

We are currently recruiting for a new role: **Deputy Head of Boarding**. The person appointed will work closely with boarding tutors, staying overnight and with Grace to build leadership capacity whilst our boarding numbers grow. If you know of anyone who may be interested in this role, please direct them to the advert on our website, closing date for applications is the **11<sup>th</sup> May**: [Work with us - Exeter Maths School](#)

## Year 13 – FOR INFORMATION – Examination Update

Year 13 students attended The Exam Briefing on 16<sup>th</sup> March, highlighting the rules and regulations for the upcoming A level exams and students have been given their timetables. An updated Exam Timetable is now available on the Parents Page of our website at the following link - [Summer-Timetable-2026.pdf](#). There are also additional documents that students need to familiarise themselves with – JCQ Candidate Information which includes the new AI document. These are available on the Parents Page under External Examinations - [A page for parents and carers - Exeter Maths School](#).

### STEP Dates:

STEP 2 - 4<sup>th</sup> June 2026 – 09:00 start

STEP 3 - 10<sup>th</sup> June 2026 – 09:00 start

It is important that students are available to come into school on the contingency day, **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June**, if requested.

**Results day is Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2026** - more information will be sent out shortly.

## All – FOR INFORMATION – Summer Travel Passes

Summer travel passes will be updated electronically (New system!) so students will NOT receive a new pass. Please remind them that they need to keep hold of the one they already have.

## All – FOR INFORMATION – Trip to see Exeter Chiefs at Sandy Park

We are excited to be running a trip to see the Exeter Chiefs play at Sandy Park on **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May**. This is a great opportunity for students to attend a sporting event and to enjoy watching a live rugby match together. If your child is interested and you haven't received a consent letter, please contact Beth at [bethanyjones02@exeterms.ac.uk](mailto:bethanyjones02@exeterms.ac.uk).

## Year 12 – FOR INFORMATION – UCAS Online Information Evening

After Easter we will officially launch the UCAS process with an assembly to students and an online Parents Information Evening on **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April between 1700 and 1800**. The UCAS Parent Information Talk will be a live event on Microsoft Teams using the shortened URL: <https://bit.ly/EMSUCAS26>.

UCAS is the University and Colleges Admissions Service, and students who are considering applying to University will need to apply through UCAS.

## Year 12 – FOR INFORMATION – Trip to University of Oxford Open Day

We will be running a trip to the University of Oxford Open Day for Year 12 students on **Wednesday 1st July**. More information will be sent after the UCAS information talk. We will travel by coach and the cost is likely to be in the range of £45-£55 depending on the number of students who sign-up. Students have been asked to complete an expression of interest form via Teams, which will remain open until the end of April.

### Other Open Days:

Students planning to visit other university open days need to complete an absence request form. If they clash with any end of year assessments (timetable out soon), there will be opportunities to catch up on another day. Please go to the following link for a calendar of university open days - <https://www.opendays.com/calendar/>.

## Year 12 - FOR INFORMATION – Trip to the Beach

As part of our student socials at the end of the year, there will be a beach trip for Year 12 students on **Wednesday the 8<sup>th</sup> July**. Further information and consent letters will be coming out at the beginning of the Summer term.

## Year 12 - FOR INFORMATION – Curriculum X

The Curriculum X programme has been launched for our Year 12 students! This is a series of mini lecture courses, on a variety of STEM topics, which students can choose to opt in to. 56 students have signed up for one of the first block of courses (starting after the Easter holidays):

- Limits with Beth and Aeran (delving into mathematical definitions rigorously)
- Ethics in Tech with Melanie (exploring big questions, with lots of opportunity for philosophical discussions)
- Astronomy with Malcolm (taking the best bits of Astronomy GCSE)

If you're interested to read a bit more about the programme, there is a summary on our website here: <https://extermathematicsschool.ac.uk/study/curriculum-x/>

## All – EMS NEWS – Student Volunteers - Reading with the Elderly

Year 12 students have done a fantastic job this term reading with the elderly at Age UK Sycamore Days respite sessions. Sycamore Day sessions are aimed at giving respite for those who care for someone in their home or for those living on their own and would like company and/or additional support.

