

# Newsletter

April 2021

 @OasisCoulsdon



Dear Families,

As we approach the end of the term I would like to say a sincere thank you for your support over the recent months. You have supported your children so much during lockdown, and for many there has been additional emotional support required as they returned to school. We always want to work in partnership with you, so please do get in touch if there is anyway we can support you.

Despite the challenges of the last term, we are so proud of what our school community has achieved. From supporting LGBT+ rights, celebrating World Book Day, to marking International Women's Day; against the odds it has been a successful and enjoyable term.

The quality of the work our student's produced during the school closures was so impressive, and they have learnt a lot about their own resilience and determination. In addition we have rolled out our iPads across the school and now our students are using them daily to support and enrich their education.

We have been incredibly impressed with our Year 11 students, who have persevered despite the uncertainty around how they would be awarded their grades. We wish them all the best with their revision over the holiday as they work towards their final assessments and look forward to welcoming them at intervention sessions over the Easter break.

Please remind your child(ren) to take a Lateral Flow Test on the Sunday prior to our return on Monday 19th April. Students are not required to take tests during the holidays. We hope to receive our next delivery of tests for students during the first week back of the Summer Term; we will be in contact with you over the distribution of these tests once we have further details.

We look forward to welcoming students back on the 19<sup>th</sup> April at 8:25am. We are committed to ensuring that students have exceptionally high levels of attendance next term. We will be revisiting and embedding the curriculum taught during school closure, as we work to ensure students have solid foundations as they progress onto the next topics of study. It is therefore vital that students attend every day.

Once again, thank you for your unwavering support through what have been some of the most trying of times. Have a wonderful Easter break, stay safe, and stay healthy.

Best wishes,

Ms Green  
Principal

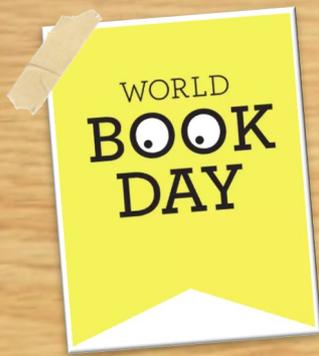


Message from the  
Principal, Catrin Green



## CONGRATULATIONS!

We are delighted to confirm with you the news that Ms Green has been appointed as permanent Principal at Oasis Academy Coulsdon. Ms Green has been with the Academy for a number of years, and has been an exceptional leader for our staff and students throughout the pandemic. We are therefore thrilled with this news, and would like to say congratulations to Ms Green on her success. Please click on the link to the letter above from Louise Lee, Regional Director for Oasis Academies in London & South East, confirming these details.



# MEETS



We LOVE Red Nose Day at the Academy; fundraising and dressing up- what more could you ask for?! This Year we decided to combine our Comic Relief celebrations with World Book Day, as the date was missed in school due to the recent lockdown. Therefore, this year students and staff dressed up as either a literary character, something red, or better yet- a red literary character!

Students and staff pulled out all stops to impress and raise money for this great cause. We are proud to have raised over £300 for the charity this year, and we are very grateful to all our wonderful parents, staff, and students for their generous donations.

Below you can see a selection of outfits from our amazing team of staff.



## Student Profile

Name: Sean Richardson

Year Group: 10 House: Everest

During the most recent lockdown we were delighted to learn that Year 10 student, Sean Richardson, qualified as a Youth Football Referee.

This means that Sean is able to referee games for teams up to, and including, under 10s teams.

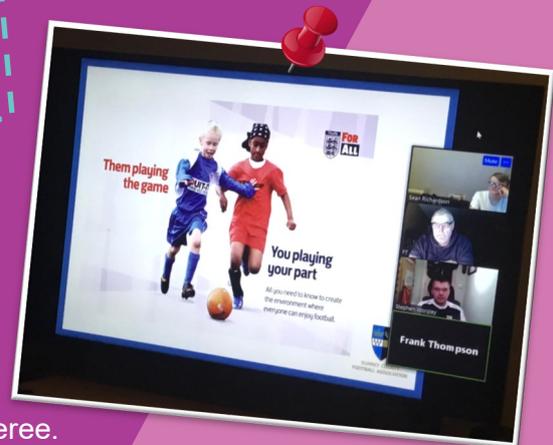
When the most recent lockdown was announced, Sean was not sure whether or not he was going to be able to qualify as hoped. However, the course was held via Zoom, meaning it was able to go ahead in spite of the restrictions.

