



EDEN GIRLS' COVENTRY NEWSLETTER ISSUE 18 | AUGUST 2022

Pupils Visit Oxford University

The Oxford University Trip was planned to give pupils an insight of tertiary education and the process for admissions. Through the different sessions of the day, pupils were informed about career opportunities with the study of English and Classics.

The English department works closely with KS4 pupils with a focus to encouraging them to pursue A Levels and university studies. The visit successfully contributed towards the educational excellence we strive for at our school. It was equally inspirational for our pupils as they are high achievers, and they were able to grasp that attending elite universities is not an impossible dream to achieve. Pupils were also given a tour of the university by pupil guides, who provided anecdotes, giving an insight of pupil-life at Oxford University. Trips like these promote social mobility for our pupils and inspire pupils to attain educational excellence.





inside • this ISSUE

Page 2 - 3

From the Principal

Page 4

Reflections from the Head of House Service

Page 5 - 7

Educational Excellence

Activities Week 2022

Reading Wise

Vocabulary Module: EGSC's Top 10

Zip Module: EGSC's Top 10

Careers Education

Page 8 - 13

Character Development

Summer School

Leadership

Enrichment

Looking After our Mental Health

Page 14 - 15

Service to Communities

Community Programmes

Attendance Matters!

Dates for your Diary

From the Principal

The 2021-22 academic year has come to an end and has seen the school come through the challenges posed by Covid-19 and the uncertainty of the previous 2 years.

The school has, almost, returned to normal operations with only positive remnants of the 'Covid School' model now remaining in place, these being the benefits of staggering lunches and breaks, maintaining the use of online learning through MS Teams for out of hours provision, and the enhanced cleaning regimes that helped us maintain a Covid safe school throughout the pandemic.

The summer term has seen the efforts of teachers and support staff in supporting Year 11 and Year 10 pupils sitting exams come to fruition with most girls being optimistic about exams and exam results. This optimism is supported by staff. The school is looking forward to GCSE results day in August.

The summer has also seen the Trust introduce significant changes to the school curriculum, reacting to changing Ofsted expectations and the summer holidays will require significant work by senior and middle leaders in preparing teaching programs for September 2022 as the school moves to the new 2 Year KS4 model. For pupils and parents this will mean the end of Year 10 GCSE examinations and the introduction of a series of new subjects to the curriculum such as Food Technology, Spanish in KS3, and Theology and Business-related courses in KS4.

Staff turnover for 2021-22 has been minimal, and the school will only see 2 members of the teaching team leave at the end of the academic year, both due to relocation. This will ensure that teaching and learning, the true strength of the school, will continue into 2022-23 and this will provide consistency for all pupils and parents.

This year has also seen the parent Shurra play a more active role in supporting the school, and they have led on a number of projects, including the summer bazaar and the introduction of a pre-worn uniform shop. The school is always looking for more parents to join the Shurra and interested parents should contact Mrs Khalifa at the school.



From the Principal

Alongside the parent Shurra, the pupil Shurra has gone from strength to strength, with the 20 elected members of the Shurra meeting termly with the Principal to share the views and opinions of pupils with a view to improving the school. This year, the pupil Shurra has secured an extension to the school lunchtime for all pupils, ensured that the quality of catering at the school remains high, and supported the pastoral team with a range of charity and behaviour projects. Members of the Shurra truly reflect he STAR values of Service, Teamwork, Ambition, and Respect and I hope that all members continue to serve the school diligently and responsibly. True exponents of the school's leadership specialism.

Again, the school was subjected to a number of external quality assurance visits, including 5 visits from serving HMIs (3 from the LA and 2 from the Trust). All provided assurance that the school remains an outstanding provider and the school is confident that, whilst it remains in the official Ofsted window, the school will maintain its Outstanding rating.

As mentioned already, the school looks forward to GCSE results day in August as this will provide the required validation to confirm that its efforts have been effective. We look forward to sharing results with you in September.

September will see the school further pushing for excellence in all that we do, and we look forward to welcoming our next cohort of Year 7s. The school continues to be oversubscribed in all year groups and I am proud to say that we are the school of choice for most parents in Coventry.

Please all enjoy the summer. Pupils should do some pre-reading based on the topic lists available on the website, and Year 11 pupils should make sure they are ready for their final year at the school, bringing with them an attitude of ambition and culture of hard work.



