



Introduction

Dear Parents and Carers,

Christmas time is always an exciting, yet busy, time at Emerson Park Academy.

The mock examinations for Year 11 have just finished and all of the hard work that has been put in to this process should start to bear fruit. It is not just Year 11 that have been working hard; our other year groups have also had a sharp academic focus and accelerated learning is always the driving force behind our endeavours.

The end of the year gives us an opportunity to look back over the past twelve months and look at what we have achieved, what we have done well and what we can aim to do better in the future.

The Summer term saw OFSTED carrying out a full inspection of the school and we were pleased to be graded 'Good' in all areas.

Another highlight of 2022 was the news of our GCSE examination success in August. The Year 11 pupils gained an outstanding set of results and so many of them have now gone on to advance their knowledge in sixth forms, colleges and workplaces.

The Awards Evening on Thursday 1st December 2022 was also an evening to remember and a reminder of the great achievements of our pupils, past and present.

The New Year brings new challenges and we look forward to another successful chapter in the success story of Emerson Park Academy.

Christmas is an opportunity to spend time with our loved ones and a time to enjoy. I am hoping all of our pupils, staff and parents use the time to recharge our batteries and I am looking forward to a successful 2023.

Merry Christmas

Scott McGuinness
Headteacher

Charity Night

Year 9 hosted the return of our annual Charity Night. In groups they researched a charity of their choice, made presentations and designed fundraising stalls. In all, over £1,400 was raised for a variety of local and national charities including St Francis Hospice, Broken Biscuits and Mitchells Miracles. It was fantastic to see so many people in the school hall; thank you for your continued support.



BBC

We have been privileged this term to work with the BBC as part of their *Sharing a Story* initiative, which commemorates 100 years of the BBC. During the first visit we heard from BBC staff who shared stories about dealing with depression and the benefits of making an effort. The BBC will return on the 15th of December to share stories that have a careers focus.



London Climate Kickstart Event

Thirty students from Year 9 attended the London Climate Kickstart event at the London Stadium on the 17th of November. Students were able to meet employers from government, industry and technology and learn how they are working towards meeting the UN Sustainable Development Goals. CGI were on site offering the opportunity to virtually visit COP27 in Egypt. Workshops helped the students learn about how they can link their learning and skills to future green careers.



Chess Club

Since its launch this term Chess Club has seen over 23 members in attendance; the club meets every Monday after school until 4pm and is open to all students. The benefits of playing chess include improved memory, greater self-awareness, elevated creativity and deepened focus ... let the games commence!



Global Links

History teacher Mr. Nelson headed to European Parliament this term to meet with other teachers from around Europe in the hopes of gaining some connections for the school. This will lead to setting up an extra-curricular club called EPAS (European Parliament Ambassador School). In this club, that will be supported by European Parliament, students will get the chance to work with people from around Europe, learn about different cultures and gain different experiences. Emerson Park was one of only two schools representing the UK on his visit.



iClass

iClass has had a busy and productive start to the new academic year. We welcome Miss Marsland to our team who has taken the role of iClass HLTA.

The Happy Chicks returned, and our new Year 7 pupils enjoyed the ethical hatching process and watching the chicks grow. Pupils experienced proper handling and learned how to care for them; a wonderful experience for everyone.



New ASDAN courses have been launched to broaden pupils' learning experience and build confidence as they prepare for further education, training or work. Courses include a range of topics including Animal Care, Football, Personal Finance and Foodwise.

We have launched an iClass Star of the Month award. Congratulations to the first pupils who have earned this award for their exceptional efforts.

School Nurse

Thanks to our school nurse for sharing the importance of sleep with our students. The nurse visits school regularly and the children have access to resources throughout her visit to help signpost them towards better health choices.



Prize Giving

This celebration of academic achievement brought together more than 400 pupils, parents, carers and staff into the school hall at the beginning of December to reward the excellence and efforts of our hard-working pupils.

The awards evening was a fantastic occasion and recognition of the endeavours of those pupils who collected their awards.

Between each section of the ceremony, a number of pupils displayed their musical talents and showed just how wide-ranging the abilities of Emerson Park Academy pupils are.

Well done again to the winners and you should all be proud of your achievements.

Cross Country

Well done to our six athletes who represented Havering at the London Youth Games first fixture of 2023, Cross Country. All our pupils performed well and represented the borough and school exceptionally on what was a very muddy and hilly course.



Foodbank

Our annual Foodbank collection was bigger than ever, with many of our form groups contributing bag loads of items to help the needy in our local community. Thank you for all your support to this as we gave much needed vital supplies.

Drama



This year we have been working with the Old Vic Schools Club, enabling pupils to attend workshops about the current productions at the Old Vic. This is followed by a trip to see the play. Pupils have seen *Eureka Day* and *A Christmas Carol* so far. There are two more productions to come.

Team Sports

Rugby in school is going from strength to strength. Year 7 recently competed in a tournament at Brentwood school the beginning of December. Students won two games and drew one, gaining the most points in the group. A fantastic effort by everyone in the team and well done to Josias who scored seven tries and was player of the tournament.



Term Dates

Please familiarise yourself with the updated term dates for 2023/2024. The LA have now amended the 2023/24 term dates to align with our neighboring boroughs. This means the February 2024 half-term holiday will now be between the 19th and 23rd February 2024.

School Social Media

Are you following the new official school social media accounts? To follow us on Facebook search @emersonparkacademy Facebook Page and 'Like' the page with the official school logo for the correct page to follow. For Instagram follow @emersonparkacademy and Twitter @EmersonParkAC. The social media accounts will highlight behind the scenes at school, news, and information. Our website is www.emersonparkacademy.org

Also, download the School News App. Firstly, you will need to download the app from either the iTunes App Store, Google Play or Windows Store by clicking on the relevant buttons or by loading up the app store on your phone and searching for 'School News'. Once you have located and downloaded the free app, launch the app and you will then be able to click on the 'Find my school' button the postcode is: RM11 3AD you will then be able to view news and events.



Tree of Remembrance

Every form class and staff member were offered the chance to contribute to our first Tree of Remembrance. Dedicating a tree provides a living memorial to a loved one and a poignant way of remembering them. Over 200 ornaments adorned the Christmas tree to remember grandparents, parents, pets, friends and loved ones.

