

Introduction from Kerry:

Welcome to the latest update from Exeter Maths School. It was fantastic to see so many parents and carers of our Year 12 students at last week's new tutor meetings. We hope you found the sessions helpful and now that you have met your child's tutor you'll feel able to get in touch whenever you need to.

We're right into the meat-and-bones of the year. The first flush of excitement to be here has passed and students are settling into a routine. It's about this time of year when students may start to feel tired and some may be feeling the pressure of what is to come. If you are concerned about your child's wellbeing, please get in touch either with their form tutor or a member of the pastoral team. We are here to help.

Likewise, if your child is being challenged for the first time, it may be a difficult new experience for them. Please reiterate what we try to tell them – that this is perfectly normal and struggling can be productive and a sign that learning is taking place. As Year 12 students prepare for assessments next week, it's a good time to remind them that the results are not important and that the assessments are there to provide them and us with useful information about areas of work that may need further attention (or not!).

Dates for your Diary:

Date	Year	Time	Event	Description
09/11/2026	Year 12	1500 – 2000 (break at 1730)	Parent, student, teacher meetings	A series of meetings to review progress and targets.
07/12/2026	Year 13	1500 – 2000 (break at 1730)	Parent, student, teacher meetings	A series of meetings to review progress and targets.
15/12/2026	All	1230 – 1630	Year 12 Christmas Lectures	A highlight of the year. The presentation of EMC academic projects.
01/02/2027	All	1800 – 2000	EMS Festival of Culture	In partnership with Exeter College Reach Academy - a showcase of cultures, hobbies and talents through performances, workshops and exhibition stands.
04/03/2027	All	TBC – throughout the day	Year 13 EMC Conference	Another highlight of the year. Presentations and posters showcasing the final EMC projects.
08/03/2027	Year 12	1500 – 2000 (break at 1730)	Parent, student, teacher meetings	A series of meetings to review progress and targets.
29/04/2027	Year 12	1700 - 1800	UCAS Parent Information Event – online	An explanation of the university admissions process. An online event.
21/06/2027	Year 13	1600 - 1800	EMC and Curriculum X Celebration	A get together to celebrate the achievements of Year 13 and to award certificates.
06/07/2027 (PM) and 07/07/2027 (AM)	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 - [Exeter Maths School | Parents Page \(extermathematicsschool.ac.uk\)](https://www.extermathematicsschool.ac.uk/parents).

All – FOR ACTION – Parents and Carers Association and WhatsApp Group

We are keen to strengthen links within our school community and would love to hear from any parents who might be interested in helping to establish and manage a Parents and Carers Association at EMS, or in coordinating a parent and carer WhatsApp group. We do not currently have a Parent and Carer Association, so this is a great opportunity to help develop parent engagement and support school events and initiatives. If you would be interested in finding out more, please email headteacher@exeterms.ac.uk. We would be delighted to hear from you.

Year 12 - FOR ACTION – Exeter College Parent Portal

If your child does a subject at Exeter College, you will be able to access the College's Parent Portal which provides parents and carers with information on their child's progress, the courses your child is enrolled on along with attendance data and timetables. You can register for the Parent Portal on the College's website as follows:

How to register:

1. Please go to the [Parent Portal Login page](#).
2. You will then need to enter your email address and contact details. You **MUST** use the email address that your young person has for you on their MyELP site/the email we contacted you on.
3. Once you have created your account, you will then need to 'link' your young person(s) to the account. To do this you will need:
 - Their date of birth
 - Their Exeter College student reference number starting 9900 (this is on their Exeter College ID card).
 - Your verified email address on your young person's MyELP. A 'one-off' code will be sent to this email address to enable you to verify linking the young person to your account.

If you are having trouble registering, please go to the following link for troubleshooting advice - [Parent Portal - Exeter College](#).

Year 12 - FOR INFORMATION – Assessment Week

Year 12 students will be having assessments in their lessons next week. These are internal assessments only with the aim of determining how students are progressing and whether any changes are needed to support them. These assessments do not count towards their predicted grades, and although their homework this week has been focused on revision, we do not expect students to dedicate more time to revision than they would ordinarily do for homework.