Mr Anand Patel
Principal

Nurturing Today's Young People, Inspiring Tomorrow's Leaders

Reflections from the Head of House Service

Assalamu Alaykum,

I came to Eden in 2017, and I struggled massively with the transition at first. Coming from a small primary school to secondary school where I only had three friends to start with was tough. However, looking back, every second of struggle was worth it and makes me realise that anything is possible if you give your all. I was an anxious schoolgirl five years ago, and now it makes me immensely proud to say that I was the first ever Pupil Head of House Service at Eden Girls' Coventry and left in 2022 with a massive sense of accomplishment. But of course, I cannot credit only myself for the change I went through.

"I owe the credit to the teachers at school who work tirelessly for our future, to the teachers who pushed me when they knew I needed to be pushed and supported me when things got tough."

Thank you.

Maariya Sheikh, Head of House Service



Educational Excellence

Activities Week 2022

EGSC annual activities week took place week beginning 18th July.

On Day 1, Small Piece Trust and the Science team worked with 120 Year 7 pupils in the Sports Hall in designing, producing and testing gliders.

The English team organised activities for Year 8. A carrousel of activities was in place which included Scrabble, Poetry and Greek pottery and paper plate craft. Year 9 were involved in Enterprise activities and Year 10 pupils were doing clay modelling and graffiti with our artist visitor.

On Day 2, The Puzzle Company was invited into work with both our Year 7 and Year 8 pupils. Both year groups were also treated to a French breakfast delivered by our MFL department. Year 9 worked with an external company focusing on how forces are used to move things around. The Year 9 pupils were treated to a spectacular rocket show followed by a number of workshops. Year 10 Geographers went on a field trip to begin their GCSE course work. Year 10 Historians were visited by the company Frontline History. Pupils took part in a World War 1 living History Workshop.

It was an actioned packed week in which we saw our pupils immerse themselves in activities and experiences they would not normally encounter.



Educational Excellence

Reading Wise

All our pupils have been working on Reading Wise with fantastic success!

Reading Wise is an online platform which allows pupils to consistently improve their knowledge in every single subject. There are multiple vocabulary lists to work through. For example, one night a pupil might look at words connected to badminton or, another time, pupils can focus on volcanoes. Research has proven that if pupils access Reading Wise three times a week for 10 minutes, not only will their reading age increase, but they will be able to make swifter progress in every single subject.

For many weeks, EGSC has been steadily working up the national league table. The competition became particularly intense when our fellow Star Schools across the country also joined. However, with just a couple of weeks left of the school year, we hit the top spot and were awarded first place in the whole country!

Congratulations to all the pupils below who have shown ambition and diligence in their Reading Wise efforts. Not only have they reached final EGSC Top 10 but, throughout the year, they have consistently featured in the national leader board too!



Vocabulary Module: EGSC's Top 10

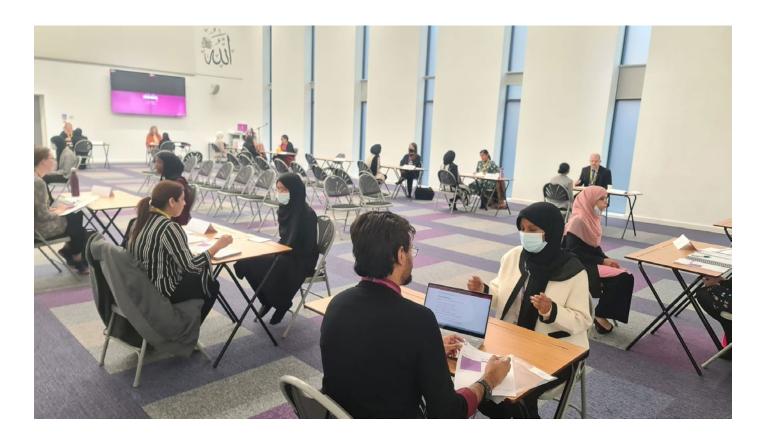
- 1. Alishba Akram (Yr10) 51597 points
- 2. Nafisa Miah (Yr10) 43859 points
- 3. Noor-E Hira (Yr8) 41194 points
- 4. Nagina Wahidullah (Yr7) 35116 points
- 5. Zeni Akbar (Yr7) 31280 points
- 6. Samirah Hoque (Yr8) 28498 points
- 7. Nasra Shabaan Hamid (Yr8) 26763 points
- 8. Malaikah Begum (Yr7) 24452 points
- 9. Raameen Ahmed (Yr9) 22969 points
- 10. Zara Banoo (Yr8) 21766 points

