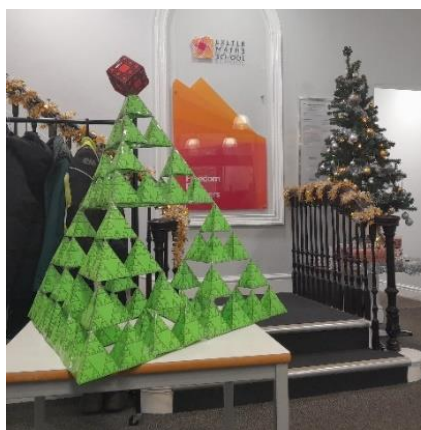


Welcome to the final update of 2024. It was wonderful to see so many of you at the University on Tuesday for the Year 12 EMC presentations which were fantastic. I thought the students’ team-spirit and clarity of communication were outstanding.

It was lovely to hear the students in school yesterday enjoying a range of activities including some lively board games, Christmas card making, carol singing, a Dungeons & Dragons competition and the weather stayed dry (albeit cold) for an Exeter City Wall walk. We were joined yesterday afternoon by our 2024 leavers who came into school to collect their A level certificates and catch up with fellow alumni and staff over a slice of pizza. It was great to have them back in school and hear their news since leaving EMS.

**I wish you all a wonderful Christmas and New Year and look forward to seeing students back in school Lesson 1 on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January (9.00am)**



**Dates for your Diary:**

Date	Year	Time	Event	Description
25/02/2025	All	1800 – 2030	EMS Festival of Culture	A first for the EMS calendar – more information to follow in future updates.
04/03/2025	All	TBC – throughout the day	Year 13 EMC Conference	Another highlight of the year. Presentations and posters showcasing the final EMC projects.
10/03/2025	Year 12	1500 – 2000 (break at 1730)	Parent, student, teacher meetings	A series of meetings to review progress and targets.
01/05/2025	Year 12	1700 - 1800	UCAS Parent Information Event – online	An explanation of the university admissions process. An online event.
TBC	Year 13	TBC	EMC and Curriculum X Celebration	A get together to celebrate the achievements of Year 13 and to award certificates.
08/07/2025 and 09/07/2025	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 \(exetermathematicsschool.ac.uk\)](https://www.exetermathematicsschool.ac.uk/parents).

## All – FOR ACTION – Parent Survey

We would really appreciate it if parents could spare a few minutes of their time to complete this year's Parent Survey which includes a couple of questions on small changes to our opening hours which we would appreciate your feedback on. 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.

You can access the survey at the following link - and we ask if you can complete this by the end of the day on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January** - <https://forms.office.com/e/MuqKvJv1kx>.

## All – FOR ACTION – Festival of Culture – Save the Date!

On the evening of Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February, we are having an inaugural EMS Festival of Culture based at Exeter College, Hele Road building, and you are all invited to come along. We are also delighted that the College's Reach Academy will also be taking part.

Further information will be available in the New Year but in the meantime, students have been asked to sign up if they are interested in taking part and showcasing something cultural through performance, a workshop or sharing information on a stand. <https://forms.office.com/e/eB32CEa1GP>

## Year 13 – FOR INFORMATION – Dyson Engineering Degree

The Dyson Institute of Engineering and Technology offer the opportunity for students to study Engineering at their institute through a combination of academic and work-based programmes. Students learn engineering fundamentals from leading academics and then put them into practice helping to develop future Dyson products. Further information is available on their website - [The Programme - Dyson Institute](#).

Applications for their employer-sponsored MEng (Hons) Engineering programme opens 6<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> January but students can register their interest now at the following link - [Register your interest - MEng Programme - Dyson Institute](#).

## Year 13 – FOR INFORMATION – Computer Science Non-Exam-Based Assessment

We recognise the challenge in balancing the need to rest and the ambition to continue with work, with the aim to achieve the best possible outcomes. With the aim to assist students in finding this balance, Will has made sure that each student has a written comment relating to their project. These comments are limited by the strict regulations for Non-Exam-Based Assessments. As such, we are unable to state specific changes or additions to the work for which marks can be awarded. We can highlight areas of the markscheme which the student should focus on and ask questions about the way a student is approaching their project. The latter has been achieved in lessons and weekly drop-in sessions, to which some students have been invited throughout the year. Please note that, as any other form of assessment, the NEA needs to be authenticated as the students own and any additional assistance will have to be declared and may mean a reduction in marks awarded. Forms of additional assistance include, but are not restricted to websites, individuals with expertise and generative AI.

Last but by no means least, the Computer Science department wishes you all a joyous holiday.

