



St Paul's Newsletter

Friday 14th March 2025

An update from Mr. Rubin...

I hope you had a lovely half term break. This month is a significant time for many in our school community, as we celebrate both Easter and Ramadan. Easter is a time of reflection and renewal for Christians, marking the resurrection of Jesus and bringing a message of hope and new beginnings. Meanwhile, Ramadan is a sacred month for Muslims, a time of fasting, prayer and generosity, culminating in the celebration of Eid. In addition we welcome Holi, celebrated today, the Hindu festival that marks the arrival of Spring.

These occasions remind us of the importance of kindness, gratitude and community—values we hold dear in our school. We encourage the children to learn about and respect different traditions, and we look forward to sharing in these special celebrations together.

The newsletter is packed full of activities our children have been engaged with. I hope it makes you proud to read. Please note our last two training days have been set on the last page. Wednesday 30th April and Tuesday 22nd July
Have a good weekend and be kind to one another.

Staffing Update – Mrs Reader

I am delighted to announce that our Senior Leadership Team continues to grow. Mrs Reader, who has excelled in her role as Early Careers Teacher Mentor and Federation Science lead, has now joined our Leadership Team to help drive the Federation forward. Her expertise in mentoring is invaluable, and I am thrilled that she will be working closely with our team to shape the strategic direction of our schools. Her commitment to both staff and pupils makes her a fantastic addition to our leadership, and I know she will make a real impact.



Follow Us on X and Instagram

One of the very best ways to keep up to date with what is happening in our school is to follow us on social media. We are on X
<https://twitter.com/StPaulsCESchool> and
<https://www.instagram.com/stpaulswhitechapel/?hl=en>
Follow us – there are some fantastic photos and clips of your children.



St Paul's Pupils Meet the Fire Brigade!

Our Early Years children had an exciting visit from the London Fire Brigade! The firefighters brought their fire engine to school, giving the children a hands-on experience that they will never forget. They had the opportunity to sit inside the fire engine, use the powerful hose, and even try on some of the firefighters' protective clothing.

Experiences like this are incredibly valuable for our youngest learners. Not only do they spark curiosity and excitement, but they also help children understand the important role firefighters play in keeping our communities safe. Through this visit, the children learned about fire safety, teamwork, and the bravery it takes to be a firefighter—all in a way that was engaging and accessible to them.



Year 5 Attend Tower Hamlets Poetry Slam

Our Year 5 students took part in the Tower Hamlets Poetry Slam and we couldn't be prouder of their performances. They showcased creativity, confidence, and fantastic teamwork throughout the event.

A special congratulations to one of our pupils who won the *Best Line of Poetry* award for their powerful and moving poem—an incredible achievement!

Everyone played an important role, offering brilliant support and encouragement to their classmates. It was wonderful to see such a strong sense of teamwork and celebration of each other's talents.

Well done to all our Year 5 poets for representing our school so well and thank you to Mr Bouffleur for organising.





EYFS Visit to City Airport

Children in the Early Years visited City Airport via the DLR for their transport project. The children observed the DLR and airport operations, connecting classroom learning to real-world examples of transport. This trip provided a practical experience of different travel modes. Thank you to all parents and carers who accompanied us!



Kindness Cup Update

From the Early Years to Year 6, Kindness flows through our school and it is so important that we mark this every week with our Kindness Cup sponsored by Place2Be.



Collective Worship Update

Thank you to Father Richard for leading our Clergy Collective Worship. He focused on the significant period of Lent, exploring Jesus Christ's time in the desert. The children shared their personal experiences, including parallels with Ramadan and fasting practices sharing values across different faiths.



Year Five learn about Trading

Year 5 had an exciting visit to Deloitte UK offices, participating in the "Chocolate Trading Game," learning about the stock market trading chocolate as a commodity. The children thoroughly enjoyed the activity, gaining insights into how markets function. The game provided a fun and interactive way to understand complex financial concepts.

Thank you to our friends at Place2Be for organising this insightful and enjoyable trip for our students - it is hugely appreciated.





School Council Staff Interviews

School Council conducted some forensic interviews with Coach Idris and Mrs. Reader, exploring their roles, motivations, and career paths. The pupils asked thoughtful questions, gaining valuable insights into different professions. It was a fantastic opportunity for them to learn about hard work and dedication. Thank you to everyone in our School Council for their focus and application to their tasks and thoughtful engagement.

