

Welcome to the latest update from Exeter Maths School. We enjoyed welcoming parents of Year 12 students into school for First Impressions tutor meetings last week and I hope you all found the discussions with your child’s tutor useful. Year 12 students will be preparing for their assessments next week but please tell them not to worry and highlight the importance of making mistakes for improving their learning.

Year 13 – FOR INFORMATION – Survey from PhD Student

Harry Richardson is a PhD student at Leeds University who is focusing his research on the impact of Maths schools and in particular an answer to the following question:

What makes specialist Maths schools successful and what can higher education learn from them?

As part of his study, he is surveying Year 13 students from Exeter, Lancaster, Liverpool and King’s Maths schools. We have shared his survey with Year 13 students for completion on a voluntary basis and have given students the option of providing their email address so they can be contacted for follow-up interviews over the next two years. Harry has provided further details in the attached letter.

Year 13 – FOR INFORMATION – University Admission Tests

All university admissions tests will be taking place in school between 18th and 20th October. If students have any queries about the tests they can contact our Exams Officer, Jo Potts via Teams.

Year 12 - FOR INFORMATION – Assessment Week

Year 12 students will be having assessments in their lessons next week. They will therefore not be set homework but will be expected to revise instead. 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 we do not expect students to dedicate more time to revision that they would ordinarily do for homework.

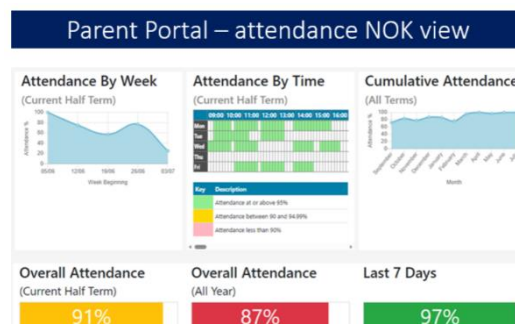
Year 12 - FOR INFORMATION – Parents Meetings

It was lovely to see Year 12 parents in school last week to meet with tutors. The first Year 12 Parent/Student/Teacher Meetings will be held on Monday 13th November between 4.45pm and 8.00pm and Friday 18th November between 2.30pm and 4.30pm. Parents and students will have the option of attending meetings in person or online.

We will keep you up-to-date of all future Parents Meetings in future updates and a full list of parents events for the year can be found on our website at the following link - [Exeter Maths School | Parents Page](https://www.exetermathematicsschool.ac.uk/parents) ([exetermathematicsschool.ac.uk](https://www.exetermathematicsschool.ac.uk))

Year 12 - FOR INFORMATION – Exeter College Parent Portal

For students studying a subject at Exeter College, the Exeter College Parent Portal is a one-stop platform to view information about your child’s progress, including access to progress reports. We will be sending letters to parents via students early next week, providing them with a unique registration code to access the Parent Portal. However, in the meantime please find attached a sample of the letter which also includes instructions on how to login to the portal.



Year 13 – FOR INFORMATION – Parents Meetings

The next Year 13 Parents/Student/Teacher Meetings will take place on Monday 4th December between 4.45pm and 8.00pm and an alternative session on Friday 9th December between 2.30pm and 4.30pm. Parents and students will have the option of attending meetings in person or online.

Parent and Guardian Evenings for Year 13 Exeter College students will take place remotely on Tuesday 7th November between 5.00pm and 8.00pm. Further information about how to book these online appointments will be provided directly from the College.

All – FOR INFORMATION – EMS Values – More Mistakes



With assessments around the corner, we thought it would be good to reiterate to students the importance of embracing mistakes as an essential tool for learning.

“...conditions that slow or induce more errors during instruction often lead to better long-term learning outcomes...”

Kerry has been sharing with students’ wisdom from Soderstrom and Bjork in their research paper “Learning Versus Performance: An Integrated Review” where they dig deep to understand the difference between ‘performance’ (what you are able to do whilst being taught/acquiring new knowledge) and ‘learning’ (what you store and are able to recall in your long-term memory). Therefore, if your child is struggling, making mistakes and thinking deeply remind them that they are more likely to be learning!

All – FOR INFORMATION – EMS Governing Body – New Members

We were pleased to welcome the following new members to our Governing Body this year:

John Dowell – College Sponsor Governor:

John is Executive Director of Finance at Exeter College and a fellow of the Association of Chartered Accountants. He has over 30 years’ experience working in senior finance positions in London and Devon and brings a wealth of finance knowledge and experience to the Board. Further information is available here - [Exeter Maths School | John Dowell \(exetermathematicsschool.ac.uk\)](https://www.exetermathematicsschool.ac.uk)

Gihan Marasingha – University Sponsor Governor:

Gihan has worked closely with EMS since its inception and has helped formulate the curriculum principles of the School and the Exeter Mathematics Certificate. Further information is available here - [Exeter Maths School | Gihan Marasingha \(exetermathematicsschool.ac.uk\)](https://www.exetermathematicsschool.ac.uk)

Gemma Noble – College Sponsor Governor:

Gemma is Executive Director of People and Organisational Development at Exeter College and has a passion for the power of education in shaping young people’s lives and empowering them to fulfil their ambitions. Further information is available here - [Exeter Maths School | Gemma Noble \(exetermathematicsschool.ac.uk\)](https://www.exetermathematicsschool.ac.uk)

Liene Penny – Parent Governor

Liene has worked as a translator for many years and enjoys communicating with people and organising events. Her son joined EMS in Year 12 this year. Further information is available here - [Exeter Maths School | Liene Penny \(exetermathematicsschool.ac.uk\)](https://www.exetermathematicsschool.ac.uk)

If you would like to contact any of our governors, observe a meeting or have any other questions then please email Jane Lucas, Clerk to Governors, at janelucas02@exeterms.ac.uk.

All – FOR INFORMATION – Sidmouth Science Festival

Ed will be attending the Sidmouth Science Festival tomorrow on behalf of EMS and he may even be creating giant bubbles as demonstrated by Joe last week when looking at the science of soap films and bubbles.

Please go to the following link to see what's on at the festival which is taking place between 6th and 15th October. [Sidmouth Science Festival | Sidmouth Science Festival](#)



ALL – EMS NEWS – Student Council Induction



We had a fantastic response from both year groups of students wanting to be involved in the Student Council this year. After a thorough election process, we are pleased to have 12 members of the Student Council with Year 13 students, Apolo as Chair, Tilly as Vice Chair and Florence as Secretary. The other 9 representatives have been linked to a form group so all students can be easily consulted regarding planned events and before meetings.

The new Student Council enjoyed a training and bonding afternoon on Tuesday 19th September which included a trip to the Escape Rooms in Guildhall where they could use their problem-solving skills to try and escape. All three teams managed to escape in the time allocated with one team getting out with a minute to spare!

The students then joined the Curriculum and Student Experience Committee (CSEC) governors meeting later that afternoon which gave them insight into the management and structure of effective meetings.

The Student Council have had their first meeting and some great ideas are already coming forward.

ALL – EMS NEWS – Visit to EMS from Education Leaders in Northern Ireland

We were pleased to welcome Education leaders from Northern Ireland on Tuesday 3rd October. The visit was organised by Exeter College to investigate working Maths schools and Maths Hubs with a view to developing Maths education in their region. John Laramy, Principle at Exeter College led the meeting and Professor Janice Kay from University of Exeter shared learning from the emerging network of Maths schools.

Thank you to Sethini and Katie in Year 13 who provided fantastic student tours of the school and the visitors all remarked that they were superb ambassadors for EMS. They left us feeling inspired, grateful and ready to take action!

