

October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to wish everyone a very happy half-term break and thank families for your support in an excellent start to the school year. CNS has seen Excellence in All in so many ways, and I have been immensely proud of the high bar students have set themselves for the forthcoming year. Y7 and Y12 parental surveys show overwhelming positivity for CNS with particular reference to high quality teaching and pastoral support. CNS is a community, and we could not offer such high-quality education without your support and feedback, thank you.

Please see below some polite reminders for the half term ahead which can be a tricky one with colder weather, darker nights, and busy family life in the run up to Christmas. Please remember that we are here to support and keep communicating with us if there are worries in your child's life.

I wish you all a very restful half-term break and good luck to Y11 with their revision ahead of mocks examinations on their return.

Yours sincerely



Ms. J Philpott
Headteacher

Calendar

The Calendar for key dates and events can be found on the school website in the Key Info section: [City of Norwich School \(cns-school.org\)](http://City of Norwich School (cns-school.org))

These are the main events for the next half term.

- October 27 - 31 Oct - Half Term Holiday
- November 4 - Year 12 PE Essex University Trip
- November 6 - Sixth Form Open Evening
- November 7 - Benedetti Strings Workshop & Concert
- **November 20 - Year 8 Progress Evening - Early finish at 1.20pm for all students**
- November 27 - Ex Year 11 Awards Evening
- December 4 - Christmas Showcase
- **December 5 - OAT Training Day - Full school closure to students**
- December 9 - Christmas Concert
- December 11 - Year 11 Progress Evening

Attendance

- Attendance is essential to your child's success at school and in future opportunities.
- In the winter months this can be more challenging with colds and viruses
- We expect students to make every effort to attend and for parents to support this. Therefore, if students have a cough, cold, sore throat or any other minor illness and they are absent from school, we will contact parents to encourage attendance later that day.
- Punctuality is a life skill for future work and opportunities, and students are expected to be in school by 8:30am in readiness for Form Time at 8.35am every day.

Equipment and books

- Exercise books are the main record of your child's learning and a valuable revision aid.
- Good book habits are essential for learning, and all exercise books or folders are expected to be neat, tidy, and well presented.
- Equipment will need restocking.

Prepared for learning

- Please encourage conversations at home about lessons, asking your child what they learnt and what they can remember; this will promote remembering key learning.
- Students should come to school ready to learn. Along with equipment and uniform, this means knowing their timetable and lessons for the day, having homework in their bag and being ready to participate in all their subjects.

Homework

- Homework will always be set on Go4Schools and can be accessed by parents and students.
- Routines for homework should now be established with increased amounts when revision is required.

Assessment

- A separate KS3 & KS4 Assessment Calendar can be found on the school website, underneath the 'Curriculum' tab [City of Norwich School \(cns-school.org\)](http://City of Norwich School (cns-school.org)).
- A list of key dates for all year groups, including Progress Evenings and Full Reports, can also be found on the school website, underneath the 'Key Info' tab.

Uniform Reminder

- As we return after the half-term break, we would like to remind parents and carers of our uniform expectations. Maintaining high standards of presentation helps promote a sense of pride and belonging within our school community.
- Please ensure that:
 - Hair is of a natural colour.
 - Acrylic nails are removed.
 - Piercings are limited to small studs only (nose and ear).
 - Black socks only.
 - Uniform is worn correctly at all times - skirts should be an appropriate length, and trousers should not be worn low/below the waist or with PE shorts visible underneath. If shorts can be seen, students will be asked to adjust their uniform. A belt is recommended.

- As the weather becomes colder, students are encouraged to wear a suitable coat. Non-CNS hoodies are not permitted and should not be worn in place of school uniform.
- Thank you for your continued support in helping us uphold our school standards and values. If you need any support with regards to uniform, please do not hesitate to contact the House Teams.
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Home school agreement and Go4 Schools

- The school's Home School Agreement can be found here <https://cns-school.org/admin/wp-content/uploads/sites/57/2025/09/CNS-Home-School-Agreement-2025-Final.pdf>
- Please familiarise yourself with the contents of the agreement and thank you for working with us in supporting your child.