

19 July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

## End of Summer Term and Start of Autumn Term – Year 9 into Year 10

Thank you for your support throughout the school year. Our students have coped remarkably well with schooling during these challenging times, and this will serve them well for next year.

My colleagues and I have all enjoyed a return to some degree of normality this term and we all hope this is sustained into the autumn. Lessons have been taking place back in specialist rooms and fixtures and trips, as well as events like Sports Day, Summer Arts and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award expeditions, have all re-started and been hugely enjoyable.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work of all colleagues at the end of a very demanding school year. Our teaching staff have been busy acting as examiners this term and this has brought an enormous additional workload. The changes that have had to take place due to the pandemic, have also affected our support staff as everyone has carried extra duties through the year. I am grateful to their commitment to the students and school.

### End of the Summer Term 2021

The final assemblies of the year have seen several students gaining recognition and a range of awards. Many of them will also have received a family voucher for Kew Gardens, courtesy of one of our business partners, EcoWorld.

Please ensure that your son/ward maintains his attendance right through to the final morning of term. The Summer Term ends at 12.30pm on Tuesday 20 July.

### COVID-19 Arrangements During the Summer Holiday

#### REMAIN VIGILANT AND PLEASE KEEP TESTING

The number of cases locally continues to rise in line with national data. Public Health England colleagues encourage all of us to **keep testing** to help identify cases and slow the spread of the virus. Static testing centres and mobile units will remain in place across the area over the summer break, so please do utilise them, when required.

#### TRACK AND TRACE

Schools will shortly, no longer be required to track and trace. However, we have been asked to continue this work **until 28 July**, so, if your child becomes symptomatic or tests positive, **please do email the school** at [school@isleworthsyon.org](mailto:school@isleworthsyon.org) to keep us informed and to allow us to identify close contacts.

#### VACCINATIONS

Please do take up the vaccination if offered. This remains the only real option for a return to normality at this stage of the pandemic. [Hounslow's vaccination sites are on this link.](#)

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## Enrichment Programme

The enrichment activities remain available to our students on the school website. You can access them [here](#). Our extensive online reading platform is [here](#) where over 1,500 books can be accessed. Please feel free to visit this site and encourage your son/ward to enjoy reading. There are a number of local authority holiday programmes also running this summer.

## Start of the Autumn Term 2021

We continue to plan for a normal start to the new term, but we will monitor how the pandemic develops over the summer and respond if required. We will be testing students with consent on return to school, so to accommodate this, different year groups will return on different days.

Our new **Year 10** students will return for testing and induction on:

**Tuesday 7 September at 8.30am.**

The students will then return to normal timetabled lessons after break.

## The School Shop, Uniform and Stationery

Our shop is fully stocked with school uniform, PE & Games kit, equipment, and stationery. You can view the items for sale on the school website [here](#).

The school shop will be open on selected dates during the summer holidays. Please note that we only accept debit or credit card payments.

To keep the school site COVID-secure, the shop is available **by appointment only**. Without an appointment, you will not be able to purchase uniform. There will be a limit of 2 people per appointment - one of these should be your son/ward so that the correct sizes are purchased.

To book your appointment, please go to [www.isleworthsyon.org/shop](http://www.isleworthsyon.org/shop), in the 'Book a Summer Holidays Appointment' tab.

Appointments begin on Monday 26 July. Days that are unavailable for booking are greyed out.

## Free School Meals During the Summer

Parents/carers of students eligible for free school meals have received a separate communication about the issuing of vouchers over the summer break.

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## Staffing Changes

As is usual at the end of the Summer Term, some staff are moving for promotions, re-location, or retirement. We are fully staffed for September, but I would like to just acknowledge some of the longer-serving colleagues leaving us at the end of the year.

Mr Magee, our Senior Network Manager, is emigrating to New Zealand, with his family, after 19 years working at the school. Mr Magee joined the staff straight from our Sixth Form as an IT Technician and has worked tirelessly as the IT facilities have developed beyond all recognition over the years. With the benefit of connectivity, he will be at the end of a satellite link should we need any further support!

Mrs Tindall, our receptionist, retires at the end of term after over 17 years of service to the school and nearly 40 years of work. She is also taking the chance to make a move out of the area to be nearer to young grandchildren and to provide some support to her family. It does not sound like retirement to me!

At the end of this academic year, Ms Simms (Senior Deputy Headteacher) will be leaving the school after 18 years of dedicated and inspirational service to our school community. After 33 years in education, she has decided to start her retirement and to look forward to some new and exciting adventures.

I first worked with Ms Simms at the start of her career at another local school and was delighted, several years later, to welcome the opportunity to work with her again as part of our Senior Leadership Team. In her time with us, she has led the development of the school curriculum and of IT across the school; and taken up the responsibility for the leadership of the pastoral team and for safeguarding. It is a testament to her vision and hard work that safeguarding and the pastoral systems of the school are judged as 'outstanding' by Ofsted.

Ms Simms has worked with countless children and their families in her time with us and I know they will have greatly valued her tireless work and compassion. From my point of view, I shall miss her professionalism, wisdom, and her friendship.

I am sure that you will join with me in wishing Ms Simms and all of our leavers the very best for the next stages of their lives.

## Further Communications through the Summer

If we need to communicate further through the summer, this will be done electronically, so please do watch out for further information by email, on the [Twitter feed](#), and on the [school website](#). I thank you, as ever, for your continued support. Do stay safe over the break and I wish you all a very good summer.

Yours sincerely,



**Euan Ferguson**  
Headteacher