



July 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the close of the academic year, I can confirm that school will finish at **13.00 on Friday 21 July** and that the Yellow Bus service will operate at this time.

The start of the new academic year is **Tuesday 5 September** and we will welcome all pupils as follows:

<b>Year 7</b>	<b>In school between 10.00 and 15.00</b>
<b>Years 8, 9, 10, 11, 13</b>	<b>In school between 13.00 and 15.00 only</b>
<b>Year 12</b>	<b>In school between 10.30 and 12.20 only</b>

The Yellow Bus service will not run in the morning but will operate at 15.00.

The lunch break is scheduled for 12.20 to 13.00 - lunches will be available to all pupils wishing to eat at school.

When we make plans for the new school year we always consider our school uniform and how standards in this area reflect school values. I would like to reiterate that only plain black tailored trousers should be worn. Certain styles and fabrics are not acceptable, e.g. super skinny, hipster, riveted denim, canvas, jeans-style, cropped, ankle grazers, leggings, jeggings and treggings. Please do not assume that if a retailer describes its range as 'school wear' that it matches our expectation. For example, many trousers with stretch material will not have a tailored appearance. If there is any doubt please view the examples on our website or contact the Year Team before purchasing uniform. We are a school that is underpinned by strong values and standards and uniform is one way of showing that pupils are part of the Titus Salt School community; thank you for your continued support with this and for helping to ensure we all make the right start.

The following gives an indication of some of the key dates and events for the autumn term. Please visit our website for further information: [www.titussaltschool.co.uk](http://www.titussaltschool.co.uk)

Term dates - 2017/2018	Key dates - autumn term
<p><b>Autumn</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 5 September - start of autumn term</li> <li>▪ 23 to 27 October - half term holiday</li> <li>▪ 18 December to 2 January - Christmas holiday</li> </ul> <p><b>Spring</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 3 January - start of spring term</li> <li>▪ 12 to 16 February - half term holiday</li> <li>▪ 30 March to 13 April - Easter holiday</li> </ul> <p><b>Summer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 16 April - start of summer term</li> <li>▪ 7 May - Bank Holiday</li> <li>▪ 28 May to 1 June - half term holiday</li> <li>▪ 24 July - last day of academic year</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 5 September - All pupils in school</li> <li>▪ 6 September - Year 7/Year 10 school photos</li> <li>▪ 28 September - Open Evening (<i>school closes 13.20</i>)</li> <li>▪ 29 September - Staff Training Day</li> <li>▪ 10 October - Yr 11 Steps to Success Evening</li> <li>▪ 12 October - Year 7 Transition Day</li> <li>▪ 17 October - KS4/Yr12 Awards Event</li> <li>▪ 7 November - Year 11 Parents' Evening</li> <li>▪ 15 November - Sixth Form Options Evening</li> <li>▪ 21 November - Year 13 Parents' Evening</li> <li>▪ 24 November - Staff Training Day</li> <li>▪ 27 November to 13 December - Year 11 mock examinations</li> <li>▪ 11 December - Year 7 to 11 Rewards Brunch</li> <li>▪ 13 December - Christmas Concert at 19.00</li> </ul>

We end the academic year having successfully supported our pupils through their GCSE, GCE and vocational examinations and I am delighted that the examination invigilators once again praised our pupils for their self-organisation and impeccable conduct throughout the examination period. I wish all of our pupils every success in their future and of course, we are looking forward to seeing them again on Results Days: 17 August 2017 for KS5 and 24 August 2017 for KS4 as well as a great many returning to study in our Denys Salt Sixth Form Centre.

**National changes to education** - There continues to be significant change in education and we continue to respond positively to these changes for the benefit of all our pupils; forgive me if I repeat things you already know and are familiar with but these changes include: the delegated responsibility of Regional Headteacher Boards and Regional School Commissioners to ensure the government's manifesto on education is accelerated, which includes the Academy conversion process, this includes the increase in the number of Free Schools for Special Educational Needs, Alternative Provision and Sixth Forms; linear examinations for the vast majority of subjects at GCSE and GCE level; the continued use of Best 8 Performance Measures; the use of a 9 to 1 scale for examinations in English and Mathematics from summer 2017, which will be published alongside GCSE grades A\* to G for all other subjects; the changes to Key Stage 2 assessments and the removal of Levels from Key Stage 3.

**Academy Status** – You may recall from previous letters and information that we were granted Academy status as a Converter Academy within three weeks of application in May 2016. We originally looked to progress a partnership with Northern Star Academies Trust but this has not proven to be successful and therefore we are in discussions with the Department for Education on what are our next steps.

**Assessment, Target Setting and Monitoring Progress** – In light of the guidance from the DfE on the removal of levels and the introduction of a new KS2 assessment system, we have gone through a lengthy period of consultation and discussion with members of staff, in particular, Faculty Leaders to develop a bespoke system of Assessment, Monitoring Progress and Reporting to parents/carers:

**Assessment:** Pupils will be assessed in different ways in their subjects; some assessments will be based on tests, others will be based on classwork which, for example, may be extended writing or project work. One key piece of work will receive detailed and quality written feedback at least once per half term. The feedback pupils get may be written advice or a further challenging task to help develop their understanding of a particular aspect of the work they have done. This type of marking and feedback will be identified using the whole school system of star – star – wish.