Sean is an avid sportsman and is currently studying GCSE PE, and in addition to this and his refereeing qualification, Sean also plays as goalkeeper for Croydon Falcon's Youth Football Club.

Mr Gordon from our PE department is keen for Sean to be part of our Sports Leaders programme, which recognises students' passion for all things sports, as well as a drive to support and encourage others in activities. The programme is beginning again now that we are back in the Academy, and we hope will now be able to run uninterrupted for our current cohort of students, as well as future ones.

We would like to congratulate Sean on this fantastic achievement, especially under the stressful conditions of recent months.

Tell us about your achievements beyond the classroom and feature in the next Student Profile. Email your Mentor or [Kelly.Radford@oasiscoulsdon.org](mailto:Kelly.Radford@oasiscoulsdon.org) to share your good news.



# YEAR 7 UPDATE

Well done Year 7. I must start by saying how proud I am of the smooth transition you have made back in to 'normal' school life. Being able to socialise (safely) in our bubble during lunch and break has made us even stronger as a year group. Your first year at secondary school has been very challenging, and I can't help but smile when I think about how we have lived our OAC values during this time. Excellence, Family, Love, Determination, and Politeness all ring true for us and I have seen countless examples of this commitment throughout the term. May I take this opportunity to also thank parents for helping us along the way. Without your support, we couldn't have achieved the successes we have throughout this term and year.

Please remember to keep up the good work and continue to follow the rules regarding social distancing and the wearing of masks so that we can keep each other safe. As I write this we approach the end of term, the sun is shining (as you can see from the picture to the right), and I know that you will finish as we began and end in a blaze of glory, continuing our excellent work in all classes until the very last lesson.

Best Wishes,

Mrs Mondo  
Year 7 Family Leader



## CELEBRATING STUDENT WORK

The sky rolled on in blossoming shadows; an evil kind of flower. Not a single drop of rain had fallen against the stark dirt, yet they continued to scowl; a daunting grey that bloomed into a clenched fist, guarding us from the sun's feeble attempts at benevolence. I longed for the cold spit of water to collapse against my skin. I imagined the instantaneous sigh of relief; the slackening of my shoulders as the clouds released the tension that had been building up for so long.

A wilderness that had fought against the cyclical torment of the earth; the winds, howling like forgotten children; the trees, relentlessly springing back up after being vanquished by the storm, again and again - only to decay and be stripped of its leaves through sheer stubbornness. The orbs of nature were rotting within; holding out for a victory that didn't exist.

There was a lesson here, somewhere. About accepting your fate before morphing into a creature you didn't recognise. There had once been animals in this place, lively and bright-eyed and thrumming with persistence. Nestling into the nooks of trees and scurrying around for berries. But they had been betrayed by the prideful will of humanity and now their ashes scattered across the end of the earth.

It was a cavernous, gaping boundary between life, and all its toil and struggle, and some kind of monotonous purgatory with no sweet release of pain. People had died here; fought here; rallied and encouraged here. Flames pulsed, from glowing embers to a lion's roar.

The flames had glistened with an emblem of hope. Hope, which has a flip side, like everything does. Spirited and rousing turns to a bitter taste that brings you to your knees. The cathartic jabs of emotion were gone now, but the cracks that lay in between remained, lining the earth as if serving a pervasive reminder.

It had all been for nothing. That was it. That was the heavyweight to every man's chest; the dent to their pride; the inversion of their psyche. It had all been for nothing. There was the exuberant carpet of trees, blocking the rest of the horizon from eyesight - at first intriguing but leading nowhere. Citizens had aged past the days for naivety. The bare needles jutted awkwardly out of the dry mounds of dirt, set in formation with no recollection of their purpose. Dirt splayed across the hills was a mundane paint palette.

If you really cared, you could listen out for the distant hum of electricity, the centre of civilisation. You could smell the tantalising hint of rain, poised to collapse and darken patches of the ground; feel the bristles of the plants scratch your skin. You could feel your hair brush against your neck and know you were alive.

But nobody cared anymore.