Zip Module: EGSC's Top 10

- 1. Igra Mohamed (Yr8) 11076 points
- 2. Marwa Oria (Yr11) **7700 points**
- 3. Asia Ibrahim (Yr11) 7653 points
- 4. Safa Oria (Yr8) **7213 points**
- 5. Sana Mohsini (Yr8) 4969 points
- 6. Hadia Mohsini (Yr11) 2414 points
- 7. Razan Asaf (Yr7) **2349 points**
- 8. Renad Alosaimi (Yr9) 1129 points
- 9. Malak Mhafikhi (Yr9) 474 points

Educational Excellence

Careers Education



The careers education programme this year at EGC has enabled pupils to learn and develop a wide range of employability skills and learn how these will be vital in the workplace.

We had lots of employers come to speak about the companies they worked for, their personal careers journey and their words of advice. These have been really helpful for seeing that every workplace is different and every person's career journey is different. This has encouraged lots of conversations during form time about careers and the ever-changing working world and where new jobs will be created in the future.

Year 11s had the opportunity to take part in mock interviews to prepare themselves for their post 16 interviews later in the year, and they conducted themselves with maturity and confidence and the feedback from the employers was amazing. Some lucky Year 9 and 10 pupils were able to visit Oxford University to explore university life and find out what studying a degree would be like. We look forward to taking more pupils next year.

Amy Novsarka, Head of Year 11/Careers Lead



Summer School

During the week commencing Monday 25th July 2022, Eden Girls' School, hosted our new Year 7 cohort for a range of activities aimed to ease their transition into Secondary School, in September.

It is vital that new pupils settle in, quickly, in September to make the most of the opportunities available to them. With the opportunity to do this, it will be much easier for pupils to begin their new adventure at Secondary School and start on their journey to success. The Summer School gave pupils the best possible opportunity to achieve academic and personal success at Eden Girls' in Year 7 and beyond, as well as the confidence to embrace the challenges associated with Secondary Education.

The Summer School is not just about academic success, or settling in. The range of activities planned helped pupils develop confidence and be creative, it also gave our staff the opportunity to get to know the pupils outside of the classroom and help to develop important pupil-teacher relationships.

The plan for the summer school was:

Monday

- Welcome and introduction to form tutors as well as a tour of the school site and an introduction to Eden School life.
- Team Building this will be run by members of the Royal Air Force
- Drama pupil will be encouraged to be creative and push themselves outside of their comfort zone, preparing a short play for the Friday showcase
- Science
- Programming

Tuesday

- Art/Textiles preparing a range of costumes and set to aid showcase performances
- Languages
- Wellbeing aimed at developing and harnessing positive mental health
- Physical Education
- Drama

Wednesday

- Drama
- Faith and Character Education
- Mathematics
- Science
- Art/Textiles

Thursday

- Humanities
- Physical Education
- English
- Art/Textiles
- Drama

Friday

- Rehearsals for the drama showcase
- All parents are invited to attend the Drama/Art/creative showcase in the sports hall
- Parents tea parents are invited to attend and meet some of the teachers

The Summer School is not only an opportunity for the Year 6 pupils to experience their new school, but also an opportunity for our vast array of pupil leaders to be involved: developing their skills and confidence.

It was a fantastic event and we hope that all participants enjoyed their time with us, developing their confidence and ensuring they are ready and prepared to 'hit the ground running', in September.



Leadership

There are many opportunities for pupil leadership at Eden Girls' School. There are designated leadership positions as well as less formal leadership opportunities.

Each titled leadership role must be applied, and interviewed, for, as part of a rigorous process. The pupils must complete a letter of application, with references, as well as responding to a scenario based on the leadership role they are applying for.

Some of the leadership opportunities available:

Head Girl Team

This Head Girl Team consists of one Head Girl and up to two Deputy Head Girls. They represent the school in a number of functions, contribute to assemblies and every day school life. They are a large part of the Pupil Shuraa and help to bridge the gap between staff and pupils. This is an incredibly prestigious role, which is hard fought for.