**Target Setting:** The focus of our school is to provide stretch and challenge for every pupil so they attain the highest grades they can and make as much progress as possible from their Key Stage 2 starting point. Every pupil will be given a target grade for each subject they study which will show the expected outcome for them at the "End of Year 11"; this is because the national system looks at what a pupil attained at Key Stage 2 and uses this to predict what a pupil should get at the end of Key Stage 4 (which is the end of Year 11). For English and Maths the target grade will be a number between 9 and 1 because this is the new national grading system for these two subjects; for all other subjects we will use grades A\* to G until the revised 9 to 1 grades are brought in nationally. We have looked at the national guidance and the two systems for the End of Key Stage 2 which for some pupils was a Level e.g. 3a, 4c and so on and for others it is a score between 80 and 120. We use the national system to look at these Key Stage 2 outcomes and map them against expected outcomes at the End of Year 11. There is no national guidance on how KS2 outcomes link across the different Key Stages and the different systems; the table below shows how we have calculated KS2 links to KS4:

KS2 Av		80	88	92	94	96	98	100	103	106	109	112	115	116	117	118	119	120
Legacy Level	W	1	2	3c	3b	3a	4c	4b	4a	5c	5b	5a	6c	6b	6a	7c	7b	7a
Legacy GCSE	F	E	D	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A	A+	S	S	S	S	S	S
Correlation To 9 to 1	1	2	3	4		5		6		7		8			9			

S means GCSE Grade A\*

**Reporting:** Each pupil will receive a report that will go home to parents each term. The report will show the outcome of assessments made in units of work or topics completed at the point of publishing the report; any gaps in the report will reflect the fact that those topics or units have not yet been covered. The reason for including all topics for the academic year shows pupils and parents what is to be covered in lessons.

**Example – Year 7 Computer Science:**

Computer Science		End of Year 11 Target: C+				Your child is currently: Working above target				ATL: 2		
	Hardware & Software	Data & Data Representation		Algorithms		Programming & Development		Communications & Networks		Information Technology		
	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post
Grade	19%	38%	14%	29%	25%	19%	17%	43%	30%	41%		
Teacher:												

In the example above, the "Working above target" comment is based on the level of progress a pupil has made from their starting point towards their target. The level of progress is calculated by using assessments in a summative way e.g. an average of all assessments; an average of two types of assessments; an average of different types of topics (academic and practical); what is used to generate this summative outcome will vary between Faculty and Subject. This summative outcome is then compared to what is expected of a pupil at a given point in time; what is "expected of a pupil" will be determined by each Faculty and Subject using criteria from national standards e.g. examination framework.

**School Meals** - We work closely with our catering partner, Innovate, to ensure school meals provide value for money and costs are kept as low as possible. There will be no price rise in September - a school meal will still cost £2.35.

**Events and Achievements** - The end of a term is always a good time to review some of the events and achievements of the previous few months with staff, pupils and parents/carers involved in a range of events, meetings, sporting action, visits and progress checks in addition to Teaching & Learning:

**NEET 0%** For the sixth successive year, every pupil that left at the end of Year 11 or sixth form progressed to a high quality destination. We are the only school in Bradford to have achieved this.

**Dragon Boat Festival** The staff team, Titus' Titanic Titans, beat 39 other boats to take second place in the festival. The paddling performance raised over £2000 for mental health charity, Young Minds.

**Developing athletes** TSS is collaborating with Next Generation Fitness and Performance to develop our promising athletes through a Performance Academy. Pupils will work with an expert strength and conditioning coach in a specialised gym so they can access age specific training models, coaching, education and nutritional guidance.

**Cricket** Year 7 pupils, Jack Allport and Jack Sharp have been selected to play for Bradford Schools Cricket Association.

**Gymnastics** Megan Argent, Year 7, Paige Norman and Sophie Watmuff, Year 8 and Catherine Duffy, Year 10, competed in the Yorkshire Schools Gymnastics Competition.

**Summer camp** Jade Buxton, Danyaal Hanif and Yakshina Mistry have beaten off stiff competition to attend a prestigious four-day STEM placement at the University College London.

**Spelling champions** Five local primaries went head to head at the Spelling Bee finals we hosted and the standard of spelling was exceptional. It was an afternoon of tough competition with tricky words that got harder as the rounds progressed.

**Readathon** Enthusiastic Year 7 pupils read everything from comics to classics to raise money for brand new children's books to be sent to hospitals.

As I look back on my fifth year as Headteacher, it is incredible how much we have achieved and the amount of change that has happened as part of our school's focus on development. It has been a very enjoyable and eventful year and I have no doubt that next year will be similar in that regard. I am very proud of our staff and pupils and what we have achieved together. On behalf of all the staff, may I take the opportunity to thank you for your support throughout what has been another successful year for Titus Salt School.

Yours sincerely



**Ian Morrel**  
Headteacher



Telephone: 01274 258969  
Fax: 01274 258970  
Web: [www.titussaltschool.co.uk](http://www.titussaltschool.co.uk)  
Email: [enquiries@titussaltschool.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@titussaltschool.co.uk)