Special thanks to Ms. Blake and Mrs. Moses at St John's for organising these valuable learning experiences, fostering curiosity amongst our students.



Class Five Meet Dr Precey

I was struck recently by the quality of persuasive writing in Class five as they wrote to me asking about their curriculum and whether it could be adapted. I shared these letters with our Chair of Governors who despite his busy schedule, made time to come in and listen to the children.





Meeting Writers and Illustrators

Year 5 and pupils from Christ Church school met author Yaba Badoe at St. John's Primary, enjoying her stories and book signings. Year 4 recently visited our friends at Christ Church school for an engaging event with author and illustrator Adeola Sokunbi, these visits connect students with authors and illustrators and are inspirational.





World Book Day

World Book Day was once again a great success. Reading is such a strength at St Paul's and classes regularly pair up to read together. Children participated by dressing up and storytelling, reinforcing the value of books. Reading aloud helps develop language skills and a love for literature.

We thank staff for their efforts in making the day enjoyable, and families for their support with costumes. Mr. Boutflour's organisation ensured a smooth event and the day highlighted the benefits of how reading can bring stories to life for children. Yet another example of our school community shining.





World Book Day at St Paul's





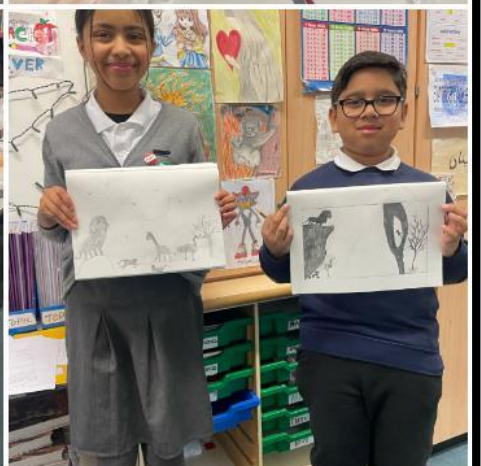
St Paul's has Talent!

Our children are all amazing, however we're also incredibly impressed by their talented parents and carers! Recently, we've had wonderful sessions where parents have shared their skills. We've enjoyed a beautiful violin performance and learned about the important skills needed to be a nurse. These experiences bring learning to life, showing the children the diverse talents within our community.

If you have a talent, hobby, or profession you'd like to share, please let us know via our parents@st-pauls.towerhamlets.sch.uk address. We're eager to expand the children's learning and create more memorable moments. Your contributions are highly valued.



Art Day @ St Paul's February 2025





St George in the East Update

Year 2 had a fantastic Shrove Tuesday at St George in the East church! They enjoyed fun activities and delicious, decorated pancakes. It was a wonderful chance to learn about Pancake Day traditions. The children loved celebrating and eating together. A huge thank you to Elizabeth and the team for organising such a memorable morning for Year 2.

Back at school, Elizabeth led a special collective worship on Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday. We explored Lent's significance and its connections to Ramadan. The children learned about these important religious periods and their shared themes. Thank you, Elizabeth.

Class 5 School Trip to the Gurdwara in West Ham

Class 5 and Mr Bouffour have been extremely busy! Their recent visit to the Gurdwara in West Ham was a rich cultural experience. They learned about Sikh traditions and the Gurdwara's importance. The trip provided a valuable opportunity to experience a different faith and culture first hand. The children gained insightful knowledge during the visit and it is so important to learn about the rich diversity of cultures that form part of our community in London.





Class Three Visit to Watney Market





WELCOME TO ST GEORGE-IN-THE-EAST

Dear parent/guardian,

It is our privilege to invite your child to join **St George's Youth Choir**. Places have been offered to students who have shown potential and enthusiasm in school and I hope that you will encourage your child to try out our choir and experience the many musical and social opportunities it will offer.

What is St George's Youth Choir?

St George's Youth Choir is run by St George-in-the-East Church and is proudly the first 'Choir Church' initiative in the country. We are also delighted to be a partner of St Paul's Cathedral's Choral Foundation. Striving for excellence, team spirit, fun, and amazing performance opportunities, we work to help young people grow and be the best they can be. In recent years, we have taken members to sing at St Paul's Cathedral and Kings College, Cambridge. We are an inclusive choir and we welcome children of all faiths, and none.

Where and when does the choir rehearse?

