

Hawthorn Community Primary School

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1st July 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

OCTOBER HALF TERM CONSULTATION

In the last newsletter from Pathfinder Schools telling you about the Trust re-launch we included details about holiday dates for 2020/21, which included a reduction in the Summer holiday and a lengthening of the October half term:

Term	Open to pupils on	Closed to pupils on
Term 1 (36 days inc. 2 training days)	Thursday 3rd September 2020	Friday 16th October 2020
Term 2 (35 days inc. 1 training day)	Monday 2nd November 2020	Friday 18th December 2020
Term 3 (30 days inc. 1 training day)	Monday 4th January 2021	Thursday 11th February 2021
Term 4 (25 days)	Monday 22nd February 2021	Friday 26th March 2021
Term 5 (34 days)	Monday 12th April 2021	Friday 28th May 2021
Term 6 (35 days inc. 1 training day)	Monday 7th June 2021	Friday 23rd July 2021

Since then we have had feedback from a number of Hawthorn parents asking for the rationale behind the change and the reasons that Hawthorn were not a part of the consultation.

Rationale

The proposal we put to parents and staff in Trust schools in November 2018 was to reduce the Summer holidays by one week through reducing days at the beginning and end and to lengthen the October half term to two weeks to compensate. The advantages of these changes include a shorter summer holiday therefore less educational slippage for the pupils and a longer break



during the longest school term of the year when pupils become tired and therefore learning can become less effective. The added bonus is that families will have the option of going on holiday during a relatively cheaper week of the year thereby reducing the amount of requests for term time holidays.

Why were Hawthorn not included?

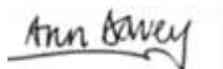
During the period of consultation Hawthorn were not a part of the Trust. When we were providing information about the Trust to the Hawthorn community the results of the consultation had not been presented to the Directors for a decision, therefore we were not at liberty to speak about the proposal.

Next Steps

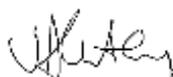
We realise that this may have caused concern for some parents so having listened to your views we have now reopened the consultation for both Hawthorn parents and staff.

Please follow the link to express your views. [October half term survey](#)

The consultation will run until Friday 12th July. We will then analyse the results and report back to you in early September.



Ann Davey
CEO



Mrs J Clubley
Head Teacher