The students have been taking it in turns to read a variety poems, 'on this day' facts, positive news stories, riddles, local history and much more. Well done to Abi, Agata, Hetti, Jessica, Jimmy and Liisa!





It has been a very busy few weeks in boarding and finally, after many weeks of 'banishments' and 'murders' it was The Traitors Finale and the long wait was over. Everyone was invited to the 'fire pit' and with much anticipation and excitement, the Final Five got together. Who was going to win the prize - the devious Traitors or honest Faithfuls? And the winners are - The Traitors - Xanthe and Dylan! They definitely had us all guessing right up until the final banishment. Well done everyone!

We had a very colourful and relaxing end to the term with an Easter craft social where boarders could come along and decorate bright eggs, twist pipe cleaners into bouncing bunnies and wind wool around and around to make pom pom chicks and sheep. There were, of course, a few chocolate mini eggs to enjoy as we made them.

You should have recently received an email from Grace outlining the importance of having arrangements in place if your child becomes unwell while in boarding. Please could you take a moment to check that all of your contact details are accurate and up-to-date so that we can reach you promptly both during the day and overnight, should the need arise, and that you are available to collect your child if they are not well enough to remain in boarding or school. Thank you for your continued support; it is really appreciated.

Boarding re-opens on Tuesday 21st April from 9am to 11am to move back in and drop off bags and then again at 4pm, as normal.

Have a lovely holiday!



## All – EMS NEWS – Senior Devon Chess Challenge

A group of EMS students competed in the U19 Senior Devon Chess Challenge at Torquay Boys Grammar School on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March. The team played well and finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place overall. Congratulations to all involved!



## All – EMS NEWS – Message from the Pastoral Team

We hope you all have a wonderful Easter break, however, should students need someone to talk to, here are some contact details of people who can help:

**Childline** – 0800 1111 – [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

**Samaritans** (24 hour helpline) – 116 123 – [www.samaritans.org](http://www.samaritans.org)

**Papyrus** (Suicide Prevention Charity) – 0800 068 41 41 – [www.papyrus-uk.org](http://www.papyrus-uk.org)

**Kooth** (Online Counselling & Support) – [www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)

**Devon Rape Crisis & Sexual Assault Service** – 01392 204174 - [www.devonrapecrisis.org.uk](http://www.devonrapecrisis.org.uk)

**Devon Front Door -Formally known as MASH** (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub for under 18yrs old) – 0345 1551071

**Adult Social Care** (over 18yrs old) 0345 155 1007

**Shelter** – 0808 800 4444 – [www.shelter.org.uk](http://www.shelter.org.uk)

**Nightstop South Devon** (Emergency accommodation) – 01803 551578

[www.depaul.org.uk/nightstop/nightstop-south-devon/](http://www.depaul.org.uk/nightstop/nightstop-south-devon/)

**Young Devon** - 01392 331666 - [www.youngdevon.org](http://www.youngdevon.org)

**Young Somerset** - 01278 722100 - [www.youngsomerset.org.uk](http://www.youngsomerset.org.uk)

**Y-Smart** (Drug & Alcohol Support) – 01392 385637 – [www.y-smart.org.uk](http://www.y-smart.org.uk)

**FearFree** (Domestic Violence) – 01752 963493 – [www.fearfree.org.uk/](http://www.fearfree.org.uk/)

**Foodbank** – 07818 226524 – [info@exeterfoodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@exeterfoodbank.org.uk)

**NHS** (Non-Emergency Health Advice) – 111 Service

**CEOP** (Child Exploitation & Online Protection Centre) – [www.ceop.police.uk](http://www.ceop.police.uk)