

Dear Parent/Carer

7th April 2022

As we reach the end of the spring term I would like to thank you all for your support over the last eight school weeks. Staff and students have given me an incredibly warm welcome and I am very much enjoying being part of the learning community that is Teignmouth Community School.

Thank you to the handful of parents who have been in touch to welcome me, thank me, and acknowledge the hard work of the leadership team and staff through what remain quite tough times with COVID and the resulting staff absences.

I wish all students and their families a wonderful break over the Easter period, but particularly the examination year groups as they balance rest and relaxation with really beginning their revision and examination preparations in earnest. When we return from the Easter break there are very few weeks before the formal examinations and we very much want to maximise the success of these key year groups in the summer examinations. The real holiday for them comes in July and August when the examinations are over...

For your information, in the summer term we will be trialing an alteration to the timings of the school day. It will not affect you particularly outside of school as the start and end times of the day are staying exactly as they currently are. The main change is that we are going to trial two equal length breaks of 30 minutes each (rather than a short break in the morning and a much longer lunch time). There are several reasons for this, including:

- Ensuring all staff and students have a more appropriate length break in the middle of the major learning section of the day
- Ensuring the timings create the best possible conditions for the examination period
- Capacity and queue length for the catering facilities

The full food service will be available to all students during both break times. Students will be able to choose with complete freedom which of the breaks they choose to drink, snack, and eat lunch.

Stakeholder views will be sought regarding this trial part way through the summer term and then again toward the end of the term. Your feedback will inform any final decision on the timings of the day for the next academic year, which need to be reviewed anyway in light of the recent Government White Paper for Education.

Have a wonderful Spring break - we look forward to the summer term

Kind regards

Paul Cornish
Exec Head - TCS

Executive Headteacher: Mr Paul Cornish
Exeter Road, Teignmouth, Devon, TQ14 9HZ
Tel: 01626 774091 **Visit:** www.teignmouthsecondary.co.uk

