

Welcome to the latest update from Exeter Maths School. Students have worked very hard this half term and are no doubt tired and in need of a break. Thank you to all those students who helped on our double Taster Day on Saturday 7th October which saw a high number of perspective students attend; our student volunteers did a fantastic job showing large groups around the school. If you know of anyone interested in applying to EMS in 2024 the admissions process is now open – further information is available on our website - [Exeter Maths School | September 2024 Entry \(exetermathematicsschool.ac.uk\)](http://Exeter Maths School | September 2024 Entry (exetermathematicsschool.ac.uk)).



We hope you all have a wonderful half term, and we are looking forward to seeing students back in school on Monday 30th October at 10.45am.

Don't forget to put your clocks back on Sunday 29th October!

All – FOR ACTION – Hold the Date - EMC Christmas Lectures – Monday 11th December

We are pleased to confirm that the EMC Christmas Lectures will take place on Monday 11th December at the Northcott Theatre from 12.30pm. This is a key event in the EMS calendar where Year 12 students present their EMC group projects to the whole school, governors, university academics and all parents are invited. Students will be responsible for booking their parents/family seats and a booking form will be made available for students to complete after half term.

All – FOR INFORMATION – Staff Development Day – Friday 24th November

The school will be closed on Friday 24th November for a Staff Development Day. Lessons will end on Thursday 23rd November at 2pm and Boarding will be closed on the Thursday night. Exeter College lessons will go ahead as normal.

All – FOR INFORMATION – Attendance

EMS attendance is typically over 95% which dipped slightly following the pandemic. Now we are back to normal school, we would encourage students to keep their attendance up unless they are too ill to come in. The government have provided guidance to parents about when students should and shouldn't be in school and a link to this guidance is as follows - [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://Is my child too ill for school? - NHS (www.nhs.uk)).

Year 13 – FOR INFORMATION – Year 13 Assessments

Year 13 students will be having assessments during week commencing 6th November and will be off timetable all week. Please see below the assessment timetable which has also been sent to students via Teams.

Exeter College lessons will continue as normal and if students have a college lesson that clashes with an assessment, they should attend the lesson and catch up with the assessment at another time.

Day/Date	Monday	Monday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Thursday	Friday	Friday
Date	06/11/23	06/11/23	07/11/23	07/11/23	08/11/23	08/11/23	09/11/23	09/11/23	10/11/23	10/11/23
Start Time	10:45	13:00	09:00	13:30	09:00	13:30	09:00	13:00	09:00	12:30
Subject	FM	CS	Physics	Maths	CS	Maths	Physics	STEP	Maths	FM
Paper	FM Core	Paper 1	Paper 1	Pure & Mech	Paper 2	Pure & Stats	Paper 2		Pure & Comp	EP/NM
Duration	1 hr 10	2 hr 30	2 hrs 30	2 hours	2 hr 30	2 hours	2 hrs 30		2 hours	1 hr 15
Rooms	FWBN	FWT	FWBN	FWBN	FWBN	FWBN	FWBN	tbc	FWBN	FWBN

Year 13 – FOR INFORMATION – UCAS Early Applications and University Admission Tests

We have had 28 of our current Year 13 students apply to UCAS by the early application deadline and many of them are sitting University Admissions tests this week.

If your child took a University Admissions test on Thursday 19th October for Oxford University, they may have been impacted by some national server overload issues. Oxford University have worked hard to rectify these issues and have provided paper copies of the tests taking place today. However, we want to reassure you and the students involved that all EMS students completed the tests, were given the fulltime length and their answer booklets were successfully uploaded to the portal. This disruption in many other centres was more significant than at EMS and were therefore expect a response form the universities about how they will account for this. The school will actively monitor the situation and make appropriate representations to universities.

Interviews for Oxford and Cambridge normally take place in the last two weeks of term before Christmas and students who are invited to interview will have a mock interview with an academic from the University of Exeter or a member of EMS staff.

Year 13 – FOR INFORMATION – Curriculum X

Year 13 are coming to the end of this block of Curriculum X courses, and over half the year group have been investigating at least one of Computer-Aided Maths, Electronics, Continued Fractions and Signalling. They've persisted with really tough concepts and learnt some new skills (and, in some cases, have built impressive ultrasound detectors!). The next set of courses will start after the Year 13 assessments and even more students have expressed an initial interest in one of these - keep up the enthusiasm!

Year 12 - FOR INFORMATION – Parents Meetings

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.