The choir rehearses weekly at **St George-in-the-East Church** on **Wednesdays** during term time from **4:00-5:00 PM**, with **snacks and socialising from 3:45 PM**. We celebrate a **monthly sung Eucharist** as part of our Wednesday evening sessions, which we warmly encourage friends and family to attend. Our unique, diverse and exciting performance schedule will be shared upon signing your child up.

How much does it cost?

With generous support from St George-in-the-East Church and a number of trust and foundations, our choir is **FREE** to join!

How do I confirm my child's place?

Places are limited, so please sign up your child as soon as possible using the following link: <https://forms.gle/H3kgGgPQVvYUYjqDZ>. A member of our team will then be in touch to confirm your child's place.

Will Bruce and Elizabeth Stout

Choir Director and Schools and Families Pastor



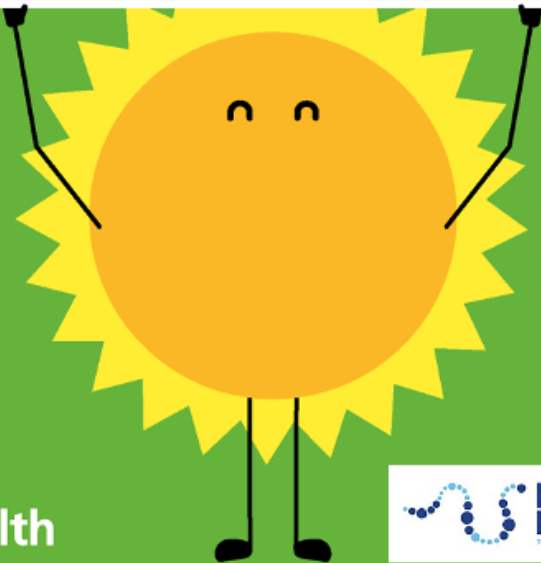
Children's Services are offering Toileting Troubleshooting sessions in Children and Family Centres and Family Hubs for parents of children with additional needs

If you are interested in attending:

- 1) First attend a Toileting Workshop in any Tower Hamlets Children and Family Centres and Family Hubs.
- 2) After trialling strategies from this workshop, you feel you would benefit from further support please choose a date that suits you to book onto.

The workshops happen on the 1st Wednesday of each month.

Month	Date	Time	Children Centres & Family Hubs
January	8 th January 2025	1-3pm	Marner
February	5 th February 2025	1-3pm	Ocean
March	5 th March 2025	1-3pm	Meath gardens
April	2 nd April 2025	1-3pm	Isle of Dogs
May	7 th May 2025	1-3pm	Overland
June	4 th June 2025	1-3pm	<u>Chrisp Street</u>



Penalty Notices Information – New National Framework

Please read and familiarise yourself with the latest guidance from Tower Hamlets. Please note that the fines go to the local authority and that all schools receive this information to share with parents/carers.

PENALTY NOTICES

New National Framework for Penalty Notices for poor school attendance and unauthorised leave in term time are changing from 19 August 2024.



Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notices will still be issued to each parent for each absent child.

For example – 2 siblings absent for unauthorised leave in term time will result in each parent receiving two separate fines.

Term Time Leave: 5 consecutive days

10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period

First Offence

The first time a penalty notice is issued, the amount will be £160 per parent, per child, if paid within 28 days.

(Reduced to £80 per parent, per child, if paid within 21 days.)

Second Offence

The second time a penalty notice is issued, the amount will be £160 per parent, per child, if paid within 28 days.

(There is no reduction for any early payment.)

Third Offence

The third time a penalty notice is issued, the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates Court.

Fines of up to £2500 per parent, per child, can be issued by the courts.

BEHAVIOUR AND ATTENDANCE SUPPORT SERVICE

London Borough of Tower Hamlets, Town Hall, 160 Whitechapel Road, London E1 1BJ

Email: LBTHAttendance&WelfareServiceAdmin@towerhamlets.gov.uk Telephone: 020 7364 3450

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WRAPAROUND CARE

Our wraparound care after school club has started.

It is open every day from 3:30pm – 5:30pm and is open to everyone from Nursery to Year 6 at a cost of £8.00 per session that must be booked in advance.

Lots of activities, healthy snacks and an opportunity to have fun in the safe environment of our school.