Sports Captain

They work closely with the PE department to raise the profile of sport and offer up their ideas for further enrichment and curriculum opportunities. They will contribute to assemblies with a regular sports report and work with younger pupils to encourage lifelong participation.

Heads of House

With the success of the House System in 2021/22, the opportunity to become the new Heads of House, is exciting and a difficult job. Each house: Service, Teamwork, Ambition and Respect, needs a new pupil leader who will work closely with the staff Head of House to organise events, encourage participation and teamwork within their house. It is a great opportunity, and they will be a big member of the pupil leadership team.

Library Prefect

The library has undergone an extensive transformation to provide literature for all, and an opportunity to escape into a creative world. The library prefect is responsible for maintaining the high standards of tidiness in the library and be the faces of reading in the school.

Charities Prefect

The charities prefect will work closely with the Faith and Character Education team on the vast array of charity events that happen throughout the year. This role is incredibly visible within the school.

Mental Health Ambassador

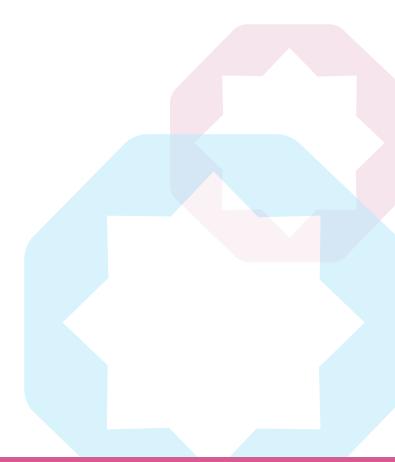
New for September 2022 the Mental Health Ambassador will work closely with the Mental Health Lead to promote positive wellbeing and mental health strategies, throughout the school. As we all know, positive mental wellbeing will allow for pupil academic success; this role is new, but incredibly important at Eden Girls'.

Inclusion Leader

The Inclusion leader will be working closely with the SEND team to raise awareness of additional needs within the school. This will take the form of promotions, campaigns as well as pupil awareness.

All roles are hotly contested.

There are also opportunities for pupil leadership in a variety of forms: Academic Leadership (Science, English, Maths), Sports Leaders, Duke of Edinburgh Award and Pupil Shuraa, to name a few. The leadership programme is ever expanding.



Enrichment



Our enrichment and extra-curricular activities help all pupils develop the skills and characteristics that will provide a solid foundation for all aspects of their lives as future business, professional and community leaders. We thrive on academic excellence, but our pupils benefit educationally, personally, and socially from a rich all rounded educational experience.

Over the summer term, we have had the opportunity to introduce some exciting experiences such as Archery, Spanish and a Garden of Eden project in science. Our pupils are striving in learning new things, that would not be covered within the academic day.

A small insight to what the pupils have been covering:

Garden of Eden project (Science): The task will be to prepare a piece of land (3m x 3m) on the school grounds to grow varieties of vegetable produce. Pupils will need to think about how to manage water, fertiliser and chemical usage to respect the environment. They will need to design apparatus to collect and dispense rainwater, effective use of natural fertilisers/ compost with weekly management of the garden. There will be opportunities to think about how to protect the growing vegetables from pests and adverse weather conditions. Pupils will be working in small groups and be managing their eco gardens, keep track of the weekly progress.

Arts and Craft: Pupils have been introduced to a range of creative activities such as resin keyring making, tie dye cushion making, t-shirt designing, mosaic creating and many more.

Netball: Our pupils have been attending various netball sessions with a Wasp's netball coach alongside forming their own netball team within each year group and being given the opportunity to play against other schools, with the support from Mrs Imran.

Japanese: Pupils have been learning about the Japanese language and culture with O'Meara-Sensei on Thursdays after school.

Spanish: They have been given the chance to learn about the Spanish language with Señoras Benali and Njala through songs and games and learning about the Spanish-speaking world.

Some pupil feedback from a selection of the enrichments taken place:

Japanese: I enjoy Japanese club because we get to learn new things and look at images from Japan. We were able to look at anime characters.

Loven Sadullah Year 10

Netball: I really enjoy netball, and the netball coach Grace is lovely, we learn a lot from her. It has been good playing against other schools as well, at first it was hard because they had more experience than us, but we have now grown in confidence and are getting better.