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 – Endeavour



Learning something new or working out how to do something better can be incredibly fulfilling and rewarding. There's always something to strive for and often effort is its own reward. We embrace challenge, aspire to achieve and seek out opportunities to learn.

With Year 12 assessments just taken place and Year 13 assessments around the corner, students should try and focus on the feedback they get from theses rather than the results they receive – it's what they do with the information that really counts.

Our top tips are to pay attention to the errors and ask, did I make a slip that was simply a human error, or did I misinterpret the question or is this a topic that I don't fully understand or lack fluency in? Depending on the answer, they can then review the topic, seek help in a drop-in session or just make a mental note to double check a question before answering.

ALL – EMS NEWS – Maths Competitions

We've had two Maths competitions so far this term. Nine students took part in the Mathematical Olympiad for Girls on the 27th September and we are currently awaiting results. On the 3rd of October, all students who were in school took the Senior Maths Challenge. The results came in this week, and we are delighted that so many of our students did so well with Stanley scoring full marks which is an astonishing and rare achievement! Congratulations to everyone who took part – the questions are designed to be both interesting and challenging and we know how much our students look forward to tackling them.

Example question below from Senior Maths Challenge in case any of you want to have a go over half term!

The number $M = 124563987$ is the smallest number which uses all the non-zero digits once each and which has the property that none of the pairs of its consecutive digits makes a prime number. For example, the 5th and 6th digits of M make the number 63 which is not prime. N is the largest number which uses all the non-zero digits once each and which has the property that none of the pairs of its consecutive digits makes a prime number.

What are the 5th and 6th digits of N ?

All – FOR INFORMATION – Kissing it Better – Reading with the Elderly

The Student Council and Kerry have discussed starting an enrichment activity where students visit local care homes on a voluntary basis to speak and read with residents. This could give students the opportunity to enhance their literacy and communication skills and have a positive impact on the lives of the older people they meet – together with providing a boost to their CV!

Kissing it Better are a charity that work with schools and local care homes and offer an Enrichment and Volunteering Programme where students undertake 6 one hour online lessons a week before volunteering once a week at a local care home.

The Student Council will be asking students to complete an online form very soon to express interest in taking part in the programme.

All – FOR INFORMATION – Update from Boarding

Our boarding students are continuing to gain confidence and develop their independence skills. Our Year 12 students have successfully completed their first assessments at EMS and managed to balance this whilst still socialising and completing activities in the evenings. We have had some brilliant meals this half term including Vegetarian Babotie, Chicken Roast Dinner and Vegan Paella. Year 13s continue to welcome and involve Year 12s and it has been lovely to see them forming friendships.

We look forward to seeing our boarding students develop a balance between schoolwork and socialising, so accommodation continues to be a calm and respectful place to live for all.



All – FOR INFORMATION – Message from the Pastoral Team

We hope you all have a lovely half term break, however if for any reason you require support in the holidays here are some links that may be useful:

- Childline - 0800 1111 - Web: <https://www.childline.org.uk>
- Samaritans (24 hour helpline) - 116 123 - Web: <https://www.samaritans.org>
- Papyrus (Suicide Prevention Charity) - Tel: 0800 068 41 41 - <https://www.papyrus-uk.org>
- Kooth (Online Counselling & Support) - <https://www.kooth.com>
- Devon Rape Crisis & Sexual Assault Service - Tel: 01392 204174
- MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) - Tel: 03451551071
- Shelter - Tel: 0808 1644660 - <http://www.shelter.org.uk>
- Nightstop (Emergency accommodation) - Tel: 01392 284281
- YES Centre (Youth Enquiry Service) - Tel: 01392 331666
- Y-Smart (Drug & Alcohol Support) - Tel: 01271 388162 - <http://ysmart.org.uk>
- SPLITZ (Domestic Violence) - Tel: 0345 155 1074 - <https://www.splitz.org/devon.html>
- Foodbank - Tel: 07818 226524 - email: info@exeterfoodbank.org.uk
- NHS Non-Emergency Health Advice - Tel: 111
- CEOP (Child Exploitation & Online Protection Centre) - <https://www.ceop.police.uk>

Below are some tips from a UCL student on how to approach a holiday:

- Plan your time and keep balance between productivity and relaxation.
- Make the most of your free time - catch up with those things you've been meaning to do for months or to engage in a hobby you don't normally have time for.
- Spend time with friends and family.
- Eat, sleep, relax.
- Take a breather - don't aim for perfection in the holidays. It's okay to take a breather and to not get everything done.