

Curriculum Newsletter Autumn Term – 09.09.2023

What happened this week in school?



Welcome back to school and a very special welcome to our Reception and new pupils.

We are excited to have Mrs Morris (Office Administrator) back. Ms Nicholas will continue to help us out in the office. Juniper will be supporting the school till the bursar post has

been filled.

We also welcome our new staff: Miss Radomska and Mrs How (SENCO). Miss Seeley has covered Green-Blue class this week. The maternity cover teacher will join shortly. Parents of year 3 and 4 pupils will be updated.

Over the Summer holidays, we had our new Outdoor Gym installed. The reflection garden and our themed reading corner is also underway.

This week's Newsletter includes information on Collective Worship assemblies, free parents courses and this term's curriculum information. This year, pupils will receive Value Awards on Fridays.

We are looking forward to 2023-2024 and will continue with open meetings. We would like to schedule a fundraiser discussion meeting in a few weeks. Please see the "Information" section.

Picture News – This week's Big Question...



What can we learn from new adventures?

Roots and Fruits



This term's focus will be on the words of Jesus.

British Value of the term

Democracy



Attendance target: 96%

	Reception class 100%
	Years 1 and 2 92%
	Years 3 and 4 94%
	Years 5 and 6 96%
Whole school	94%

House Points

Ants		14
Badgers		20
Locusts		28
Lizards		15

Value Awards

	Reception	Creativity Award	To all children in Reception.
	Courage		
	Years 1 and 2	Ethan	For not being scared to ask for help and learn from mistakes.
	Years 3 and 4	Hugo	The courage to start a new school.
	Years 5 and 6	Sidney	Being brave in class.
	Creativity		
	Years 1 and 2	Nellie	For thinking outside the box.
	Years 3 and 4	Amelia	Great effort with the animal paintings.
	Years 5 and 6	Harley	Great work during mindfulness colouring.
	Respect		
	Years 1 and 2	Maddison	For listening carefully when somebody else is talking.
	Years 3 and 4	Maci	Being so polite and using her manners.
	Years 5 and 6	Ralph	Treating adults with respect.
	Compassion		
	Years 1 and 2	Loki	Always being there for his friends.
	Years 3 and 4	Harrison	Always checking everyone is O.K.
	Years 5 and 6	George	Ensuring people in class are doing well.
	Perseverance		
	Years 1 and 2	Jesse	Not giving up when his learning is a bit hard.
	Years 3 and 4	Joey	Keeping a positive attitude and having a go when things are tricky.
	Years 5 and 6	John-James	Completing English writing.
	Responsibility		
	Years 1 and 2	Scarlett	Taking ownership of her work.
	Years 3 and 4	Dotty	Looking after our new friend in class.
	Years 5 and 6	Archie	Completing various set tasks around the school
	Hope		
	Years 1 and 2	Dolly	Trying her best and believing.
	Years 3 and 4	Jude	A great positive attitude.
	Years 5 and 6	Talia	Helping children who were struggling.

Classroom News



Reception Red Class

It has been a delightful week with your children! They have settled in really well, despite the heat, and this has also been noted by visitors to the school.

They have formed good friendships and have had many opportunities to explore the learning environment and have been coping well with routines, with the aid of songs.

We have budding engineers, scientists, mathematicians, chefs and even the reluctant mark makers are independently seeking to make their mark using a wide range of tools!

Please look out for a separate letter to give you more information about what to expect in EYFS.

Mrs Dean, Mrs Snow and Mrs Spanton



Years 1 and 2 Orange-Yellow Class

Hello and welcome back!

I hope that all of you enjoyed the Summer and now are ready for the new school year.

The Yellow-Orange class have settled well.

We have been sharing our summer adventures and we are very excited to see what this year will bring.

Miss Radomska



Years 3 and 4 Green-Blue Class

It's been a pleasure to welcome Green-Blue class back into school. They've had a fantastic week and settled in really well.

They have been getting ready for the year ahead and also creating some beautiful paintings!



Years 5 and 6 Indigo-Violet Class

Happy new school year! I hope you had a fun-filled enjoyable summer break and that you are looking forward to this new school year.

I am thrilled that your child will be in my class this year! We are going to learn so many new and exciting things together. It will be a year full of fun, learning and adventures.

Mrs K Vorster



Information

Improvements over the holiday

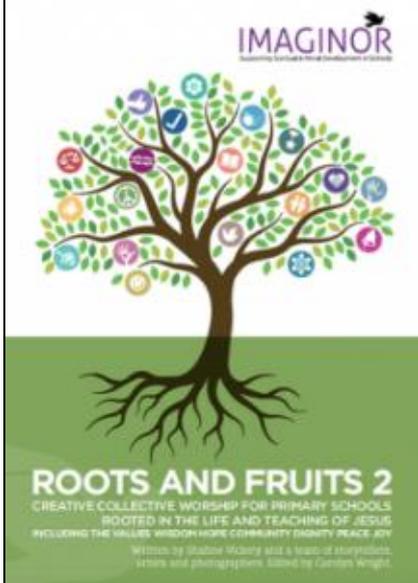
The outdoor gym is installed. Pupils will be allowed to use these during break and lunch when staff supervise and monitor them



Reception pupils have had a good start



Roots and Fruits – Collective Worship assembly



Roots and Fruits 2 is a Christian collective worship resource designed to support whole school collective worship over six terms to provide a keynote act of worship for every week of the school year. The focus of the resource is on the life and teaching of Jesus and woven through each act of worship is one of the following six values: **Hope, Community, Dignity, Wisdom, Joy and Peace**. The first 4 of these values are integral to the Church of England Vision for Education and underpin the new evaluation schedule for the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS).