Aryanna Shamsul Year 9.

The enrichment programme has continued to grow throughout the year, with some fantastic new opportunities for pupils to participate. We have also maintained a huge variety of enrichment activities, that were enjoyed by the pupils.

We have continued to build upon existing success and motivate more pupils to participate in a range of activities, including; Sports Leaders & Academic Leaders, Arts & Crafts, a wide variety of Sports Clubs, Cooking, among many others.

In this academic year, we have introduced many new clubs, some of which are listed below

Young Enterprise: Young Enterprise is an opportunity for pupils to develop their own business, working as a team to ensure viability, profit and sustainability. This year, the pupils created the business 'Ithaca' where they created, designed and sold key rings. They have been very successful and are looking to continue their business into the future.

Guardian Ballers: This is an externally run programme, that allows pupils to not only develop their skill base in Basketball but focus on positive mental wellbeing and sport for happiness. It has been hugely successful with our pupils, with many requesting extra sessions. We look forward to running this programme again, next year.

Robotics: The girls really enjoyed an opportunity to look at different technologies involved in robotics. They got to be creative, modelling different robotic techniques.

DofE: This year, both Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award were reinstated. Through the programme, the pupils must complete volunteering, physical and skill sections, finishing with an expedition, exploring the British countryside. The course was oversubscribed and so far, the girls have very much enjoyed their time. At time of writing, many have completed their programme sections and are about to undertake their Practice Expedition. Good luck girls!

Moving forwards, there is to be an increased range of activities, which will hopefully mean that there is something that appeals to all. The enrichment programme will include Muay Thai/Kickboxing, Leadership, a huge range of sports clubs, Art Clubs, Cooking, Faith clubs among others. There will be a new Rugby Club, squad Netball training and Young Enterprise will continue.

Keep an eye out for the newest timetable, in September, and remember to sign up for any clubs that appeal to you.



Looking After Our Mental Health

Welcome to Summer! As days become longer and the sun (hopefully) shines more, spirits tend to lift, and life can seem a little easier in many ways. It is important to remember mental health and wellbeing is everyone's business. But unfortunately, not everyone understands mental health and wellbeing problems.

At EGSC we strive to raise awareness and break down the stigmas surrounding mental health and wellbeing, we endeavour to work with families, outside agencies and most importantly our young people as we recognise positive mental health and wellbeing as a key part in keeping our pupils safe and to help them develop as learners and succeed.

What we do in school in school

We promote the 5 ways to positive wellbeing programme. Teachers deliver discreet lessons on the 5 strands and thread them through all learning within school.

The 5 Ways to Wellbeing are:

- 1. Connect
- 2. Be active
- 3. Take notice
- 4. Keep learning
- 5. Give

These 5 strands are simple ways that we feel can make a difference in the way the children feel, think and react to school life's ups and downs. The 5 Ways to well-being are tried and tested actions to improve both mental and physical well-being. They can be done at school and home.

If you are concerned about any wellbeing issues, please do not hesitate to get in contact with the school.

Support

The following resources/ organisations are used within schools but can also be used at home too for support regarding Mental Health and Wellbeing:

YoungMinds	YoungMinds	YoungMinds
youngminds.org.uk/find-help/	www.themix.org.uk	Provides free, 24/7 text support for
feelings-and-symptoms/self-harm	If you're under 25 you can talk to	young people experiencing a mental health crisis.
Information about self-harm and stories	The Mix about anything that's troubling	ricular crisis.
from young people sharing their	you over the phone, by email or via web	Text YM to 85258
experiences and self-harm recoveries.	chat. You can also use their phone or	
	online counselling service.	Texts are free from EE, O2, Vodafone, 3, Virgin Mobile, BT Mobile, GiffGaff, Tesco
	Helpline open daily 4-11 pm: 0808 808 4994	Mobile and Telecom Plus
	Email: www.themix.org.uk/get-	
	support/speak-to-ourteam/email-us	
	Webchat open daily 4-11pm:	
	www.themix.org.uk/getsupport/speak-	
	to-our-team	

Calm Harm app

www.calmharm.co.uk

A free app providing support and strategies to help you resist or manage the urge to self-harm. Download from Google Play or App Store.

Mee Too app

www.meetwo.co.uk

A free app for teenagers providing peer support and resources. Young people can share what's going on for them and send supportive messages to others. All messages are fully moderated. Download from Google Play or App Store.

