

Dear Parents and Carers

We have reached the end of another school year and the summer holiday has arrived. We say goodbye to a number of staff this term. Many have been with us just a short while helping cover some gaps that arose in the year as staff moved on. We have been successful in recruiting good and experienced staff to replace them and I will introduce our new colleagues to you at the start of the new year.

We wish the following staff the very best in their next steps and thank them for working with the students at Thamesmead School.

- After 20 years teaching at Thamesmead Miss Walker is leaving to be SENDCO at a school closer to where she lives after enduring a very long daily commute to come and support the students at Thamesmead every day. Mrs Ralph is going to be taking up the role of SENDCO from September.
- Mrs Muldoon, who works in our Learning Resource Centre (Library) is retiring after 20 years' service at the school and we wish her a wonderful retirement.
- Mrs Saunders, is leaving after 15 years' service in our front office and we wish her the very best for the future.
- Miss Loong, (Modern Foreign Languages) is leaving to spend more time with her young family.
- Mr Proudlock (Mathematics and Business Studies) is relocating to Yorkshire and we wish him the best with his move and new life up North.
- Mr Boyle, (Computer Science), has gained promotion to a school in Richmond Upon Thames and we wish him well in his new role.
- Miss Dos Remedios (Modern Foreign Languages) is moving to another local school after 6 years at Thamesmead for new experiences and we wish her bon chance, y buena suerte.
- Miss Atherden, (English) is relocating to teach in the Middle East and we wish her a safe journey and great adventures in her new chapter.
- We also say goodbye to Miss Coade (PE), Miss Campbell (RE), Miss Iacob (Maths), Miss Devereux and Miss Swardt (English), and Mr Jacobs (RE).

We do not have many students leaving us at the end of this year, but we wish those who are the very best of luck at their new schools.

Term dates

As you will be aware I consulted with parents about proposed plans to adjust the school term dates for 2026-27 following a decision from Surrey County Council to introduce a two-week October Half-term holiday and to extend the summer term. Thank you to all parents who engaged in this process and shared your thoughts and preferences. I will confirm our final decision on how we will respond and our term dates for 2026-27 in September with you.

The calendar for the **2025-26** academic year can be found [here](#) (October 2025 is a 1 week half term)

Summer Term Progress Reports

Please see the MCAS (My Child at School) app to access your child's Summer Progress Report. Please let us know on info@thamesmead.surrey.sch.uk if you have any issues accessing these.

End of term round up.

It has been a pleasure to attend the Celebration Assemblies this week for each of the year groups and share in all of the successes and achievements of so many students from across the school year. We have handed out in excess of 120 certificates to every year group to recognise their hard work and progress in the different subjects, students with high attendance, students who have received many achievement points, and those who have deserved positive recognition from their Heads of Year and Year Team. Congratulations to all recipients of certificates and awards at the end of this academic year. Thank you to Miss Brackenbury, Mr Cowley, Mr Tabron and Mr Smith who have prepared and led these fantastic celebrations of the year.

Each assembly has seen three musical performances from students in that year group. This follows the fantastic Summer Showcase concert Mr Moses and the students delivered last week to an audience of parents, students and staff. We are lucky to have so many talented musicians within the school who have the confidence to perform for others. I am also impressed by the respect our students show for their peers when they do perform for others. As a school we are lucky to have a dedicated Head of Music in Mr Moses and we thank him for supporting the students with so many opportunities this year.

Our school production of Oliver was a highlight for me two weeks ago with a cast and backstage crew of over 70 students all working hard over many weeks to rehearse and then perform an inspiring and entertaining show enjoyed by everyone who came to watch. Again, this could not have happened without the hard work and dedication of Mrs Holmes (Head of Performing Arts) and Mrs Boyle. Our house competition was won by Phoenix house who won the highest number of house points this year as well as our Sports Day for the second year in a row, on Friday. They were rewarded with an afternoon of fun on the field with a range of inflatable games and activities, a feast laid on for them, and glorious sunshine in which to enjoy it. All thanks to Miss Dos Remedios and her team of House Leaders and student prefects.

Today, we finish the year with our enterprise focused Summer Fair event, which we hope will be a success in providing a fun, but beneficial way to end the year with students developing essential skills of teamwork, independence, creativity, and communication as well as raising money for many student nominated charities as well.

We are attaching the Thamesmead Talk Summer Term newsletter with you that highlights more of the events of the last 7 weeks.

Reminders for the new school year.

Students return to Thamesmead on the following dates;

Year 7: Wednesday 3rd September at 8:25

Years 8-11: Thursday 4th September at 8:25

Student timetables will be visible in Bromcom/MCAS from September.

School Uniform

We know that most of you will leave purchasing new uniform to the end of the holidays to allow room for summer growth.

Please remember to consult our uniform policy before doing this and remind yourself of our expectations to prevent any money being spent on items that do not meet these. Our policy can be

found [here](#) . Items to take time to check carefully are shoes, PE shorts, and skirts. Please do not accept your child saying, *'it is OK, everyone else wears them/we are allowed to wear them'*.

We would like to avoid any issues with students returning in September with piercings that we will expect to be removed, and students getting upset because they are not yet healed. These typically require 6 weeks to heal so the piercing can be removed. Where parents are permitting additional piercings, cartilage piercings or nose piercings, please plan to do these at the very beginning of this holiday so any issues around removing them can be avoided. By working with us in this way we make the return to school a positive one.

I would like to thank you, our community of parents and carers for your support over this year. This week we have seen many of you join us for our Celebration Assemblies where we acknowledge the students' achievements for the year. We saw many of you watch the students perform throughout the year, with Oliver and the Summer Showcase music concert particularly well supported.

We have returned our Progress Review meetings fully to face to face events and it has been a pleasure for staff to connect with so many of you in person. The dates for these events will be as follows – so please take time to add them to your diaries so that you will be available to join us.

Y11 - Thursday 11th December 2025

Y10 – Tuesday 13th January 2026

Y9 – Thursday 5th February 2026 (with Y9 Options Fair also 29th Jan)

Y8 – Tuesday 10th March 2026

Y11 – Wednesday 25th March 2026

Y7 – Wednesday 29th April 2026

A thank you to parents would not be complete without taking time to acknowledge the excellent work our parents who are involved with the Friends of Thamesmead have delivered, to help raise funds for the school's development. This year we have seen even more of you show a willingness to get involved and support key events and we hope this will continue. By doing so you become a part of the great things that happen day in day out here at Thamesmead. Many parents have also sent kind words, gifts and thanks to staff across the school. This is very much appreciated – thank you.

I would like to finish this letter by wishing you all a lovely summer holiday, however you are spending it, and I look forward to sharing positive news of our GCSE exam results with you in the summer when they are known.

Yours faithfully

Phil Reeves
Headteacher