

Welcome to the final update of 2024/25 from Exeter Maths School! As we reach the end of term, we say a very fond goodbye to our wonderful Year 13 students and to the staff who are moving on. They have all left a lasting mark on our school community, and will be greatly missed.

Wishing everyone a fantastic summer break and we look forward to welcoming Year 13 back on **Thursday 14th August** for **A Level Results Day**, and seeing our new Year 13 cohort on **Wednesday 3rd September** as they begin their final year with us.

Enjoy the sunshine and thank you all for a brilliant year!

### **ALL - EMS NEWS – Goodbye (for now) to the Class of 2025!**



As the academic year comes to a close, we bid a fond farewell to the **Class of 2025!** It has been a privilege to teach and support such an amazing group of students over the past two years. We are confident that they are well-prepared for the exciting opportunities and challenges that lie ahead and look forward to hearing all about their future endeavours. This is not goodbye forever, however, as we hope to see students on **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> August** for A level Results Day and alumni events in the future - our alumni form a strong part of the EMS community! In the meantime, have any amazing and relaxing summer!

### **Year 12 – FOR INFORMATION – Returning in September**

Year 12, going into Year 13, students return to EMS on Wednesday 4th September and lessons will begin at 9am. Boarding students can move in their belongings on Friday 22nd August between 12.00pm and 6.00pm, or alternatively they can move in the night before they start school on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September after 4pm. To confirm, Year 13 boarders' first night in Boarding is on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

Exeter College lessons will begin for Year 13 students on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September.

Term dates for 2025/2026 can be found on our website at the following link - [Exeter Maths School | Parents Page](#)

## ALL - EMS NEWS – Staff Update

As our Year 13 move on to pastures new we are also saying goodbye to three long-serving members of staff:

### Joe Rowing, Deputy Headteacher

Joe has taught at EMS since the very first year. The school's first Physics teacher and later, its first Deputy Headteacher, his contribution to making EMS what it is today is immeasurable. There is little he has not turned his hand to; from sourcing lab equipment to writing policies, from leading on Safeguarding to managing trips, from teaching juggling to delivering



outreach, Joe has been across it all and still remains full of new ideas. Our loss is the Seychelles' gain and we wish him the very best as he goes on to his next adventure.

*"After over a decade at Exeter Mathematics School, including the privilege of serving as Deputy Head and helping to establish the school from its earliest days, it is now time for me to say goodbye. I am leaving to pursue a new adventure in teaching overseas. It has been an honour to work with such an enthusiastic and talented bunch - I shall terribly miss the extended EMS family of students, parents, alumni, staff, trustees and governors, and I wish all of you, and EMS, every success in the exciting journeys ahead."* **Joe**

### Claire Willman, Lead in Maths:



Claire's time at EMS is the culmination of a career spanning over 40 years. She was involved in the setting up of EMS before EMS existed and was merely an idea: as a teacher at Exeter College, she formed part of the team who set the vision for what the school could become. She was even involved in the appointment of Kerry as Headteacher. It was perhaps inevitable that she would join EMS and become our Lead Teacher for Maths. She is a true inspiration, always striving to improve, embracing new ideas and carrying out her role with "All Joy". Although she is retiring, we're delighted that she wants to

stay in touch and hope to continue to work with her long into the future.

*"I still remember when Richard Atkins, then principal of Exeter College, stopped me in the corridor to tell me that the college and the university were trying to open a Maths School in Exeter. My immediate reaction was - can I work there? Liam beat me to the post when the school first opened, but they let me in in the second year of its existence. I remember standing in reception in an empty Rougement House, before students arrived, twirling round going "wheeeeeee!" The honeymoon period has never quite worn off. I may be giving retirement a try next, but I hope I will be keeping in touch with all at EMS and be of some use for cover now and then while the brain cells are still in full working order. This is a truly wonderful school and part of me will never want to let go"* **Claire**





### Jade Prince, Boarding Tutor

Jade has been a boarding tutor for five years at EMS, supporting dozens of students to adjust to being away from home and helping them thrive whilst with us. Students have greatly appreciated her down-to-earth, no-nonsense approach, together with her sense of humour and ability to de-escalate their worries. She has shared her love of reading by creating a book-club and was responsible for setting up the ever-popular scavenger hunt. We wish her the very best for the future.

*"Thank you to all the students I have met, spent time with and gotten to know over the last 5 years. You have taught me so much and I can't tell you how much I have appreciated the time we have spent together. Its been a wild ride and I will miss you all, but know you will all go on to do amazing things. I will be living my best life with all the books!" Jade*

## ALL - EMS NEWS – Poetry by Heart Finals – Trip to London



11 students and 4 members of staff had the pleasure and privilege of supporting Ayomide whilst he performed his poetry recital on the stage of the Globe theatre. It was part of an inspiring day of performances from pupils from KS2 to KS5 as the National finalists slogged it out.

Ayomide may not have won the final but we could not be prouder of him. He was incredibly composed and we thought his recital was flawless.

A special mention should go to Claire Willman for introducing the competition to EMS and for supporting Ayomide and others every step of the way.

*"Even though I didn't win, it was very fun and I enjoyed every aspect of it. This would not have been possible without Claire so I do hope Claire enjoyed it even more! Happy retirement Claire!" Ayomide*



## ALL - EMS NEWS – Update from the Governing Body

The Governing Board said 'Good-bye' and 'Thank you' to Ken Evans from Exeter University, Jennie Hamilton from Exeter College and parent governor Liene Penny. Ken Evans served on The Board for four years and chaired the Curriculum and Student Experience Committee and his contributions were much appreciated. Jennie Hamilton served on The Board for six years and her contributions to the Curriculum and Student Experience Committee as well as her expertise within her Safeguarding link role, were also valued greatly. Liene Penny served for two years as a parent governor and made valuable contributions to the Curriculum and Student Experience Committee. Tim Paulden is stepping down as Chair but will remain on The Board. Sarah Turvill and Nathan Harvey have been elected as Chair and Vice Chair from September. There are likely to be one or two new governors joining in September and more information will follow next term.

## ALL - EMS NEWS – University of Oxford Open Day

On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, Liam, Fiona and Claire took a number of Year 12 students to Oxford to attend the University of Oxford Open Day. Students had an amazing day visiting colleges, attending lectures, seminars, workshops and speaking to other students.

We hope the trip gave them all a feel for student life in Oxford and plenty of information on any courses they may be interested in. Registration for the University of Oxford entrance test opens on 18<sup>th</sup> August and students have received information on this and all entrance tests via Teams.

## ALL - EMS NEWS – Trip to the Beach

Our summer social at Exmouth beach last week was a great success, made even better by the beautiful weather. After attending a pastoral assembly in the morning focused on summer safety, Year 12 students made their own way to the beach for an afternoon of fun and relaxation. Activities included sand digging, reading, shell collecting and a lot of frisbee! It was the perfect way for students to unwind and celebrate the end of their Year 12 assessments.

A big thank you to staff members Yasmin, Sam, Sophie and Grace for supervising and supporting students throughout the day.





## ALL – FOR INFORMATION – Message from the Pastoral Team

We hope you all have an amazing summer holiday, 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.y-smart.org.uk](http://www.y-smart.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)