



ORMISTON SIX VILLAGES ACADEMY



21st July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to my final letter of the academic year.

West Sussex Term Dates – amendment to published schedule

West Sussex County Council have advised of a change to their previously published schedule of term dates to take account of the additional non-working day for schools allocated by the government to mark the Queen’s Jubilee.

The last day of term next academic year will now be 21st July 2022, not 22nd July and our final INSET day will now be 21st July and not 22nd July. Therefore, for students the last day of the summer term 2022 will be Wednesday 20th July 2022. The amended table of term dates is below.

Autumn term 2021	INSET days: Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd September First day of term: Year 7 only: Monday 6 th September Year 7, 10 & 11 only: Tuesday 7 th September Year 7, 10, 11 & 9: Wednesday 8 th September All years: Thursday 9 th September Half term: Monday 25 th October to Friday 29 th October INSET Day: Monday 6th December Last day of term: Friday 17 th December
Winter break 2021-22	Monday 20 th December to Friday Monday 3 rd January
Spring term 2021	INSET Day: Tuesday 4th January 2022 First day of term: Wednesday 5 th January 2022 Half term: Monday 21 st February to Friday 25 th February INSET Day: Monday 28th February Last day of term: Friday 8 th April
Easter break 2021	Monday 11 th April to Friday 22 nd April; Bank Holidays 15 th & 18 th April
Summer term 2021	First day of term: Monday 25 th April Bank Holiday: Monday 2 nd May Half term: Monday 30 th May to Friday 3 rd June (BH 2 nd & 3 rd June) INSET Day: Monday 27th June Last day of term: Wednesday 20 th July INSET day: Thursday 21st July

Rapid asymptomatic testing in secondary schools – September 2021

A reminder that upon return to school in September, the government has advised that all students should undertake 2 lateral flow Covid 19 tests. All students will be offered these two tests unless you have let us know otherwise. This means that if you provided consent for the March 2021 programme of testing, the consent carries over. If you declined consent, this is noted and you do not need to take any action. If you previously declined consent and now wish to reverse that, please get in touch.

As mentioned in last week’s letter, to accommodate the testing programme, there will be a staggered return to school as follows:

<i>Monday 6th September</i>	<i>Year 7 only</i>
<i>Tuesday 7th September</i>	<i>Year 7, 10 & 11</i>
<i>Wednesday 8th September</i>	<i>Year 7, 9, 10 & 11</i>
<i>Thursday 9th September</i>	<i>All year groups</i>

Thank you in advance for helping us bring your children safely back to school in September. If you have any queries regarding the lateral flow testing, please contact Mrs Canadas on ccs@ormistonsixvillages.org.uk. As outlined previously, the consent form will be issued to Year 6 families over the summer.

Home test kits: Whilst we have taken delivery of the testing kits for September's testing programme, we have not received any further home kits. We have distributed what we have to students today. When your child runs out of tests, more can be ordered from <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>.

Uniform

Please make sure that your child has the correct uniform for returning to school in September. All students will be in full uniform from the first day back, including the blazer, and I would ask you to check the website to make sure that any items of uniform you purchase over the holiday are consistent with the uniform requirements.

Newsletter

Click <https://ormistonsixvillagesacademy.co.uk/six-villages-newsletter/> to read the final edition of our newsletter, which will be available tomorrow.

Year 11 Results Day

Year 11 students and families are invited to collect their results on **Thursday 12th August**, from **11am-12pm**. Year books will also be available at that time.

Open Evening – Advance Notice – early finish

Please note that students will finish early on **Tuesday 21st September** to allow for preparations for Open Evening and an earlier start than usual to the event itself to prevent overcrowding. Students will have an extended morning break during which they can purchase food and drink as usual. They will attend four out of their usual five lessons, finishing at **1pm**. We are currently liaising with the bus companies.

Starters and Leavers

We say farewell this week to a few staff, one of whom has worked for Six Villages for a significant period of time.

We say good bye to Amanda Clayton, our Inclusion Coordinator and wish her every success in her new role. Shelley Renshaw, our Attendance Officer, leaves us to go to university to study Podiatry. Shelley has been dedicated to her role at the academy for a number of years. We wish her well and hope that in the years to come she will come to our Careers fayres to talk to our students about Podiatry! Shelley is also a former student of this school so we are doubly proud of her achievements. Caitlin Payne, Exams Officer, is moving on to primary teacher training and we wish her every success in her teaching career. We will be advertising for a new Exams and Assessment Officer in August.... watch this space! Finally, Jan Thwaites leaves us to start her well-earned retirement after twenty years of service at the academy as Data Manager. We wish Jan a long, happy and healthy retirement and thank her for hard work and dedication to the academy.

We will be warmly welcoming a number of new colleagues in the autumn term. Among teaching staff we welcome Mrs Moodie to the Maths department as Head of Maths; Miss Purcell also joins the maths teaching staff. Mr Gee joins the Science department and Miss Ottley, the English department. Joining core services staff, we welcome Miss Cook as SIMS Administrator, Mrs Taylour as Attendance Administrator, Miss Cadle-Hartridge as Pastoral Leader and Miss Marsh joins the Inclusion department.

I am pleased to announce also that Mrs Sheldrake will take up the position of SENCo and has been working collaboratively with Ms Clayton and related external agencies to ensure a seamless transition. Mrs Sheldrake is writing to parents of SEND children separately.

Safeguarding

During the summer break the academy will be taking a much needed rest. If there are concerns or safeguarding worries please follow our signposting on the safeguarding pages of our website or use West Sussex services linked here: <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/keeping-children-safe/raise-a-concern-about-a-child/>

A final few words...

As the 2020-21 academic year ends, and having attended all the year group celebration assemblies over the past week, I have naturally been reflecting on the achievements of our students over the last year. These assemblies were truly times of celebration with every student awarded a certificate. I am grateful to the Directors of Learning for their pastoral and academic support to their cohorts this academic year. It is my hope that next summer we will be able to invite parents and carers to the celebration assemblies as we have in previous years. In spite of the pandemic and extended lockdown in the Spring term, students have worked exceptionally hard this year, engaging well with their learning and aiming to be their very best selves. Last week our annual sports day took place and we saw some impressive individual and team performances. The perseverance and effort, the kindness and encouragement students showed each other truly upheld the academy's core values which underpin our 'Excellence for All' ethos. They are a credit to you as well as being wonderful ambassadors of the academy.

I would like to pay tribute to the dedication of my team of staff, both teaching and core services, who work hard every year to make the academy a wonderful place of learning and work. I would also like to thank our Governing Body and Trust for their hard work and championing of Six Villages. Six Villages finds itself more popular than ever with families in the area which led to a record number of year 6 students naming us first choice for September. This is a true validation of the work of the academy and I am indebted to the tireless commitment staff demonstrate each and every day. I wish them a well-earned rest.

We look forward to welcoming our new Year 7 students and their families to the Six Villages community. A large number of them have opted to attend our Summer School week in August. These students have not been able to attend the usual county-wide Transition Day due to government restrictions in place at the time, but we have planned a superb first day on site in September and are excited to meet and get to know them.

Finally, your partnership as families has been invaluable and I remain grateful for your commitment, understanding and support throughout this past year. Many of you have sent kind messages, cards and gifts for which we thank you. I wish you all a safe, enjoyable and restful break and look forward to seeing your children in September.

Yours faithfully



Paul Slaughter
Principal

Principal: Mr Paul Slaughter

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