

Thames View Infants



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Dear Parents/Carers

Change to a two-week October Half Term from Academic Year 2025/26

Last term we ran a consultation regarding a move to a two-week October Half-Term from next Academic Year. We consulted with staff, all our families, local Schools and local Nursery Settings. Thames View Juniors have since run a similar consultation.

As an Academy Trust, it is the responsibility of the Trust Board to set the term dates.

Directors have asked me to thank everyone who submitted a response to their consultation. They read each in full. Directors considered the weight and merits of each individual response submitted. They were satisfied that a broad cross-section of the School's demographic had contributed to the consultation. Where objection was raised, Directors considered carefully all the points stated. In particular, Directors considered the impact of childcare costs, specifically for single working parents or those working with a lower income, and the impact of the proposal on learning and outcomes.

As part of our research, we have spoken with another local Trust which have run a 2-week October Half-Term across a number of years and a number of Schools, and who have carried out similar consultations. We discussed the effects of attendance at the Schools who have implemented this, and their perception of the advantages and disadvantages of the move.

Directors were grateful for the collaboration of Thames View Juniors on this venture, as they recognise how helpful it is when term-dates are synchronised together across both Schools.

Support for this change was very strong at our School. Accordingly, both Thames View Infant and Junior Schools will move to this new model from September.

The 2025-2026 Academic Year will run with a two-week October Half-Term. All other holidays will remain unchanged, including our usual observance of Eid al-Fitr in March 2026. Overall, School will be open for 188 days, two days less than this Academic Year. (Academies have the flexibility to set the length of their School year, and this Trust has used this discretion previously).



As previously communicated, we are moving to this model for the following reasons:

1. To provide a more substantial break during our longest term to enable more time for children to rest and recuperate – and thus reduce illness and absence rates.
2. To enable families to take advantage of cheaper holiday prices (before the clocks go back), rather than missing time from School.

You will find attached to this letter the new term dates for next academic year, including the two-week October Half-Term. Thames View Juniors have adopted the same dates and they will be notifying their families today too.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes,



Paul Jordan
Headteacher