This fantastic creative descriptive writing is by Year 10 student, Molly Robinson. Mr O'Shea, Head of English Faculty, was delighted to share this piece for the Newsletter in celebration of her efforts in lockdown, remarking that it is *"one of the best pieces I have read from a Year 10 during my career so far!"*

### YOUTH ENGAGEMENT TEAM

- WEDNESDAY 7TH APRIL - URBAN LANDSCAPE DESIGN FOR 8-12 YEARS 1-2 PM VIA MS TEAMS
- FRIDAY 9TH APRIL - ART ATTACK FOR 8-12 YEARS 1-2PM VIA MS TEAMS
- MONDAY 12TH APRIL - CROYDON MUSIC AND ARTS DANCE WORKSHOP FOR 8-12 YEARS, 1-2PM VIA MS TEAMS
- WEDNESDAY 14TH APRIL - READY, STEADY, COOK FOR 8-12 YEARS, 1-2PM, VIA MS TEAMS
- FRIDAY 16TH APRIL - DISTANCE DISCO FOR 8-12 YEARS, 1-2PM, VIA MS TEAMS
- WEDNESDAY 7TH APRIL - WELL-BEING WEDNESDAY FOR 13-18 YEARS, 3-4PM VIA MS TEAMS
- FRIDAY 9TH APRIL - FITNESS FRIDAY, FOR 13-18 YEARS, 3-4PM, VIA MS TEAMS
- MONDAY 12TH APRIL - CROYDON MUSIC AND ARTS DANCE WORKSHOP FOR 13-18 YEARS, 3-4PM VIA MS TEAMS
- WEDNESDAY 14TH APRIL - WELL-BEING WEDNESDAY FOR 18-18 YEARS, 3-4PM, VIA MS TEAMS
- FRIDAY 16TH APRIL - YOUNG CROYDON'S GOT TALENT FOR 18-18 YEARS, 2-4

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/young-croydon-easter-online-holiday-programme-7th-april-16th-april-tickets-147963921071>

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www.croydon.gov.uk

# Notices

Click on the image to the right to view the Summer Term Diner Menu

		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Lunchtime	Year 9 Music practice rooms 12.50 - 13.40 MPR		Year 10 Music Jam 12.00 - 12.50 S2/3		Year 10 Music practice rooms 12.00 - 12.50 MPR	Year 7 Maths Games 12.50 - 13.40 S9
	Year 8 Boys PE Rugby 3.20 - 4.30 Sports Hall	Year 7 Boys PE Rugby 3.20 - 4.30 Sports Hall	Year 10 Boys PE Rugby 3.20 - 4.30 Sports Hall	Year 9 Boys PE Rugby 3.20 - 4.30 Sports Hall	Year 8 Music Club 3.20 - 4.20 S2/3	
After School	Year 8 Girls PE Netball 3.20 - 4.30 Sports Hall	Year 7 Girls PE Netball 3.20 - 4.30 Sports Hall	Year 10 Girls PE Netball 3.20 - 4.30 Sports Hall	Year 9 Girls PE Netball 3.20 - 4.30 Sports Hall	Year 7 Ukulele Club 3.20 - 4.20 S2	Year 8 Music Club 3.20 - 4.20 S2/3
	Year 7 Choir 3.20 - 4.20 S2/3	Year 7 Craft Club 3.10 - 4.00 G5	ALL CLUBS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO FIXTURES, MEETINGS AND STAFF COMMITMENTS SO KEEP AN EYE ON THE NOTICES			
	Year 9 Coding Club 3.10 - 4.00 G9	Year 8 Coding Club 3.10 - 4.00 G9				
		Year 7 & 8, 9&10 (weeks will alternate) STEM 5.30-6.30, MS Teams	Year 7 Coding Club 3.10 - 4.00 G9			

**WEEK 1**

Choose 1 Main + 2 Sides + 1 Sauce or Dip

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>ACT 1 ORIGINALS</b>				
<b>MAINS</b> Chicken 1 Chicken Pie	<b>MAINS</b> Chicken 1 Chicken Curry	<b>MAINS</b> Chicken 1 Chicken Curry	<b>MAINS</b> Chicken 1 Chicken Curry	<b>MAINS</b> Chicken 1 Chicken Curry
<b>SIDES</b> Chicken 1 Roast Potatoes				
<b>SAUCES &amp; BIPS</b> Chicken 1 Sauce				
<b>ACT 2 MEXICAN</b>				
<b>MAINS</b> Chicken 1 Chicken Curry				
<b>SIDES</b> Chicken 1 Roast Potatoes				
<b>SAUCES &amp; BIPS</b> Chicken 1 Sauce				

**Salad Pick 'n' Mix**

Choose from a range of Salads, Soups, Desserts, Beverages and Bread to complete your meal

**BASES**

**TOPPINGS**

**SAUCES & MESSAGES**

**BREAD**

**ADD A DESSERT TO YOUR MEAL**

**MESSAGES**

Click on the above image to view the Enrichment activities we are able to offer next Term. We are thrilled

Click on the image to the right to view online safety tips from the NSPCC



## Year 8 Update

I'd like to start by saying thank you for all your support this term, from the home learning to the transition back to school. It has been a very difficult and confusing year for the students and they have done their best to adapt to the uncertainty.

