



Friday, 21 July 2023

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope you are all well and looking forward to the summer break. As you will see from our Facebook page (just search for The Sittingbourne School) it has been another busy and successful term at the end of a very busy and successful year here at TSS. Please check out our Facebook page to see articles about our recent History trip to the Somme, our success in the Swale Academies Trust inter school Maths challenge, our first Sports Days for three years, STEM events, attendance rewards trips, Sixth Form students visiting the London Institute for Banking and Finance, our Sixth Form production of Macbeth and much, much more.

Exams

Since I last wrote to you, students in Years 11, 12 and 13 completed their final examinations. As ever, we are all very proud of all of our students for the hard work and determination they have shown in preparing and sitting their exams. I was especially delighted with students' conduct and attendance over the exam period. I am confident that this hard work, combined with the hard work of their teachers and support staff, will lead to exam results that we can all celebrate. I would like to thank all parents and carers for the support they provided to students throughout the examinations.

Prom

On Wednesday, 5 July 2023, Year 11 celebrated their end of compulsory schooling with a Prom held at the Barnyard. It was an amazing evening with a circus theme and a great time was had by all. We had glitz and glamour, prizes, food, photograph opportunities, fire breathers, stilt walkers, magicians and dancing until 11pm. This was a great coming of age event, which gave students a lovely end to their time at TSS and I want to thank all of the staff for making it happen. I highly recommend you check out the video on our Facebook page - it has had nearly 8000 views so far!

Year 6 induction

Last week we welcomed 300 Year 6 pupils to TSS for their Induction Days. Year 6s were involved in a range of familiarisation activities, lessons and some tests. It was lovely getting to know the students and they left at the end of the three days looking forward to starting here next term. Please note that yet again, The Sittingbourne School is oversubscribed for September 2023 and we have around 100 students on our waiting list.

Policy updates

I would like to take this opportunity to point parents and carers in the direction of some of our recently updated policies. These have all been approved by The Swale Academies Trust and our school governors. Please take the time to read them before the new year starts:

Policy	Link	Key changes
Behaviour policy	https://www.thesittingbourne.school.org.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=296&type=pdf	Introducing the Reset Zone intervention
Mobile phone and electronic policy	https://www.thesittingbourne.school.org.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=294&type=pdf	Parents/carers are politely asked to not call or message their child during the school day.
Uniform policy	https://www.thesittingbourne.school.org.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=295&type=pdf	Our trial of allowing students to wear shorts in term 6 has been a success and is now part of the uniform policy. School bags are a compulsory for all students.

Next year

The new academic year will begin for students on Monday, 4 September 2023 when we welcome just our new Year 7 and Year 11 students at 08.35am. All other students should return at 8.35am on Tuesday, 5 September 2023.

The term dates for next year can be found on the next page of this letter.

Thank you

I would like to thank all the parents and carers for their support this year. I also want to say a huge thank you to all the TSS staff who go above and beyond on a daily basis, making TSS a great place to learn for our students.

Whatever you have planned, I wish you all an enjoyable and restful summer.

Kind regards



Mr N Smith
Headteacher

A member of Swale Academies Trust

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Term 1:**Students return:**

Monday 4 September 2023: Years 7 and 11 only; Year 13 (8.35am) & Year 12 enrolment (11.10am)

Tuesday 5 September 2023 (all other year groups)

Staff development days: Friday 1 September 2023 and Friday 22 September 2023

Term 1 ends: Friday 20 October 2023

School holiday: Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October 2023

Term 2

Term 2 starts: Monday 30 October 2023

Staff development day: Friday 24 November 2023

Term 2 ends: Friday 15 December 2023

School holiday: Monday 18 December to Friday 29 December 2023

Term 3

Bank Holiday: Monday 1 January 2024

Term 3 starts: Tuesday 2 January 2024

Staff Development Day: Tuesday 2 January 2024

Term 3 ends: Friday 9 February 2024

School holiday: Monday 12 February to Friday 16 February 2024

Term 4

Term 4 starts: Monday 19 February 2024

Term 4 ends: Thursday 28 March 2024

Bank Holiday: Friday 29 March 2024

School holiday: Monday 1 April to Friday 12 April 2024

Term 5

Term 5 starts: Monday 15 April 2024

Bank holiday: Monday 6 May 2024

Term 5 ends: Friday 24 May 2024

School holiday: Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May 2024

Term 6

Term 6 starts: Monday 3 June 2024

Staff Development Day: Friday 28 June 2024

Term 6 ends: Tuesday 23 July 2024