The six chapters in Roots and Fruits 2 are:

- The Words of Jesus
- Advent and Christmas
- People Jesus Meets (such as Martha & Mary and Zacchaeus)
- Holy Week and Easter
- The Parables of Jesus
- The Miracles of Jesus

As in Roots and Fruits 1 there is a strong focus on the use of the arts to give creative expression to Bible stories. Work from a wide range of storytellers, poets, visual artists and photographers has been especially commissioned for this volume.

Hope	Community	Dignity	Wisdom	Joy	Peace

Picture News as part of Collective Worship Assemblies



Dear Parents,

In our commitment to develop children's critical literacy skills, we have teamed up with Picture News to help develop their understanding and appreciation of the news.

Having age-appropriate conversations with your child about the news keeps them interested and informed about what's happening in the world...and you too!

They move from wanting to know what happens in MY world to what is happening in THE world and their place in it.

By having regular conversations about the news, you are able to share a whole range of topics and together make more sense of different events, issues and stories.

Some significant news stories can be frightening, and you will need to consider what your child can cope with and whether they are developmentally ready to understand certain events. For example, you might decide to listen to the news rather than watch it as there may be images they might find upsetting.

Talking about the major headlines of the day and current affairs is important for children to grow up as global citizens but it's important too to share a variety of fun and exciting news stories from the worlds of sport, entertainment, music, science, etc. as well as local news closer to home.

Here are some quick tips:

- Initiate discussions about the news using the Picture News resources. Ask them what they discussed in Picture News this week!
- Read and watch some news stories together from different sources.
- Find out what your child knows about the news and explore their understanding.
- Listen to what your child says and value their opinions.
- Explain simply and in a way that makes sense to them.
- Promote a habit of enquiry and make asking questions your child's default setting.
- Help your child to spot fake news and how to fact-check.
- Develop a news habit by accessing the news regularly.
- Diffuse bad news and offer reassurance.
- Protect your child from distressing and disturbing news.
- Monitor your child's exposure to the news.

Discussing the news of the day doesn't have to be formal but can be done naturally and casually in everyday moments such as on the way to school or when preparing a meal. The important thing is to keep the conversation going about the news and make it a feature of your daily lives.

By working together, we can help children become critical consumers of the news so that they are 'news savvy', articulate and confident citizens.

Free training courses for parents

Dear Parents & Carers,

The online world is posing an ever-increasing risk to children, and it is important that schools, parents and carers work together to take an active role in teaching children about online dangers. Learning how to act safely when using the internet is an incredibly important part of safeguarding our children.



**National
Online
Safety**

We are therefore delighted to announce that **Dr Walker's C of E Voluntary Controlled Primary School** have shown our commitment to protecting our pupils online by working with National Online Safety- providing resources for all parents and carers.

The resources include Parents & Carers courses (presented by Myleene Klass), online video resources and weekly guides covering a huge range of topics, including:

- Online Relationships
- Fake Profiles & Social Bots
- Online Bullying
- Online Grooming
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Sexual Harassment & Violence
- Sexting
- Live Streaming
- Online Identity
- Screen Addiction
- Online Challenges
- Overspending
- Social Media Platforms
- Online Gambling
- Radicalisation, Terrorism & Extremism
- Age Inappropriate Content
- Copyright & Ownership
- Hacking
- Fake News
- Online Fraud
- Online Reputation
- Personal Data
- Pornography
- Targeted Adverts & Pop-Ups
- The Dark Web
- Games & Trends

To create your account, please follow <https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/dr-walker-s-c-of-e-voluntary-controlled-primary-school> and complete your details. When you're set up, you'll be able to set 'Parent/Carer' as your user type.

You can access National Online Safety online via any device- including via our brand-new smartphone app. To download the app, please go to:

<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/national-online-safety/id1530342372>

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=uk.co.nationaleducationgroup.nos>

Alternatively, search for 'National Online Safety' in the App Store/Google Play Store.

Answers to frequently asked questions and customer service can be accessed at <https://helpdesk.thenationalcollege.co.uk/helpcentre>.

We need help!

We are kindly asking for help as we need an electrician to help us with an electrical setting in school.

Please contact the school office if you can help.

Volunteers and helpers!

We are inviting parents in this year to volunteer as readers in school.

Please contact the school office if you can help.

Volunteers to run a club

We would like to expand on the offer of clubs, but will need volunteers to run this. A DBS check and first aid qualification will be required.

Please contact the school office if you can help.

Class representatives

We are looking for 4 class representatives (not year representatives) who can help with sharing information via class WhatsApp accounts. This is not the same role as with helping out with events.

