



16<sup>th</sup> September 2014

Dear Parents,

### **ABSENCE IN TERM-TIME**

As most of you will be aware schools can no longer authorise holidays during term-time.

On the **1 September 2013** amendments to the Education (Pupil registration England) 2006 regulations removed all references to family holidays and extended leave, as well as the statutory limit of ten school days absence.

The amendments made clear that Headteachers may **not** grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are **exceptional circumstances**. Headteachers will determine the number of school days a child can be away from school if leave of absence is granted. This will be discussed on a case by case basis with the Headteacher.

In summary:

- We can no longer authorise family holidays during term time.
- Leave will only be agreed in exceptional circumstances.

Should you need to apply for a leave of absence for your child, please obtain the appropriate form from the school office to provide details supporting your request.

The aim of the legislation is to improve overall attendance figures and reduce the lost days of education which can have a negative impact on a child's progress. This is a government directive over which we, as a school, have no choice.

I thank you for your continued cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

Jane O'Sullivan  
Headteacher