Don't worry about screen time; aim for screen quality

Scrolling through social media isn't the same as making a film or story, or video calling Grandma. Use the Children's Commissioner's 'Digital Five A Day' to plan or review each day together.



Check the safety settings are turned on



Whether it's your home internet, mobile devices, consoles, apps or games, there are lots of settings to make them safer. The key ones are - can they chat to strangers, can they video chat or 'go live', are their posts public? What about safe search and Youtube? See parentsafe.lgfl.net for more.

Get your children to show you their apps and games



You don't need to know all about the latest app or game, but if your child shows you what they are doing and with whom, you'll probably see if it's appropriate or not. Remember 18 games are not more advanced - they are harmful to children! For parent guides to apps, including recommendations for kidsafe apps and video platforms, search for **Common Sense Media** reviews.

Don't try to hide news about scary things in the news



If you don't talk about it, your children might read inappropriate pages, believe scare stories or simply catastrophise in their heads. Why not watch **Newsround** together and talk about how they feel - there is guidance from **Childline** to help you.

Remind them of key online safety principles



There are too many to list, but remember human behaviour is the same online and offline. Remind your children to be a good friend, to ask for help if they are worried or if someone is mean, not to get undressed on camera and most important of all... if somebody tells them not to tell or ask for help because it's too late or they will get in trouble, **THAT'S A LIE!**

If you aren't sure, ASK!

Your school may be able to give you advice, but there are plenty of other places to ask for help as a parent or a child, whether it is advice or help to fix something. Lots of sites are listed at reporting.lgfl.net, including ones to tell your kids about (they might not want to talk to you in the first instance).





CONTRACT CATERING SERVICES LUNCH MENU Nov 2024 - Apr 2025



Week 1	Monday 'Planet Earth Day'	Tuesday 'Street Food Day'	FREE FROM Main Allergens Wednesday 'Traditional Day'	Thursday Lebanon	Friday 'Favourites'
Dates	04 Nov 2024 • 18 Nov • 02 Dec • 16 Dec • 30 Dec • 13 Jan 2025 • 27 Jan • 10 Feb • 24 Feb • 10 Mar • 24 Mar • 07 Apr				
Option 1	Tomato & Basil Pasta Bake	Beef, Pepper & Onion Pizza with Spicy Diced Potatoes	Chicken Sausage with Mash Potatoes & Onion Gravy	Chicken Shawarma with Lebanese Rice or Lebanese Flatbread	Cod Fish Fingers with Chips
Option 2	Vegan Sausage Roll with Potato Wedges	BBQ Vegetable Strips Wrap with Spicy Diced Potatoes	Vegetable Hotpot	Falafel in Sumaq & Za'atar Sauce with Lebanese Rice	Lentil & Vegetable Dahl with Rice
On the side	Sliced Carrots and Peas	Sweetcorn & Green Beans	Cauliflower and Sliced Carrots	Mix Vegetables	Garden Peas and Baked Beans
Salads	Mixed Green Salad	Crunchy Coleslaw	Chef's House Salad	Fattoush Salad	Macedoine of Vegetable Salad
Dessert	Fruity Yoghurt Bar with Toppings	Cheddar Cheese with Breadstick	Seasonal Fresh Fruit Salad	Banana & Date Yoghurt	Apple & Sultana Yoghurt with Rice Krispies
DAILY OPTIONS: DAILY SALAD & SEASONAL FRESH FRUIT PLATTER FRESH BREAD & YOGHURTS					

Week 2	Monday 'Planet Earth Day'	Tuesday 'Street Food Day'	FREE FROM Main Allergens Wednesday 'Traditional Day'	Thursday Ireland	Friday 'Favourites'
Dates	11 Nov 2024 • 25 Nov • 09 Dec • 23 Dec • 06 Jan 2025 • 20 Jan • 03 Feb • 17 Feb • 3 Mar • 17 Mar • 31 Mar • 14 Apr				
Option 1	Piri Piri Vegan Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Rice	Italian Beef Meatballs Marinara Subroll with Cajun Diced Potatoes	Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Irish Beef Stew with Champ/Colcannon Mash Potatoes	Battered Pollock Fillet or Bubble Salmon Fillet with Chips
Option 2	Chickpea & Mixed Vegetable Balti with Rice	Vegetable Nuggets with Katsu Curry Sauce and Rice	Jacket Potato with Leek, Onion & Beans	Veggie Sausage with Champ/Colcannon Mash Potatoes & Gravy	Guorn Frankfurter Hotdog with Chips and Homemade Tomato Sauce
On the side	Green Vegetable Medley	Broccoli & Sweetcorn	Green Beans & Cauliflower	Green Cabbage & Sliced Carrots	Garden Peas and Baked Beans
Salads	Carrots & Cucumber Ribbons	Tomato & Pasta Salad	Chef's House Salad	Potato Salad	Crunchy Coleslaw
Dessert	Fruity Yoghurt Bar with Toppings	Cheddar Cheese with Breadstick	Seasonal Fresh Fruit Salad	Raspberry & Mango Fruit Fool	Apple & Banana Yoghurt Crunch
DAILY OPTIONS: DAILY SALAD & SEASONAL FRESH FRUIT PLATTER FRESH BREAD & YOGHURTS					

