

I do hope this finds you well and that you've not had too tough a time in the stormy weather. The school building appears to have survived unscathed with nothing to indicate anything exceptional had happened but a build up of leaves at the front door.

All – FOR INFORMATION – COVID UPDATE

Following the announcement, yesterday, that COVID restrictions are to be further eased, we have received advice from the DfE about what this means for schools. We have updated and simplified our COVID manual as a result. The latest version is attached to this email and can be found on the parent page of our website.

The most significant changes are:

- Students and staff are no longer required to test twice a week
- If students or staff have COVID or suspected COVID they are not legally required to isolate but we ask that they do stay home for at least five days
- The wearing of facemasks indoors is not required most of the time, we ask only that they are worn during lesson changeover times

All – FOR INFORMATION – STAFF ON LEAVE

Most school staff will be on leave for the remainder of this week. If you need to get in touch, please bear with us if it takes longer than usual to get back to you. The school reception will not be supervised from tomorrow and the building will be fully closed on Thursday.

Yr 12 – FOR INFORMATION – February Assessments

Most year 12 students were due to sit one or two assessments on Friday, these will now be sat on Monday when they return to school.

Yr 13 – FOR INFORMATION – Summer Assessments

Following the examinations boards publication of changes to assessments this year, I have attached a summary of changes for each of the EMS subjects. These are designed to help students focus their revision where it is likely to have the most impact.

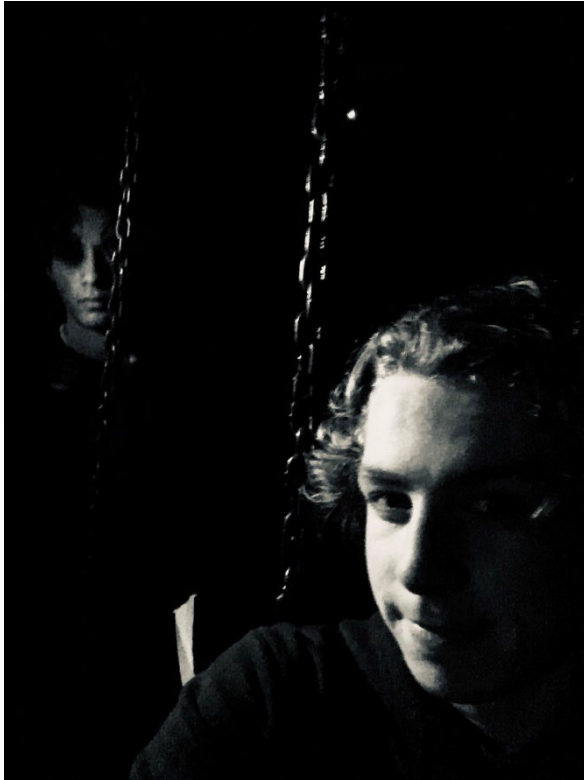
It is important for students to realise that, although some topics will not have whole questions based on them, they may be required knowledge to access other topics and should not be ignored.

Having read the guidance you may have many questions. We are therefore inviting you and students to an online meeting on **Monday 7th March from 1715 to 1800** during which Liam and the subject lead teachers (Claire, Melanie and Malcolm) will talk through the guidance and answer your questions. The link to this meeting is in the body of the email accompanying this update.

All – EMS NEWS – Bebras Challenge Round Two

Last week, several keen computational thinkers completed the follow on round of the Bebras Challenge. Whilst you wait to hear the results, you can find out more information about the challenge and even sample some questions here: [Welcome - UK Bebras](#)

All – EMS NEWS – Residential Happenings



Boarding students have been exercising their hosting skills, inviting members of staff to join them for social evenings. Tor joined students for an evening of card games and Stuart popped in for dinner one evening. It was Bill's big 4-0 last week so students made a cake and threw a mini party, decorating the kitchen with balloons and a banner.

Last week boarders completed a scavenger hunt; in teams they completed photo challenges including taking a photo of themselves, on a swing, in a phone booth, on a zebra crossing and next to a statue, amongst other things.

TOP LEFT: Kai and Felix on a swing

BOTTOM LEFT: Arlen, Abbie, Will and Sam on a zebra crossing

BOTTOM RIGHT: Cally and Marlo with a statue



All – EMS NEWS – Mathematics Olympiad Round 2

Huge congratulations to Kate C and Matthew J for achieving a certificate of merit in the BMO2, possibly the UK's toughest maths challenge!