Finding a private counsellor or therapist

If this is an affordable option for you, you can find accredited private child and adolescent counsellors and thera pists living locally to you by searching the following directories.

Counselling directory: www.counselling-directory.org.uk

BACP:

www.bacp.co.uk/search/Therapists

UKCP:

www.psychotherapy.org.uk /find-a-therapist

YoungMinds

www.youngminds.org.uk/find-help/ for-parents/parentsguide-to-sup port-a-z/parents-guide-to-supportself-harm

Information and videos from our Parents Helpline and parents' own experiences.

www.youngminds.org.uk/take

20 Ideas and suggestions for finding 20 minutes to do something together with your child to support their confidence, self-esteem and resilience.

YoungMinds Parent Helpline

Our Parents Helpline is available to offer advice to parents and carers worried about a child or young person under 25.

Call us for free on 0808 802 5544.

We're open Monday-Friday from 9.30am - 4pm.

Self-harm and young people

a guide for parents and carers

www.youtube.com/watch?v=T-7hms54sF8

A 17-minute film made by YMCA Right Here Brighton for parents, carers and any other adults concerned about a young person who is self-harming.



Service to Communities

Community Programmes

Pupils at Eden Girls' have had a busy year picking up their community projects after COVID. As well as picking-up where they left off, they have also made built new links with the community.

Having the freedom to again engage in the local community has provided a real boost for pupils. A lovely moment was when pupils were able to deliver a 'surprise' package of goodies to Allambie House old people's home, following a Covid outbreak there.

The year got off to a great start when last year's leavers represented the school to win the national 'Goldsmiths Community award' for the school. Just last month our Year 10 pupils returned to this year's awards to deliver a speech to wish this year's finalist good luck. Accompanying staff were very proud to see our pupils speaking confidently and eloquently in front of a large audience at the prestigious Goldsmith's Hall in London.

At the school, all Year 10 pupils have completed their community service projects. In groups, pupils worked with a diverse range of organisations including Masjid Zeenatul Islam, a church, two local food projects including the Salvation Army, Myton Hospice, FWT

and CRASAC. All pupils spent three days working on practical projects that will directly benefit these organisations. Activities including fund raising events, making videos raising awareness of mental health well-being and building garden furniture for a faith-based garden. As well as helping in the community, pupils all gained experience that will be of benefit for their personal development as well as evidence of team-working for sixth-form applications.

All Year 9 pupils have completed three days of their 'Enterprise Challenge'. This year the challenge was to create jewellery and branding from recycled milk-bottle tops and VHS cases. As well as the jewellery they also needed to develop an ethical brand identity, display, and advertising. Judging will be completed by directors of Coventry jeweller's 'Francis and Gaye' as well as a surprise 'TV' guest. The winning team will be visiting the Birmingham school of jewellery in the Autumn term.



Service to Communities

Attendance Matters!

As a parent, you set the standards and expectations for your child. Good attendance and punctuality are life skills which are passed from parents to children and affect their employability and future prospects. Good attendance in school helps pupils learn better, sustain friendships and enjoy school life.

At Eden Girls' School Coventry we want all our pupils to have a positive experience of school life and to reach their potential. One way in which parents can help their children do this is to ensure that they attend school every day.

- Our minimum expectation is 97% attendance
- If your child is very ill, please don't send them
- If they have a 'minor ailment' please send them in
- We do not approve any holidays taken in school time
- Please contact the school straight away to let us know if your child is absent
- If there are ongoing medical problems, please keep us informed.

Attendance during one school year	Equals days absent	Which is approximately weeks absent	Which means this number of lessons missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	45 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	95 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	145 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	190 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	240 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	285 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	335 Lessons

Minutes late per day during	Equals days worth of teaching lost in a year	
the school year		
5 Minutes	3.4 Days	
10 Minutes	6.9 Days	
15 Minutes	10.3 Days	
20 Minutes	13.8 Days	
30 Minutes	20.7 Days	

Dates for your Diary

Summer Term 2022

School Re-Opens for pupils Thursday 1st September 2022 Half-Term Closure Monday 24th October – Friday 28th October 2022 Staff Inset Day Friday 25th November Christmas Holiday Monday 19th December – Monday 2nd January 2023