

Welcome to the final update of 2023. It was wonderful to see parents and carers of Year 13 students in school last week for the parents' meetings and parents of year 12 students on Monday at the university. The Year 12 EMC presentations at Northcott Theatre on Monday were fantastic and I hope students find their feedback sessions today informative.

It was lovely to hear the students in school yesterday enjoying some lively board games and the trips to Haldon Forest and the walk around the Exeter Green Circle were also a success.

**I wish you all a wonderful Christmas and New Year and look forward to seeing students back in school
Lesson 2 on Wednesday 3rd January (10.45am)**



All – FOR ACTION – Parent Survey 2023/24

We would really appreciate it if parents could spare a few minutes of their time to complete this year's Parent Survey. The survey forms an important part of how we assess our provision and future planning so please be assured this is not just a tick boxing exercise. We would also value any comments you can provide which will add context to your responses. Staff are also currently completing a staff survey and students will be surveyed in the new year.

You can access the survey at the following link, and we ask if you can complete this by **Tuesday 16th January**.
<https://forms.office.com/e/pu6BRS8fV3>

All – FOR INFORMATION – Start of Term Arrangements

The term begins for students on Wednesday 3rd January and lessons will start at 10.45am. Staff will be back to work on Tuesday for a training day.

Exeter College lessons begin on Tuesday 2nd January and students are expected to attend Exeter College lessons on this day. We appreciate, however, that as accommodation is not open until Wednesday 3rd January, boarding students will be unable to attend their College lessons on this day. We have let Exeter College know who these students are, and they have asked if students can contact their College teachers to see if there is work they need to catch up.

All – FOR INFORMATION – Spring Term Travel Passes

It has come to our attention that the travel passes issued by Devon County Council have a start date of the 3rd January. This does mean that for the non-boarding students doing a subject at Exeter College, travel isn't covered for getting to Exeter College lessons on the 2nd January. Devon County Council are aware of this mistake and are working with the travel companies to try and get a one-day pass sent to the students affected. Attached with this update is a letter from the school that students can print and show with their travel pass if the one-day pass does not arrive before 2nd January, however, we would also recommend students take change just in case and get a receipt if they need to claim back from the school.

All – FOR INFORMATION – PROMYS Europe

PROMYS Europe run a summer programme at the University of Oxford for ambitious Mathematics students to explore the creative world of Mathematics, tackling mathematical questions with other students, undergraduate counsellors, research mentors, faculty and visiting mathematicians.

The programme runs from 7th July to 17th August. For further information please go to the following link - [PROMYS Europe – Program in Mathematics for Young Scientists \(promys-europe.org\)](https://promys-europe.org). A leaflet has also been shared with students on Teams.

All – FOR INFORMATION – Poetry by Heart

The third EMS Poetry by Heart Competition will be taking place on Thursday 1st February. All EMS students are invited to enter one of two categories. The **Classic** competition requires students to learn and recite 2 poems from the Poetry by Heart website - one written before 1914 and one written in or after 1914. The **Freestyle** competition allows students to learn any poem and perform it in any way, on their own or as a group, in costume, with music or in any way they please. The winner of the Classic competition will be encouraged to video their poems to enter the national competition.

Please go to the Poetry by Heart website for further information - [Poetry By Heart](https://www.poetrybyheart.co.uk).

All – FOR INFORMATION – EMS Values – Joy!



We take delight in what we do and the people we do it with. We laugh, we chat, we work, we play – all of which bring pleasure and joy. The journey is as important as the destination and we intend to have fun along the way.

The Christmas break is the perfect time to relax and spend time with family and friends and doing all the things that bring you pleasure and joy. We hope you all have a relaxing holiday filled with togetherness and shared joy, recharging the batteries for the year ahead.

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>

All – FOR INFORMATION – Update from Boarding

Boarding students have continued to develop their independent living skills and build friendships this half term. Both Magda and Zoe were very impressed with the Year 12's practicing their EMC presentations, and they all did amazingly well on the day. We had our annual Christmas buffet on Wednesday evening, it was a lovely evening with Christmas music, lots of food and our very own Christmas Elf!

Boarding will be open again at 9.00am on Wednesday 3rd January 2024 and we hope you all have a lovely break and Merry Christmas.

Devon, Magda, Jade, Zoe, Nikki and Grace.

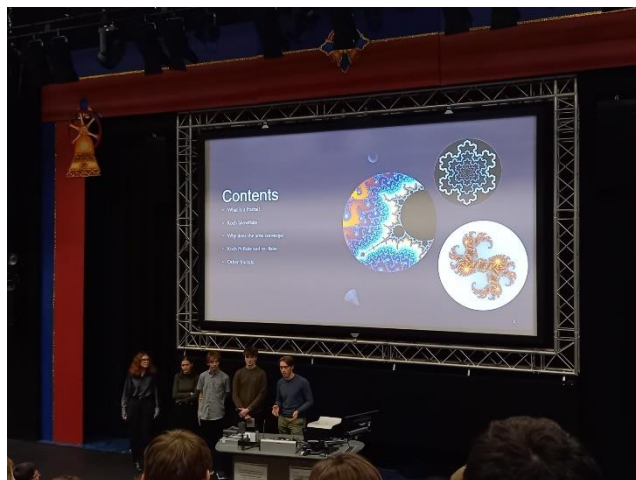


Year 13 – EMS NEWS – EMS Christmas Lectures

Our annual EMC Christmas lectures took place on Monday at the Northcott Theatre with Year 12 students presenting their group EMC projects to a packed audience of parents, Year 13 students, school staff, Outreach school students and university academics. They did a superb job presenting their work in a professional and engaging way. It is a daunting prospect standing up in front of a few hundred people and it was inspiring to see them explain complex mathematics and phenomena so clearly and with such composure.

Fantastic talks where the students covered a smorgasbord of mathematical delights including Proofs and Induction, Rainbows, Snowball Earth, Seashells and Special Relativity.

Well done Year 12 – amazing achievement!



ALL – EMS NEWS – Exeter College Festival of Carols

Exeter College's Festival of Carols took place on Thursday 7th December at Exeter Cathedral. It was a fantastic event, celebrating the start of the festive season and it was great to see EMS students Anthea (Choir), Max (Violin) and Jacob (Sax) contributing brilliantly to the performance.



Year 13 – EMS NEWS – Student Social

The student socials yesterday were a fantastic success and a great end to the term, allowing students to let their hair down and spend time with friends before the Christmas break. The weather held for the trip to Haldon Forest and the mammoth walk around the Exeter Green Circle. Board games and crafts were also enjoyed by those students who stayed in school with lots of hilarity coming from the classrooms!

