

Welcome to the latest update from Exeter Maths School. I was really impressed with the Year 13 EMC presentations at the EMC Conference on the 4<sup>th</sup> March and it was clear students had put in a tremendous amount of effort. It was also wonderful to see so many parents in attendance and we look forward to celebrating their achievements in their EMC and Curriculum X projects at the Celebration on the 24<sup>th</sup> June at the University.

It was also great to see the parents and carers of Year 12 students in person and online at the parents' meetings on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March and I hope you found the discussions helpful and informative.

We break up for the Easter holidays on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April. Details regarding the arrangements for returning after the holidays will be included in the next update, which will be sent on the last day of term.

### Dates for your Diary:

Date	Year	Time	Event	Description
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 INFORMATION – New Main School Opening Times

After the Easter holidays there will be a minor change to the Main School building opening times for students. Students will be required to leave the building by 17:15 on Mondays (currently 17:30) and by 16:15 on Fridays (currently 16:30). The times for all other days will remain as before – 08:00 to 17:30.

### Year 12 - FOR INFORMATION – UK University and Apprenticeship Fair

The next UK University and Apprenticeship Search Fair is taking place at the University of Exeter on **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**, and we will be taking all Year 12 students along to the event for part of the day. The fair will feature a wide range of university, apprenticeship and career representatives for students to speak to and scheduled seminars which we believe will be beneficial for students to attend.

Students will attend the first 30 minutes of lesson one, walking over to the University at 09:30 and returning to school at around 12:30. Afternoon lessons will run as normal.

Further information on the UK University and Apprenticeship Search event can be found at the following link – [66bf1f5aabc97546103980.pdf](https://www.exetermathematicsschool.ac.uk/66bf1f5aabc97546103980.pdf).

## Year 13 – FOR INFORMATION – Year 13 Mock Exams

Year 13 mock exams will start next week and will continue until the last day of term on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April. Please see the timetable below for your information. Year 13 will be off timetable for the duration of the mock exams.

Exam Briefing: in tutorial (18/03 in Fermat/Wiles)			
Year 13 Mock TT 2025		AM 0900 start	PM 1315 start
Monday	24/03/2025		Pure & Stats (2hrs)
Tuesday	25/03/2025	Physics 1 (2hr15)	Pure & Mech (2hrs)
Wednesday	26/03/2025	Pure & Comp (2hrs)	catch-up
Thursday	27/03/2025	Physics 2 (2hr)	STEP 2 (3 hours) / Catch-up
Friday	28/03/2025	NM/EP (1hr 15)	
Monday	31/03/2025		CS Paper 1 (2hr30) @uni
Tuesday	01/04/2025	Mech Minor (1hr 15)	Physics 3 (2hr15)
Wednesday	02/04/2025	CS Paper 2 (2hr30)	STEP 3 (3 hrs)/Catch-up
Thursday	03/04/2025	Stats Minor (1hr 15)	catch-up
Friday	04/04/2025	FM Core (2hr 40)	
Easter			

## Year 13 – FOR INFORMATION – Axiom Maths Circles – Mentor Information Sessions

Axiom Maths Circles are a significant part of our student Outreach programme. Maths Circles are delivered online in small groups by (paid) mentors with the aim of supporting able Maths students to develop their mathematical thinking and reasoning skills as well as problem-solving. The objective of the programme is to encourage more students into Maths at university and beyond.

We rely heavily on our current and alumni students to take on the role of mentor. We are holding an information session on **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March at 13:15 in Kovaleskya** for any Year 13s who would like to find out more about the role and encourage them to apply once they leave EMS and become alumni.

## ALL – FOR INFORMATION – Curriculum X

Year 13 have recently completed their final Curriculum X courses; we hope that these have met our aim of helping students to prepare for the change to university-style study (or to help them feel equipped for whatever their chosen next steps may be). We are looking forward to celebrating the effort they have put into Curriculum X learning, as well as their EMC projects, at the end of June.