Please Note that some dishes maybe subject to local changes to suit individual school needs



Pro Veg recognises that OUR healthy menus are environmentally friendly for humans, animals and the Planet.

All our Vegan & Vegetarian recipes are packed full of nutrition including PROTEIN & FIBRE to keep children healthy & happy.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION:
Every effort is made to minimise risk of cross-contamination. However, it should be noted that our food is prepared in a kitchen where known allergens may be present and therefore the risk of cross-contamination remains a risk. Please ask staff for further details regarding specific dietary requirements and/or allergens.



Contract Services CPU team were WINNERS at the Staff Awards Ceremony for "Excellent Support Services"

Fantastic FOOD IN SCHOOLS



Tower Hamlets & City SENDIASS

(Special Educational Needs Information, Advice and Support Service)

The SENDIASS Team provides free and impartial expert advice to parents of children with SEND and to children and young people themselves who are residents within Tower Hamlets or City of London. Some of the ways we can support you are:

- Attending meetings with schools/professionals
- Applying for an Education Health and Care Plan
- Mediation with the Local Authority
- Preparing and attending SEND Tribunals
- Providing information about other support services and departments

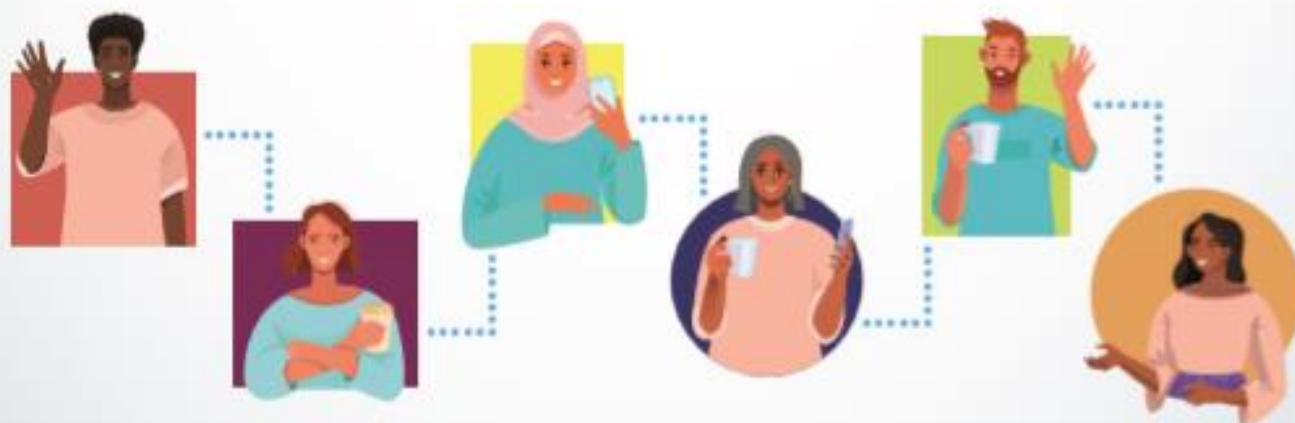
Our team also runs workshops for parents around the EHCP process, Annual Reviews, and Secondary School Transitions.

If your query can not be resolved during the telephone consultation, we will take a referral and you will be allocated a caseworker who will contact you within 10 working days.

We have a dedicated telephone line, **020 7364 6489**, that you can call to speak to an advisor Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m-17:00 p.m.