The Year 8s generally pride themselves on family ethos – showing love and care towards one another. Due to the disruption of their first two years in secondary school, they haven't had the opportunity to go from child to adolescent in the normal way, which has the potential to impact their wellbeing. As the Year 8 Family Leader, my main focus is on the wellbeing of the students. Therefore, with the help of my team of Mentors, we have addressed matters concerning well-being through sessions in mentor time. We will continue with these sessions to help build self-esteem and develop positive relationships within the year group.

This will be our first Summer Term in school together, and I am really looking forward to enjoying the warmer and longer days. I have so many lunchtime games I'm looking forward to partaking in with the students. The Year 8s have readapted to classroom learning extremely well, and their attendance is very good. I look forward to seeing them continue to demonstrate excellence and determination when we return from the Easter break.

Best Wishes,  
Ms Ogundele  
Year 8 Family Leader

# JACK PETCHEY AWARDS



Congratulations to the winners of this terms' Jack Petchey Awards. Details of the reasons for their awards are below, and we look forward to working with them on how to spend their grant money for their chosen project/department.

<p><b>WINNER JANUARY</b></p>	<p><b>Olivia Mitchell</b></p>	<p>"Olivia was having singing lessons during Autumn Term. At the start she was very reserved and shy about participating. As the lessons progressed she overcame some of her barriers and is now singing for a whole lesson! I am very proud of how hard she has worked towards this to develop her confidence and her ability as a</p>
<p><b>WINNER FEBRUARY</b></p>	<p><b>Ash Byrne</b></p>	<p>"Ash is a very altruistic and selfless student. During the Autumn Term, Ash went door to door in Old Coulsdon collecting for Purley Food Hub. Ash seems to always put other people first and is always suggesting ways of raising money and awareness about people less fortunate than himself."</p>
<p><b>WINNER MARCH</b></p>	<p><b>Sara Ballabani</b></p>	<p>"Sara has worked extremely hard over this year to build her confidence. I am always in awe of how dedicated Sara is to her studies, particularly as she doesn't always find everything easy. She is always looking up extra information and I have learnt so much from her giving us different facts that she has researched. Sara is the first to ask to give an answer, both in school and online, and she really wants to push herself to achieve more. Sara's confidence has grown with regards to her studies. Sara has been very open to helping others around her at school. Whenever a student has a problem she is the first to help them, and it has been lovely to see her in school getting involved with different activities with students she wouldn't necessarily have known before lockdown. She really is a credit to herself and the school."</p>

## YEAR 11 REPORT

I would like to start by saying a huge well done to the Year 11 students and their families for the successful transition back to school. Students coped with this really well, some were even secretly quite glad to be back! Students have been sitting a series of mini assessments since their return and I am so impressed with the maturity shown to their studies in the Academy. After Easter we will have more information from exam boards and Oasis Central regarding teacher assessments, and there will be Easter intervention (click below to view) on for some subjects to support students with their revision for these assessments.

In PSHE students have learnt about LGBTQ+, fibre in our diet, looking after our mental health, eating disorders, National Careers Week, self-belief, NCS (National Citizen Service), self-harm, and the dangers of knives and smoking. As with all PSHE, topics are delivered sensitively and students are always provided with support websites, helplines, and details of where to find support in and out of the Academy.

Students should be spending some time resting this Easter, however, revision is important now more than ever and this should be planned for every weekday throughout the Easter break. I have placed a revision timetable template on our Year 11 Teams class if students need some guidance. Our Year 11 Teams class is updated daily with opportunities from free courses, work experience and careers advice, to apprenticeship opportunities, and wellbeing; please do check it regularly.