All – FOR INFORMATION – UK Linguistics Olympiad

For any students who enjoy puzzles involving pattern spotting and logical thinking, there are not only mathematical opportunities available but linguistic ones too! Requiring no prior knowledge of any languages other than English, the UK Linguistics Olympiad is a fantastically fun set of puzzles through which we can learn about different cultures and languages (including some which are now spoken by only a few hundred people).

Anyone who is interested is invited to attend Linguistics Club weekly (Tuesdays 1300-1345 in Poincare) and/or send Fiona a message to sign up for the Linguistics Olympiad competition directly. We will be doing the "Advanced" puzzles for KS5 but all the past puzzles are good fun – available online here:

<https://www.uklo.org/past-exam-papers/>

All – FOR ACTION and INFORMATION – Speakers for Assemblies and Careers Update

Speakers for Assemblies:

As part of the school's careers programme, we regularly invite speakers into assembly to talk to students about their work in a diverse range of STEM fields. Understanding what careers are out there and the different pathways into them has a hugely positive impact on students. If any parents work in the field of STEM and would be interested in speaking to students in assembly, please contact Nick Dean at nickdean@exeterms.ac.uk.

Careers Questionnaire:

We work closely with the Careers and Enterprise Company (CEC) to develop and improve our careers programme. The CEC have created the questionnaire Your Child's Future (YCF) which will help Exeter Maths School to understand parents' and carers' knowledge, confidence and awareness of careers.

YCF covers various topics, including how parents and carers feel talking to their child about careers, how much they know about the different options available for their child after school or college, and how much they understand about the careers programme at their child's school, specialist setting or college.

Please take a moment to complete the YCF questionnaire, which is available here: <https://www.cecparentcarer.co.uk/72887762-d796-4c06-86ce-882c955eca0b>

Guide to apprenticeships:

Pathway CTM are running an online event on Wednesday 8th October aimed at parents who want to find out more about apprenticeships. Find out more about the event and how to register here: [A Parent's Guide to Apprenticeships \(Nationwide\) - Pathway CTM](#)

All – FOR INFORMATION – Student Volunteers

A BIG thank you to Harry B and Tom P in Year 12 for sorting out and resetting all of the Outreach Laptops! The laptops are now ready to go out to our next band of Outreach Students chomping at the bit to join the Online Axiom Maths fun. Felix F – Thank you for your enthusiasm too!

Reading with the Elderly:

On Tuesday, Year 13 students Abi, Hettie and Jessica returned to Age UK to take part in another enjoyable reading session with guests attending the Sycamore Days programme.

The students shared a variety of readings, including positive news stories, fascinating "On This Day" historical events (which included the formation of the Metropolitan Police), and plenty of poetry from Pam Ayres and Spike Milligan. There was also some lively audience participation as everyone tried to guess the meanings of Cockney rhyming slang phrases. While most guests confidently identified "apples and pears" as stairs, "dustbin lid" proved much more challenging!

The session was a great success and highlighted the value of this intergenerational volunteering.

We are currently recruiting Year 12 students to join the programme after half term. We would encourage students to get involved in this rewarding volunteering opportunity. Those interested have been asked to complete the online form by Friday 16th October - [Reading with the Elderly - 2026 27 – Fill in form](#).

And finally, although Jimmy, Agata and Liisa have chosen to step back from the visits this term to focus on their studies, we would like to thank them for the fantastic contribution they made during the Spring and Summer Terms 2026. Their time, dedication and enthusiasm were greatly appreciated by everyone involved.

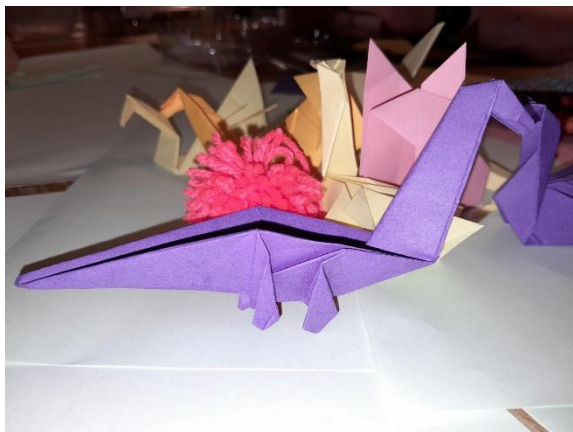
All – FOR INFORMATION – Alumni Update

In April 2026, we were delighted to host our first ever 10 Year Alumni Reunion, bringing together former students from our very first EMS cohort for an enjoyable evening of food, conversation and reminiscing. It was wonderful to see old friends reconnect and catch up with members of staff who were at the school during their time here.

