



Happy new year from all the staff at EMS and welcome to the first Parent Update of 2025! We hope that everyone had a lovely Christmas break and that students have settled back into school life and are coping with the cold and misty mornings.

There are a few events coming up this term including the EMS Festival of Culture on the 25<sup>th</sup> February, the EMC Conference on the 4<sup>th</sup> March and Year 12 parent, student and teacher meetings on 10<sup>th</sup> March. Please see a list of events for the remainder of the year below in the Dates for your Diary and we will use the updates to provide further information as events come up.

### 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.
24/06/2025	Year 13	1600 - 1800	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).

### 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).

## 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 at 18:00 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 be taking part. Students have begun signing up to perform, run workshops and man display stands and a meeting between EMS and Exeter College students has already taken place with some interesting plans afoot! Further information will be available very soon.

## Year 13 – FOR ACTION – EMC and Curriculum X Celebration – Save the Date!

On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2025, between 16:00 and 18:00, Year 13 students and their families will be invited to a graduation style ceremony to celebrate their EMC projects and Curriculum X courses. This will take place at the University of Exeter, Streatham Campus and further details will be provided closer to the time, but in the meantime please save the date!

## Year 12 - FOR ACTION – Observatory for Mathematical Education Survey

EMS are taking part in a two-year research project, led by the University of Nottingham, focusing on A level Mathematics education across England. We would really appreciate it if all parents and carers of Year 12 students could read the attached letter and the information sheet at the following link which provides further details on the data we would like to collect - [parent-information-sheet-students-y12-college.pdf \(nottingham.ac.uk\)](https://parent-information-sheet-students-y12-college.pdf(nottingham.ac.uk)).

The survey shouldn't take more than 5 minutes to complete and can be accessed from the letter or here - [OME Parent and Guardian Survey - Colleges Year 12 \(2024-25\) \(qualtrics.com\)](https://omeparentandguardiansurvey-collegesyear12-2024-25.qualtrics.com).

## All – FOR INFORMATON – Parent Survey

Thank you very much to all parents who have completed the Parent Survey. We have had a total of 68 responses, and we really appreciate the time you've taken to provide feedback. A summary of your responses is attached with this update. We will review your feedback regarding a change to opening hours alongside feedback from staff and students and update you on that matter in a future update.

We would encourage parents to reach out to us at anytime with concerns or questions. We are always here to listen and will do our best to address any issues you may have. To raise a concern please contact your child's tutor or go to the contacts page of our website at the following link - [Exeter Maths School | Contact Us \(extermathematicsschool.ac.uk\)](https://extermathematicsschool.ac.uk). Kerry is also always happy to speak to parents about any specific concerns for which a tutor does not feel appropriate to raise it them with.

## All – FOR INFORMATON – D&V School Guidelines

Although we haven't had many cases of diarrhoea and vomiting (D&V) in school we thought it would be useful to remind students of the school guidelines if they do become ill.

- Students and staff that have experienced D&V due to a viral infection should remain off school for at least 48 Hours after the last episode of either. This is to avoid spreading possible infection to other people.
- D&V resulting from food poisoning, travel sickness, over indulgence etc: students and staff may come back in to school when they feel well enough.

## All – FOR INFORMATION – SEND Reviews

Grace will be completing Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) reviews with the Year 12's next week. If any parents/carers feel that their child needs additional support with their learning due to an additional need please get in touch with Grace (Year 12) at [gracestrachan@exeterms.ac.uk](mailto:gracestrachan@exeterms.ac.uk) or Yasmin (Year 13) at [yasmintrevelyan@exeterms.ac.uk](mailto:yasmintrevelyan@exeterms.ac.uk).

## Year 13 – FOR INFORMATION – New STEP Dates and Exam Contingency Days

STEP exam dates have now been confirmed with STEP 2 taking place on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June and STEP 3 on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June – both start at 09:00. If students need STEP, a form will be available soon for them to complete regarding STEP entries.

Changes to the confirmed Summer Exam Timetable can be seen on the school website – <https://exetermathematicsschool.ac.uk/parents-page/#1641479618248-3087cdb4-c873>

### Exam Contingency Days:

It is important that students are available to come into school on the Summer Season Contingency Days if requested. These dates are:

- 11<sup>th</sup> June (Afternoon)
- 25<sup>th</sup> June (All Day)

A level Results day is on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2025

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

A reminder that 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. In addition to leading the Maths team, the Lead Teacher of Mathematics will also play a key 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.

## ALL - EMS NEWS – British Physics Olympiad

We are thrilled to announce the results of the British Physics Olympiad, where every EMS student who participated earned a medal. Given the incredibly challenging nature of this competition, this is a remarkable accomplishment. Students involved secured six Silver Medals, two Gold Medals and one Top Gold Medal which is achieved by only the top 4.3% of participants nationwide! A massive congratulations to all students involved, who have been given their results individually.

## ALL - EMS NEWS – Chess Success



Congratulations to the EMS chess team for securing a place in the second round of the National Schools Chess Championships, yesterday.

It was also great to welcome the talented students from Colyton Grammar School to EMS who gave us a run for our money!

## ALL - EMS NEWS – Student Mentors and Volunteers - Axiom Maths Circles

A number of EMS Year 12 students have recently been employed as mentors for the new phase of our Axiom Maths Circles programme for Year 7 and 8 students.

Axiom Maths is a charity that partners with schools to identify children with the head and heart for Maths, working with them on a five year journey, from the first term of secondary school to the end of GCSEs. EMS is a key delivery partner for Axiom, working with several hundred students across our region. Axiom programmes aim to inspire and challenge young minds, with problems that excite them. The students work in groups that nurture mathematical talent, where pupils feel at home and valued. Mentors lead these groups and are responsible for delivering the content.

EMS held a large launch event at Exeter Racecourse on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January, welcoming almost 200 students to the programme. Many of the new EMS student mentors attended as new staff members and they did a brilliant job. We had other students who helped on a voluntary capacity and some Year 13s who came back to the role to help plug some gaps. A huge thank you to everyone involved!

## ALL - EMS NEWS – Boarding Update

It has been lovely to see everyone back and settled into boarding again. All has been fairly quiet, and some students have enjoyed baking and decorating extra things such as chocolate cakes, brownies and crunchy mini potato wedges. We have also enjoyed some lovely meals across the three kitchens – Thai Green curry, Vegan Chickpea Tagine and a Chinese dish - Mapo Tofu.