Have a lovely Easter

Miss Kavanagh  
Year 11 Family Leader

Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> April	Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> April
Art 9:00-1:00	Art 9:00-1:00	Art 9:00-1:00	Art 9:00-1:00	Art 9:00-1:00
Maths 1:00-1:30	Maths 1:00-1:30	Maths 1:00-1:30	Maths 1:00-1:30	Maths 1:00-1:30
English 1:30-2:00	English 1:30-2:00	English 1:30-2:00	English 1:30-2:00	English 1:30-2:00
History 2:00-2:30	History 2:00-2:30	History 2:00-2:30	History 2:00-2:30	History 2:00-2:30
Science 2:30-3:00	Science 2:30-3:00	Science 2:30-3:00	Science 2:30-3:00	Science 2:30-3:00
PE 3:00-3:30	PE 3:00-3:30	PE 3:00-3:30	PE 3:00-3:30	PE 3:00-3:30
Music 3:30-4:00	Music 3:30-4:00	Music 3:30-4:00	Music 3:30-4:00	Music 3:30-4:00
French 4:00-4:30	French 4:00-4:30	French 4:00-4:30	French 4:00-4:30	French 4:00-4:30
Spanish 4:30-5:00	Spanish 4:30-5:00	Spanish 4:30-5:00	Spanish 4:30-5:00	Spanish 4:30-5:00
Computer Science 5:00-5:30	Computer Science 5:00-5:30	Computer Science 5:00-5:30	Computer Science 5:00-5:30	Computer Science 5:00-5:30
Bank Holiday	Bank Holiday	Bank Holiday	Bank Holiday	Bank Holiday

# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Eight students from the Academy were invited to take part in a Question and Answer session with the Mayor of Croydon, Maddie Henson, about women's equality and achievement in an event organised by the World Humanitarian Drive.

Students in Year 8 were able to connect with others from around the world, and were treated to a presentation of artistic and musical delights on the 8th March, a day chosen to host International Women's Day.

Our Questions to Madam Mayor were  
"Can men and women ever be equal"?  
"As Mayor, what do you aim to teach the youth of Croydon".

You can [click here](#) to watch a recording of the online event and find out the answers to our questions.

This was a prestigious event to be asked to take part in, and was covered in the local press. [Click here](#) to read the article from the Croydon Guardian online covering the event.

Our students were credited with their impressive maturity and intelligent questioning by Madam Mayor, and were honoured to receive these certificates for taking part.



## Oasis Horizons

It has been fantastic to see students using their Horizons iPads in class since returning to the Academy at the beginning of March. Staff are slowly introducing the devices into their lessons, embedding new routines with them and enhancing the learning in their classes.

In Music students have been using the iPads in class to create, edit, and compose their own music. They have been exploring GarageBand, using it to explore their creativity and imagination. Media students have been using the devices to support their coursework completion, and in English and Science, as well as many other subjects, they have been utilising them for 'Do It Nows' at the start of lessons, as well as mini quizzes.

## Year 9 News

Overall, Year 9 have come back strong and are doing really well back in the classroom. I have been popping into lesson and have been super proud of the work they are producing. Leading up to Easter in PSHE we have been looking at some topics which are current issues within youth and society today. This has included knife crime and eating disorders, as well as looking at different careers to try and inspire students into thinking post-16 and beyond.

On the whole students are doing well with wearing masks, but they must remember to wear them over their nose and mouth for them to be effective. A polite reminder that we must socially distance where possible and stick to our seating plan for health and safety.

We are very lucky to have extra-curricular clubs back up and running, and so I hope many of the year group are taking these free opportunities to get involved! Participating in clubs enables students to work and mix with different people, expanding their social circle, as well as being another way to relieve stress.

I hope you all have a pleasant time off, hopefully we will see some lovely weather so we can get outside and get some fresh air!

Best wishes,

**Mrs Holt, Year 9 Family Leader**

# Year 10 News

We have arrived at the end of our Spring term in the Academy, and have one full term of Year 10 left. It has been a very tumultuous time for everyone, particularly with the second lockdown, but I have been extremely proud of how Year 10 have conducted themselves as a group.

When we return, the days as a whole will be much warmer and brighter. I am hoping this will reflect all of our moods as we continue to have time in the Academy to focus on our learning, and also to socialise which is just as important.

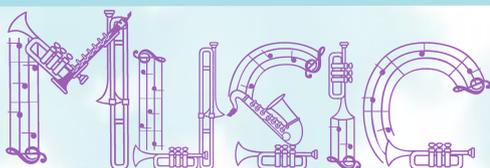
After the break we will be starting the application process for Student Leadership, which has already been alluded to. You will have some time during mentor time to practice writing an application. This skill will also be important when it comes to college applications, which are not far off!

