

11th February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

The school has had a very successful term. Thank you for all the continuing support you provide for your children in their learning and helping us to ensure they enjoy and achieve.

Last Day of ½ Term / Start of New Term

Friday 14th February is the last day of the current half term. Autumn Term. The school will reopen to all students on Monday 24th February at the normal time. Year 11 and 13 students attending interventions during half term should report to main reception at their allocated time.

Free School Meals

The government has provided additional funding to local authorities to support students on Free School Meals over the holidays. This will follow the same format as previous vouchers and will be emailed to those parents it concerns.

CHANGE OF YEAR 10 PARENTS' EVENING DATE

Unfortunately, I have had to change the date of the forthcoming Year 10 Parent's Evening. This will now take place on Tuesday 25th February 4-7pm. I apologise for any inconvenience caused.

SQUID

Our parent payment provider, sQuid, contacted us, and all their other schools last week, to announce that they are pulling out of the UK market and ceasing all trading in the UK on the 14th March. At the current time I am trying to find another provider and whilst I am optimistic that we can switch before this date the time frame is very limited. It is incredibly disappointing not to have received more notice and many schools are facing a similar problem. I will notify you as soon as possible when we have sourced another online payment provider. In the meantime, please keep using sQuid as normal.

Non-Uniform Day

The school held a non-uniform day before Christmas. I am very pleased to say that £944 was raised this was split equally between Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Appeal and ICRC (International Red Cross and Red Crescent) appeal for humanitarian aid in Gaza. Our Sixth Form also held a bake sale over two days specially for the ICRC which raised an additional £861. Well-done to everyone that took part.

Governing Board

I am pleased to announce the school has two new parent governors who will commence their posts in March. Mrs Rashid and Mr Singh, who have children in Years 7 and 10, they will be very welcome additions to the Governing Body of Wexham School. Also, a reminder that the school has a new Chair of Governors, Alison Hibbert. Alison joined the board in the summer and is also our Local Authority Governor. Alison is a former teacher and currently works in a senior position in the local authority. She knows and understands the school and its wider work as well as having also been a board member of the Slough School's Sports Partnership for many years.

Start of the School Day

The school day starts at 8.40am. Students should be onsite before this time. Being punctual means the day starts positive. The most common reason given for lateness is traffic problems. I urge you, wherever possible, to encourage your child to walk or cycle to school. This will help them be healthier, improve our environment and reduce traffic problems. Students should not be on site before 8am. Can I also remind some of our parents that do drive to school NOT to block local residents' driveways and please do not park on pavements, cycle lanes and grass verges.

Attendance

Regular school attendance is crucial for your child's educational progress and success. It not only allows them to fully engage in the learning process but also fosters a sense of routine and responsibility that will benefit them in the long run. At Wexham, an attendance rate of 95% and above is considered acceptable.

What you can do to help:

- Avoid scheduling holidays when school is in session. They are considered unauthorised absences and will result in a fine.
- Build regular routines for bedtime and the morning.
- Avoid medical appointments when school is in session.

We want to ensure that all our students have the best possible educational experience, and this can only be achieved through regular attendance and a commitment to following government guidelines.

If you anticipate any absences due to exceptional circumstances, please contact the school in advance to discuss your situation. We will do our best to work with you to minimise any impact on your child's education.

A reminder that term time holidays are not allowed, and parents will be fined for unauthorised absence.

Contacting Us

If you need to contact us, please do so by telephone or email at post@wexham.slough.sch.uk or follow the link on the website. Please remember that we are busy school where staff may be teaching or in meetings. We always try to get back to you as soon as possible.

Emergency Closure

A reminder of our emergency closure procedure.

- The decision to close the school outside of core hours will be taken by 7.30am after an assessment of poor weather conditions or on the advice of Slough Borough Council or the emergency services. We will always aim to contact parents by text message as early as possible; normally this would be by 7.45am, before students leave for school. Messages will also be displayed on the school website.
- Should the school be forced to close during the day, or your child has arrived on school premises in the morning, you will be contacted before we send student's home.
- Further text messages and our website will update parents of our situation. For this reason, it is always vital that the school has up to date contact details.

Thank you for your continuing support and I wish everyone a happy and restful holiday period.

Yours faithfully



Mr Lawrence Smith
Headteacher

Term and Important Dates 2024 – 2025

Autumn Term	Tuesday 3 rd September 2024	Staff ONLY Day - INSET
	Wednesday 4 th September 2024	Staff ONLY Day - INSET
	Thursday 5 th September – Tuesday 10 th September 2024	Students first day of the term
	Friday 27 th September 2024	Delayed start to the School Day due to Open Evening the night before. School will open at 9.30, registration will be at 9.40am
	Monday 7 th October 2024	Academic Progress Day – ALL STUDENTS
	Thursday 24 th October 2024	Last day of Half Term – 3.10pm Finish
	Tuesday 15 th October	Year 11 Information Evening
	Friday 25 th October 2024	Staff ONLY Day - INSET
	Monday 28 th October to Friday 1 st November 2024	Half Term Holiday
	Monday 4 th November 2024	All students attend school at 8.35 for 8.40am start
	Thursday 7 th November 2024	@Wexham Awards Evening – Invited guests only
	Thursday 12 th December 2024	Year 11 Parents' Evening 3.45pm – 6.45pm
	Friday 20 th December 2024	Last Day of Term. School will operate a compact day finishing at 1pm
Monday 23 rd December 2024 to Friday 3 rd January 2025	Christmas Holiday	
Spring Term	Monday 6 th January 2025	Staff ONLY Day - INSET
	Tuesday 7 th January 2025	All students attend school at 8.35 for 8.40am start
	Thursday 9 th January 2025	Year 12 and 13 Parents' Evening – 3.45 – 6.45pm
	Thursday 23 rd January 2025	Wexham's Got Talent
	Tuesday 4 th February 2025	Year 8 Parents' Evening – 3.45 – 6.45pm
	Friday 14 th February 2025	Last day of Half Term – 3.10pm Finish
	Monday 17 th to Friday 21 st February 2025	Half Term Holiday
	Monday 24 th February 2025	All students attend school at 8.35 for 8.40am start
	Tuesday 25 th February 2025	Change of Date Year 10 Parents' Evening – 3.45 – 6.45pm
	Thursday 3 rd April 2025	Year 7 Parents' Evening – 3.45 – 6.45pm
	Friday 4 th April 2025	Last Day of Term. School will operate a compact day finishing at 1pm
Monday 7 th April to Monday 21 st April 2025	Easter Holiday	
Summer Term	Tuesday 22 nd April 2025	Staff ONLY Day - INSET
	Wednesday 23 rd April 2025	All students attend school at 8.35 for 8.40am start
	Tuesday 29 th April 2025	Year 9 Parents' Evening – 3.45 – 6.45pm
	Thursday 8 th May 2025	Year 9 Pathways Evening – 3.45 – 6.45pm
	Monday 5 th May 2025	School Closed for May Bank Holiday
	Friday 23 rd May 2025	Culture Day Last day of Half Term – 3.10pm Finish
	Monday 26 th May to Friday 30 th May 2025	Half Term Holiday
	Monday 2 nd June 2025	All students attend school at 8.35 for 8.40am start
	Thursday 17 th July 2025	@Wexham PE and Sport Awards Evening – Invited guests only
	Wednesday 23 rd July 2025	Last Day of Term for students School will operate a compact day finishing at 1pm