



St. Columba's Catholic Primary School

Station Road, Wallsend, Tyne and Wear. NE28 8EN

Telephone: 0191 262 3098

www.stcolumbasprimary.co.uk

Email Address: scpschool@stcolumbasprimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs. C. Garbutt

Part of the Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust



Letter to parents re: Change of Holiday dates

Dear Parent or Carer,

As you may be aware a number of concerns have been raised about the term dates for 2023-24. In particular, the misalignment of the half term holidays with those of the Local Authorities.

Bishop Bewick's Trust Board of Directors have listened carefully to the issues caused by this situation and the implications for our families and staff. As a result, they have taken the decision to move the February 2024 half term to **Monday 19th February 2024 to Friday 23rd February 2024** which is in line with our three Local Authorities. It was felt that it was too late to change the October half term as so many staff and families had already made concrete plans for this time and so the dates for October week 2023 will not change from those already published.

Once again, the Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust apologises for any inconvenience this situation has caused for its staff, pupils and their families. We do hope that the revision of the February half term will go some way to make the situation easier for everyone concerned. If, however this change will cause you any difficulties please could you liaise directly with schools. We have asked school leaders to be flexible where plans were made in good faith by parents.

Finally, please be reassured that the 2024-2025 dates are in line with Newcastle and North Tyneside Local Authorities. We are told they align with Northumberland too, and will publish these term dates as soon as this is confirmed.

I appreciate your patience with this situation.

Kind regards

Mrs C Garbutt

Headteacher

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