

10.1.2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to share an exciting proposal with you regarding the school calendar for the next academic year (2025/26) and seek your feedback on a potential change to our October Half-Term holiday.

### Proposal Overview

We are proposing a change to how we schedule our staff training days, known as INSET days. As you may know, all schools are required to remain open for 190 days each year, with additional days for staff training. We currently use these INSET days throughout the year to provide training for our staff.

We are proposing to take five of our INSET days in one block to extend the October Half-Term holiday for students. This would mean the October half term would be two full weeks rather than the usual one-week break.

### What would this mean for students?

Our October Half-Term holiday would be extended to two weeks, providing students with a longer break during the Autumn terms, which are our longest. These are also the terms when sickness due to colds, COVID and flu are at their highest – where schools have adopted a two week October half term, they have had less staff and student absence due to illness.

This would mean, however, there would be fewer INSET days spaced throughout the year.

### We Value Your Feedback

We understand that any change to the school calendar could have an impact on families, so we would greatly appreciate your thoughts and feedback on this proposal. Please do share your views with us by completing a brief survey at the following link: <https://forms.office.com/e/2fTEftRmY>

Thank you for taking the time to consider this proposal. Your input is important as we continue to plan a calendar that supports both the well-being of our staff and students, as well as their educational development.

Yours Sincerely,



Jonathan Morris  
Principal