## Year 13 – FOR INFORMATION – Curriculum X

Year 13 students have now come to the end of this block of Curriculum X courses and have signed up for the next set starting in January. They have had a choice of four exciting courses:

- Statistics – a new course co-run with Emeritus Professor Trevor Bailey, sharing his experience in industry.
- Design, projects and products – a new Engineering-themed course developed with input from several alumni (thank you!).
- Mechanics Major highlights – getting to explore (some of) the exciting bits of one of the options modules we don't currently teach.
- Sums and integrals – co-run with alumnus Yuki, this is a dive into all things integration-y from surface areas to centres of mass, and means, medians and modes.

## All – FOR INFORMATION – Start of Term Arrangements

All students are due back in school on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January for lesson 1 (9.00am) and boarding will be open from 4pm on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January.

Exeter College lessons begin on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January and students are expected to attend Exeter College lessons from the Monday. We appreciate, however, that because boarding is not open until Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January, boarding students may be unable to attend their College lessons on the Monday and Tuesday (lesson 1). We have let Exeter College know who these students are, but please can these students also log their absence on the College systems in the usual way.

## All – FOR INFORMATION – Poetry by Heart Competition

There will be a Poetry by Heart competition on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at EMS and all students are welcome to take part. Anne Oxborough and David Jolly will be our judges, and every contestant gets helpful feedback. Further information to follow in the New Year.

## All – FOR INFORMATION – EMS Recruitment - Lead Teacher of Mathematics

We are currently advertising for a full time Lead Teacher of Mathematics to start in September 2025 due to the current post holder retiring in the summer. The role requires someone who is inspirational, highly qualified, innovative and reflective and must be committed to developing pedagogy and collaborative working. As well as leading the Maths team, the Lead Teacher of Mathematics will also have a significant role in developing the vision for Maths outreach and implementing its delivery across the School's catchment area.

Further information including an application form is available on our website at the following link - [Exeter Maths School | Work With Us](#). Please forward to anyone you know who may be interested in applying.

## Exeter College – Parent Meetings and Progress Reports

If your child does a subject at Exeter College, please note the following dates for their parent meetings:

Date	Year	Time	Event
26/03/2025	12	17:00 – 20:00	Year 12 parents evening (remote).
03/04/2025	12	17:00 – 20:00	Year 12 parents evening (remote).

Exeter College progress reports will be available to parents today, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December, and can be accessed via their parent portal.

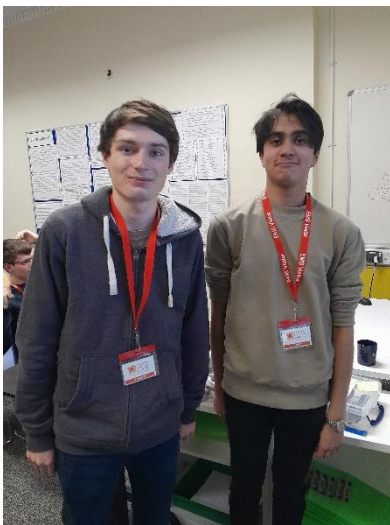
## ALL – EMS NEWS – Alumni Update



Ukrainian ex-student, Maksym came into school on Monday to support students with preparation for the BMO. Maksym achieved a very high level in both BMO1 and BMO2, so we appreciate the time he took to work with the students who really benefited from his experience.

Maksym left EMS in Summer 2024 and is now studying Maths at the University of Cambridge.

It was also lovely to see our 2024 alumni coming in to collect their A level certificates yesterday and catch up with each other and EMS staff and enjoy a slice of pizza!



## ALL - EMS NEWS – Student Volunteering Update

Manu and Milly in Year 13 had their last visit to Woodhayes Care Home in St Leonards last week. Both students put a huge effort into selecting and reading a variety of poetry genres and Manu even wrote and read out his own poem for residents at his last visit. Although this has sometimes been a challenging experience, there is no doubt they made a positive difference to those they read with. Thank you Manu and Milly – you're an inspiration!

Four Year 12 students are busy working through the Kissing it Better training so they can start reading with the elderly in the Spring Term.



## ALL – EMS NEWS – Student Social



This Thursday, our students embraced the festive spirit at the Christmas Student Social! They had the opportunity to choose from a variety of activities, including Christmas card making, a Dungeons & Dragons competition, board games, carol singing and music making, or joining the Exeter History Walk.

The event was filled with excitement and energy, as students engaged in their chosen activities and each other. It was lovely to see everyone so deeply involved and enjoying themselves. The Exeter Wall History walk included a visit to Cricklepit Mill and they managed to arrive in time to hear Matthew the Miller Clock chime the hour! A special thank you goes to Lyall, Ned, Josh, Zac, and Sam, who went above and beyond as our Dungeon Masters for the DnD competition - their hard work and creativity was much appreciated!



