

Kindness
Self-Belief
Determination

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MULLION SCHOOL



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15 January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Please find attached the term dates for 2025-2026. You will see that TPAT is using a different pattern of dates next year which creates a two week break over the October half term. This has been achieved by returning to school in September two days earlier than local authority schools and adding an additional day to the end of the summer term. We are also using two training days (which teachers will work as 'twilight' training). Overall, the number of days the school is open to children has not changed. We feel this pattern has a number of advantages for children and families:

1. The Autumn Term felt very long this year resulting in tired children and across our Trust, pupil absence increased. We think it will be helpful therefore to lengthen the holiday in this term, ensuring children get a good opportunity to rest mid-way through.
2. We know that families are increasingly asking us for term time holidays. In line with Department for Education guidance, we cannot authorise absence for term time holidays. We have noticed how expensive holidays are during school term times, and how much cheaper they are in other weeks. We also know that some parents find it difficult to take time off during school holiday periods. We hope that the additional week in the October half term will help families have a chance to take a more affordable holiday and reduce the time children miss from school.

By all TPAT schools following this structure, we hope this will help families who have children in both our primary and secondary schools. This pattern of term dates has been used really successfully by a number of primary and secondary schools in Cornwall and we hope it will bring similar benefits to our pupils and families. We will review this at the end of the Autumn Term in 2025 before deciding on our dates for the following year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michelle Dunleavy'.

Michelle Dunleavy
Headteacher



Headteacher: Mrs M Dunleavy
Deputy Headteachers: Mrs D Penberthy BSc (Hons)
Mrs H Mathias BA (Hons)