We are now beginning to plan the 10 Year Reunion for the **Class of 2017**, which we hope to hold in either March or May 2027. We have contacted former students from this year group to gather their preferences on dates and the format of the event via an online form - [Exeter Maths School - 10 Year Anniversary Reunion- Class of 2017 – Fill in form](#). If you know anyone who left EMS in 2017, please do forward this information to them.

We are also excited to be launching our first annual **Alumni Newsletter**, which will be sent to all alumni before half term. If you have an older child who attended EMS, we would love to hear what they have been doing since leaving school. Please ask them to complete the following form and share an update with our alumni community - [EMS Alumni - Updates for the Alumni Newsletter – Fill in form](#).

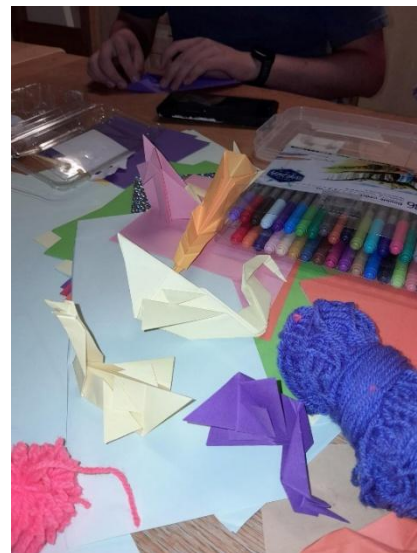
ALL – EMS NEWS – Message from the Boarding Team



It has been a busy few weeks in boarding and it has been lovely to see everyone settling into their new routines and schoolwork. There have been weekly student-led socials organised, a relaxing board game social and even a 'decorate the pinboards' evening where students had the chance to create some wonderful origami animals and flowers from paper and wool which are now brightly displayed on the corridor pinboards. The next social planned is a 'brownie baking competition' next week.

The Year 12s have continued to impress us with the meals they have made. It is no easy task to come into an unfamiliar kitchen and prepare and cook an evening meal for 15 hungry students and we have enjoyed so many wonderful recipes across the kitchens from cornflake-coated chicken with spicy rice to halloumi bean stew. In response to boarders' recent feedback, we have compiled a list of alternative snacks which we will stock up on weekly and will be available in all kitchens (alongside the usual fruit, crisps, yoghurts etc) such as cucumbers, cherry tomatoes, breadsticks, carrots, hummus, rice cakes and peppers.

Just a reminder that Boarding is open on Monday mornings from 9am to 10.30am then as normal from 4pm. Please send any post to the school address and not Boarding, thank you.





Our newly elected Student Council have already had a positive start to the academic year. The Council comprises of 12 dedicated students and led by Year 13 students Chloe (Chair), Agata (Vice Chair) and Liisa (Secretary). The remaining nine representatives have each been linked to a form group, ensuring all students have the opportunity to share their views and contribute ideas. Council members have also taken responsibility for specific areas of the school, including the kitchen, courtyard and library. To support their initiatives, each area has been allocated a small budget to fund improvements and resources identified by the students.

The new Student Council began their term with a training and team-building afternoon on Tuesday 15th September. As part of the programme, they visited the Guildhall Escape Rooms, where they put their communication, teamwork and problem-solving skills to the test! We are pleased to report that both teams successfully escaped within the allotted time!

Later that afternoon, the students attended the Curriculum and Student Experience Committee (CSEC) governors' meeting, providing them with valuable insight into the structure, management and purpose of effective meetings.

The Student Council has already held its first meeting, and a number of exciting ideas and initiatives are beginning to emerge. We look forward to seeing the positive impact they will have across the school community throughout the year.