You can also email us at:
towerhamlets&city.sendiass@towerhamlets.gov.uk

You can visit our website at:
<https://www.towerhamletsandcitysendiass.com/>



DISCOVER
FOOTBALL
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FOOTBALL

Training

£6.00

PER SESSION

YOUTH AGE

5-7

WEDNESDAY

TERM TIME ONLY

4:45-5:45 PM

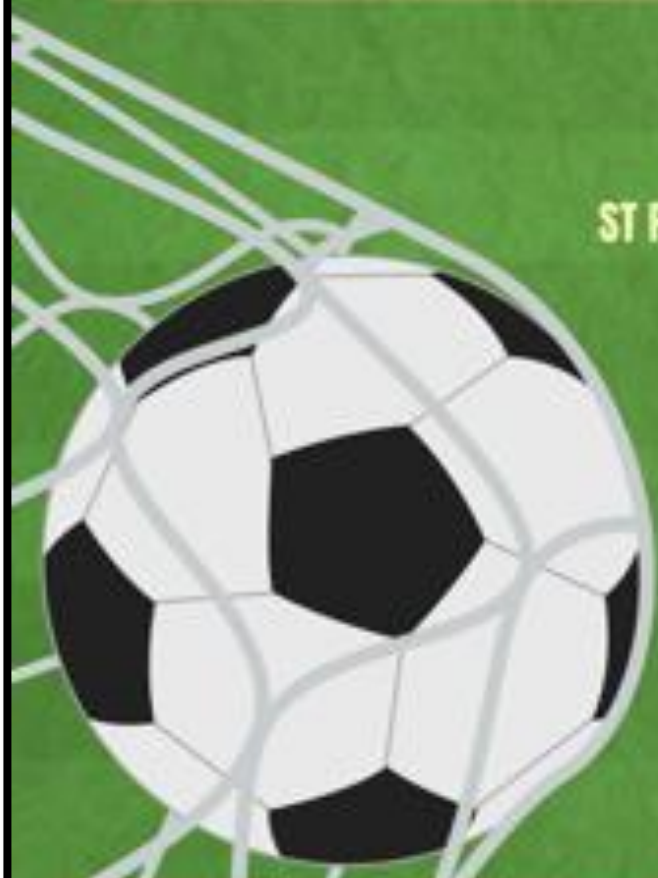
ST PAULS WHITECHAPE PRIMARY SCHOOL
E1 8GN

PLEASE USE BACK GATE

BOOK VIA HAPPITY

FOOTBALL@STGEORGEINTHEEAST.ORG

St
George
—in-the—
east





The Designated Members of Staff Responsible for Safeguarding and Child Protection at St Pauls are:



Darren Rubin
Executive Headteacher



Kathy Blake
Deputy Headteacher



John Boutflour
Assistant Headteacher



Rebecca Foster
Senior Leader

St John's & St Paul's Whitechapel CE Primary Schools Term Dates and Holidays - 2024/ 2025

Autumn Term 2024

Staff Training	Mon 2 nd & Tue 3 rd September
First Day of Term	Wednesday 4 th September
Half Term	Monday 28 th – Friday 1 st November
Staff Training	Mon 4 th November
Second half of term	Tuesday 5 th November
Last Day of Term	Friday 20 th December
<i>Christmas Day</i>	<i>Wednesday 25th December</i>
<i>Boxing Day</i>	<i>Thursday 26th December</i>

Spring Term 2025

<i>New Year's Day</i>	<i>Wednesday 1st January</i>
First Day of Term	Monday 6 th January
Half Term	Mon. 17 th to Fri. 21 st February
Second half of term	Monday 24 th February
Last Day of Term	Friday 4 th April
<i>Good Friday</i>	<i>Friday 18th April</i>
<i>Easter Monday</i>	<i>Monday 21st April</i>

Summer Term 2025

First Day of Term	Tuesday 22 nd April
Staff Training	Wed 30 th April
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 5 th May
Half Term	Tuesday 27 th to Friday 30 th May
Second half of term	Monday 2 nd June
Last Day of Term	Tuesday 21 st July
Staff Training	Tuesday 22 nd July

<i>Ramadan begins</i>	<i>Friday 28^h February 2025*</i>
<i>Eid Al-Fitr</i>	<i>Sunday 30th March 2025*</i>
<i>Eid Al-Adha</i>	<i>Friday 6th June 2025*</i>

195 days including 5 staff training days

* to be confirmed