## ALL – EMS NEWS – Message from the Boarding Team

We have ended this term with our traditional Christmas buffet, with Christmas music, decorations and lots of food! This year this included 3 Polish Christmas dishes and a French dessert which students enjoyed. We hope the students have a well earned break over the holidays, and we will see them in the New Year.



## ALL – EMS NEWS – Maths Competitions

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of November, the follow-on competitions to the Senior Maths Challenge - the Senior Kangaroo (SK) and the British Maths Olympiad Round 1 (BMO1) - took place with 36 students sitting the SK and 13 sitting the BMO1 – record breaking numbers!

Results for both competitions are in. In the SK, 13 students were awarded merits and well done to Olie who achieved the top score! The BMO1 results included a stunning 4 distinctions and 5 merits with Evan (top scorer) and Toby both qualifying for the next round (BMO2).

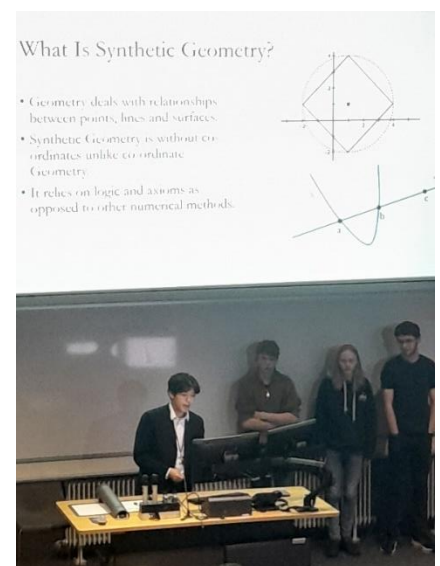
Congratulations to everyone who took part in these challenging but very enjoyable competitions.

## ALL – EMS NEWS – EMC Christmas Lectures

It was great to see so many of you at the University on Tuesday to watch the Year 12 present their EMC group projects. They all did an amazing 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 we learnt the mathematics of Spirographs, 'Summin' different, how to lose a planetary atmosphere and much much more!

Great job Year 12!



## ALL – EMS NEWS – Shelter Donation

Well done to Harry and the Year 13 students who organised a collection for the housing and homelessness charity, Shelter, at the EMC lectures on Tuesday. They managed to raise a fantastic **£302** which will really help towards the charity's work on supporting some of the most vulnerable in society this Christmas. Thank you to everyone who donated. If you would still like to donate to the charity then please pay any amount to the school account as follows:



1. Exeter Maths School
2. Account No: 00604421
3. Sort Code: 30-93-14
4. Use Ref: EMCShelter

## ALL – EMS NEWS – Message from the Pastoral Team

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

**Childline** – 0800 1111 – [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

**Samaritans** (24 hour helpline) – 116 123 – [www.samaritans.org](http://www.samaritans.org)

**Papyrus** (Suicide Prevention Charity) – 0800 068 41 41 – [www.papyrus-uk.org](http://www.papyrus-uk.org)

**Kooth** (Online Counselling & Support) – [www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)

**Devon Rape Crisis & Sexual Assault Service** – 01392 204174

**MASH** (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub for under 18yrs old) – 03451551071

Adult Social Care (over 18yrs old) 0345 1551007

**Shelter** – 0808 8004444 – [www.shelter.org.uk](http://www.shelter.org.uk)

**Nightstop South Devon** (Emergency accommodation) – 01803551578 [www.depaul.org.uk/nightstop/nightstop-south-devon/](http://www.depaul.org.uk/nightstop/nightstop-south-devon/)

**YES Centre** Youth Enquiry Service – 01392 331666

**Y-Smart** (Drug & Alcohol Support) – 01271 388162 – [www.ysmart.org.uk](http://www.ysmart.org.uk)

**FearFree** (Domestic Violence) – 0345 155 1074 – [www.fearfree.org.uk/](http://www.fearfree.org.uk/)

**Foodbank** – 07818 226524 – [info@exeterfoodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@exeterfoodbank.org.uk)

**NHS** (Non-Emergency Health Advice) – 111 Service

**CEOP** (Child Exploitation & Online Protection Centre) – [www.ceop.police.uk](http://www.ceop.police.uk)

## ALL – A Xmas Message and Joke!

And finally, an EMS Xmas message and joke for you all to get your teeth into!



Rearrange the following to receive a festive message:

$$y = \frac{\ln\left(\frac{x}{m} - as^2\right)}{r^2}$$



What did the mathematician say after eating Christmas dinner?