It would be remiss of me to write to you, without taking some time to thank Mrs Dooley for everything she has done for us since the beginning of Year 9. As you will know, she is going on maternity leave soon. She has been very quick to point out to me that she will be back as soon as she can be, and wants to make sure that you are all getting on well when she does get back. I know that you will all join me in wishing Mrs Dooley and her family the best over the coming months, and hopefully we will shortly have some updates about the new baby Dooley!

We are fortunate to have Mr van Gelder taking over for Mrs Dooley going forward. Mr van Gelder works with Year 11 every year to give them the best experience throughout, and so having him begin to support us earlier will give us an even better start.

I hope that you all have a relaxing break and get a few eggs over the weekend!

Mr Falvey, Year 10 Family Leader



If you are interested in signing up to instrumental/voice lessons, please click on the icon to find out more information.



Over the lockdown the Music department ran a music competition. Students could enter with an individual performance, original song or a music production track. The top five entries across all categories were then put forward to the national stage of the competition, which we are still awaiting results for. We have a wide range of entries from students across all year groups and the standard was very high, especially considering students were working at home without any additional guidance or support from Mrs Richardson or Ms Laurent.

The students in the top five were:

- Eshar Thethi, Year 7 – solo performance
- Pablo Maddocks, Year 8 – solo performance
- Preet Thethi, Year 8 – Original song
- Callum Porter, Year 10 – solo performance
- Zach Drolet, Year 11 – Production track

## MUSIC LEADERSHIP

This Term we advertised for and appointed a new Music leadership team. The intention for this group is for them to meet one-two times a half term to support in developing the Music curriculum, clubs, competitions, and events (once it is safe to do so!). We were extremely impressed with the standard of applications, and would like to congratulate the successful applicants: Horeb Mbenza, Zara Kamara, Michal Keska, Joshua Kushoro, Dionne Menson, and Theo Winkley.

If you are interested in joining the team, please email [Elisabeth.richardson@oasiscoulsdon.org](mailto:Elisabeth.richardson@oasiscoulsdon.org) and [Claire.laurent@oasiscoulsdon.org](mailto:Claire.laurent@oasiscoulsdon.org) and include what music means to you and why you would like to join.

## Students of the Term

In the end of term awards this Spring, the students of the term for each year group were also announced. We are pleased to share these with you here...

Year Group	Name	Reason
7	Aamil Fofana	<b>Family:</b> for his continued great effort with all tasks and upholding our Academy Values
8	Savannah	<b>Politeness:</b> for being such a diligent student
9	All Students	Mrs Holt found it impossible to choose as there have been so many students excelling this Term in many areas. Therefore, this Term her award acknowledges the hard work of all.
10	Reece	<b>Family:</b> being a huge help to staff during lockdown
11	Charley Cumber	<b>Excellence:</b> Charley shows great independence, taking responsibility for her learning and being an all round model student



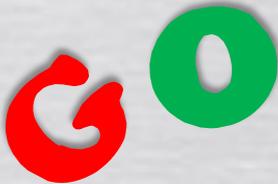
Summer Term  
& Autumn Term  
2021



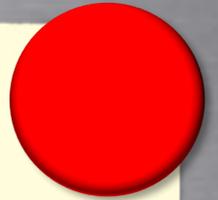
**TERM DATES**

Click on the below links to view the full term dates for 2021-2022

[Term Dates 2021-2022](#)



# TERM DATES



**Summer Term 2021**

- Monday 19th April:  
First day of Summer Term 1
- **Monday 3rd May:  
Bank holiday**
- Friday 29th May:  
Last day of Summer Term 1
- **Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June:  
Half term**
- Monday 7th June:  
First day of Summer Term 2
- Friday 23rd July:  
Last day of Summer Term 2

**Autumn Term 2021**

- **Wednesday 1st September:  
INSET Day**
- Thursday 2nd September:  
First day of Autumn Term 1
- **Monday 25th October - Friday 5th  
November: Half Term**
- Monday 8th November:  
First day of Autumn Term 2
- Tuesday 21st December:  
Last Day of Autumn Term 2
- **Tuesday 22nd December - Monday 3rd  
January: Christmas Holidays**

**Spring Term 2022**

- **Tuesday 4th January:  
INSET Day**
- Wednesday 5th January:  
First day of Spring Term 1

*NB: some INSET days for academic year 2021-2022 are yet to be added.*