We will shortly be launching Curriculum X for Year 12: they will have an introduction to the programme in an assembly on Tuesday 25th March, and they will then be able to sign up for one of the first three courses which will happen in the summer term: Limits, Ethics in Tech or Astronomy. An overview of the programme is available on our website here: <https://extermathematicsschool.ac.uk/curriculum-x/>

## ALL - EMS NEWS – Student Volunteers – Cake Sale

Thank you to all the student volunteers who were involved in organising and running the cake sale at the EMC Conference on the 4<sup>th</sup> March. They managed to raise a fantastic **£195.34** for the homeless charity Shelter. Thank you to everyone who donated money and/or cakes on the day - your contribution is really appreciated.

## ALL - EMS NEWS – Chess Team Update

Our Chess Team had a great match against Devonport in the Regional Finals of the National Schools Championships on Tuesday. The team triumphed with 4 wins and 2 draws, securing them a place in the National Final which will take place in Nottingham at the end of June. Congratulations to Harvey, Jenn, Evan, Ben, Jack, Toby and Alex!

## ALL - EMS NEWS – World Book Day

To celebrate World Book Day on 6<sup>th</sup> March, students and staff were asked to recommend a book by filling in a sheet with the headings: “Title”, “Author”, “What is it about?” and “Why is it worth reading?” 73 sheets were completed which are now up on our Literacy Board for staff and students to view and get ideas for their next read.



Lots of fantasy and science fiction books were mentioned but also books by Samuel Becket, Enriquez, Dostoevsky and Robert Louis Stevenson. George Orwell's “1984” was recommended three times (I wonder, was it was a GCSE text?) and Douglas Adams's “The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy” was also recommended three times (surely not a GCSE text!). 14 non-fiction books were recommended, included ones on programming, Physics, Economics and Biology. I was particularly impressed by the “Why is it worth reading?” section on some sheets which gave evidence of students who have been moved, helped and entertained by the written word. Here are some examples:

- “I can't tell you how enjoyable it is: I quite literally didn't sleep for 30 hours to finish the whole series” (*Mistborn* by Brandon Sanderson).
- “My favourite chapter was the chapter on Pain, which is not often considered a sense but should be! The book is beginner friendly, and all you need to enjoy it is a love of animals. The final chapter links sensory biology to conservation – a call to action to the reader that the animals they have just revelled in are under threat from a cruel animal – mankind.” (*An Immense World* by Ed Young)
- “Written well and the timing of the book is good” (*Wind and Truth* by Brandon Sanderson)
- “Trust me, read it and find out. It is the most memorable/profound book I've read in the past year, while also being a good work of fiction” (*Babel* by R. F. Kuang)
- “Leaves you wondering what would happen next. Normally don't read but I enjoyed this book enough to buy all 3 books in the trilogy.” (*The Knife of Never Letting Go* by Patrick Ness)
- “I think with today's political landscape it's important to be aware of the techniques used against us. The parallel between fiction and our reality make for great conversations. I've been thinking about the ending for weeks.” (*Animal Farm* by George Orwell)
- “Absolutely changes the way you think about the world and human rights and equality. Also is extremely beautiful.” (*You Could Be So Pretty* by Holly Borne)
- “It will challenge your perception of the world and make you aware of why you make these misconceptions and how to use your critical thinking to better understand and filter the information on the news and become better informed” (*Factfulness* by Hans Rosling)
- “Martin does a great job at tying all the characters narrative together by telling his story as different characters in order to make sure the reader knows everything about the story and what is happening to the characters” (*Game of Thrones* by George R. R. Martin)
- “It's realistic and honest. Sometimes heartbreaking but also moments of real joy.” (*Half a World Away* by Mike Gayle)
- “It gives a sharp analysis of an increasingly pressing problem that we all must assist in countering.” (*The Death of Expertise* by Tom Nichols)
- “It managed to maintain a scary vibe throughout the story with just words”, (*IT* by Stephen King)

## ALL - EMS NEWS – EMC Conference

It was a pleasure to see our Year 13 students showcase their EMC projects on Tuesday, 4th March, at our annual EMC Conference. Throughout their time here, the students have honed their presentation skills, and the quality of their work was evident in the high standard of their presentations, and it was clear to see the dedication they had put into their projects.

It was also wonderful to see parents take the time to view the impressive posters, which adds another layer of excellence to the event. We are confident that these students will carry the skills they've developed into any future presentations they undertake.

The atmosphere of the event truly resembled an academic conference, which we hope many of our students will continue to experience in the future. Congratulations to all – great job!

