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PARK JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Dear Parents,

TERM TIME SCHOOL LEAVE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

As a parent or carer, you can demonstrate your commitment to your child's education by, taking your holidays during the school holiday periods.

We consider that your child's education is too important to take holidays during term time. Children should attend school for 190 days each year and every day is important.

Please help them not to miss any of this valuable time.

The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulation 2006 set out the circumstances in which schools may grant a pupil leave of absence.

When deciding whether to allow your child leave during term time, the school will consider:-

- The time and duration of the leave.
- Your child's record of attendance.
- Learning that will be missed.
- Circumstances of the request

THE FACTS	THE LAW
<p>We recognise that it is often expensive to take a holiday during school breaks and that is why some parents may ask for term-time leave for their child. However, it is important that parents carefully consider the implications of taking their child out of school during term time.</p> <p>Research suggests that children who are taken out of school may never catch up on work they have missed. This can affect progress and self-esteem and can be particularly harmful if the child is studying for final year examinations.</p> <p>Children who struggle with English or Mathematics may also find it even harder to cope when they return to school, while younger children may find it difficult to renew friendships with their classmates.</p>	<p>The law does not say that parents have an automatic right to take their child out of school for holidays during term time. The request for leave must come from a parent/guardian with whom the child normally resides and must be for the purpose of an annual holiday.</p> <p>In exceptional circumstances school may authorise, in advance, a request for a period of leave of up to ten school days in any academic year.</p> <p>If a child then stays away from school for more than the authorised period, this must be recorded as unauthorised absence and could be quoted in a prosecution for poor attendance.</p>

WHAT YOU SHOULD CONSIDER –

There are times during a school year when a child may experience particular problems because of term-time leave such as:

- Closeness to annual QCAs, SATs (Monday 10th May to Friday 14th May 2010)
- At the beginning of a new school term.

If the school refuses a request for term-time leave and the child is taken out of school, this will be recorded as unauthorised absence.

REQUEST FOR ABSENCE DURING SCHOOL TERM TIME

Please return this form to school at least 4 weeks in advance of your proposed absence

TO THE HEADTEACHER, PARK JUNIOR SCHOOL

I wish to apply for:

NAME(S) OF PUPILS _____ CLASS _____

_____ CLASS _____

to be authorised as being absent from school from _____ to _____ inclusive.

REASON FOR REQUEST DURING TERM TIME:-

I have read the information given with regard to removing my child from full time education for the above time.

Signature Parent/Carer _____ Date _____

The school agrees to your child(ren) being absent from school on the dates specified for the above reason.

OR

Unfortunately the leave of absence for the above dates will be recorded as unauthorised/refused because:

- Your child has a poor attendance record. Current % of Attendance _____**
- Your child has already had one annual holiday during term time. Date _____**
- The absence request is during an assessment period.**
- The absence request is at the beginning of term time.**
- The absence is for more than ten days.**
- The Holiday Leave is not an exceptional circumstance.**

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Please help them not to miss any of this valuable time.

SIGNATURE OF HEADTEACHER _____ **Date** _____

Please contact the Headteacher, Mr R Gasser, if you wish to discuss this issue.

We hope that when you have read this letter, you will consider that your child's education is too important to take holidays during term time.