Please contact the school office if you can help.

Fundraiser and events helpers

We would like to have a group of individuals to form a working party to arrange fundraising events, e.g. Christmas Bazaar Summer fete, etc.

Please contact the school office if you are interested to join the working party.

Holiday requests during term time

The school will NOT be authorising any requests to go on holiday during school time. This will be unauthorised.

There is no entitlement in law for pupils to take time off during the term to go on holiday. Parents therefore should not book holidays in term time, as this is not an entitlement. Pupils are expected to attend school 190 days per academic year.

Parents have a legal duty to ensure their child attends school regularly at the school at which they are registered.

Unauthorised absence may result in the school referring to the Local Authority for sanctions and/or legal proceedings. This may include issuing each parent with a Penalty Notice for £120, reduced to £60 if paid within 21 days or referring the matter to the Magistrates Court whereby each parent may receive a fine up to £2500 and/or up to 3 months in prison. If a parent is found guilty in court, they will receive a criminal conviction.

In addition, the Supreme Court has ruled that the definition of regular school attendance is "in accordance with the rules prescribed by the school".

The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 were amended in September 2013. All references to family holidays and extended leave have been removed. The amendments specify that headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are "exceptional

circumstances" and they no longer have any discretion to authorise up to ten days of absence each academic year.

It is a rule of this school that a leave of absence shall not be granted in term time unless there are reasons considered to be exceptional by the headteacher, irrespective of the child's overall attendance. Only the headteacher or his/her designate (not the local authority) may authorise such a request and all applications for a leave of absence must be made in writing on the prescribed form provided by the school at least 2 weeks prior to the requested absence.

Where a parent removes a child when the application for leave was refused or where no application was made to the school, the issue of a penalty notice may be requested by this school in accordance with the Essex Code of Conduct.

A Penalty Notice may be issued where there have been at least 10 consecutive sessions of unauthorised absence for the purpose of a holiday, however, due to the importance of pupils settling into school at the commencement of the school year. Penalty Notices may also be issued if there have been at least 6 consecutive sessions of unauthorised absence during the first two calendar weeks of September due to a term-time holiday.

We will not consider applications for leave during term time:

- The school will NOT be authorising any requests to go on holiday during school time. This will be unauthorised.
- At any time in September. This is very important as your child needs to settle into their new class at the start of the academic year as quickly as possible.
- During assessment and test periods in the school's calendar affecting your child.
- When a pupil's attendance record already includes any level of unauthorised absence or they have already been granted authorised leave within that academic year.

Reception Baseline Assessment

Pupils in Reception will be participating in the reception baseline assessment (RBA) within the first 6 weeks of starting reception. The purpose of the assessment is to provide the starting point for a progress measure that will help parents understand how well schools support their pupils to progress between reception and year 6.

The RBA is a short, interactive and practical assessment of your child's early literacy, communication, language and mathematics skills when they begin school, using materials that most children of your child's age will be familiar with. It became statutory for all schools from September 2021.

For more information, please follow the following link:

www.assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1182374/2023_Information_for_parents_reception_baseline_assessment_WEBHO.pdf

SCS's afterschool club on Tuesdays and Wednesday

Please see below the new booking system for SCS's afterschool club.

SCS believes this will be an easier and more efficient way of booking onto the clubs.

<https://sportscoachingspecialists.classforkids.io/info/27>

<https://sportscoachingspecialists.classforkids.io/info/26>

Information



13.09.23	Pupils attend IRock assembly
13.09.23	Year 6 Residential Parents' Meeting after school
14.09.23	Year 6 Residential Parents' Meeting after school
15.09.23	Student Council Election
19.09.23	Parents invited to meet the class teacher after school
27.09.23 to 29.09.23	Year 6 Residential to Skreens
29.09.23	Years 3 & 4 Assembly – parents are invited to attend
02.10.23	Potential Afternoon Tea for Grandparents
04.10.23	Walk and Roll to School Day
06.10.23	Church Harvest service – parents are invited to attend (TBC)
05.10.23 to 10.10.23	School Book Fair
06.10.23	Autumn School Census Day – Please book a school dinner to help the school.
13.10.23	Years 5 & 6 Assembly – parents are invited to attend
13.10.23	Mini Reports for parents
16.10.23	Paul Sturgess (Guinness Book of Records tallest Football Player) visiting school
17.10.23	Parent consultation evening 15.30-18.00
18.10.23	Parent consultation evening 15.30-18.00
20.10.23	Years 1 & 2 Assembly – parents are invited to attend
23.10.23 to 27.10.23	Half Term

Term Curriculum Map

 Jonathan Bond Educational Consultancy Ltd	English		<i>Jonathan Bond Ltd</i>			
	Years 1 & 2		Years 3 & 4		Years 5 & 6	
	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Autumn 1	Autumn 2
	Fiction Non-Fiction Poetry	Fiction Non-Fiction Poetry	Fiction Non-Fiction Poetry	Fiction Non-Fiction Poetry	Fiction Non-Fiction Poetry	Fiction Non-Fiction Poetry
	Unit 2 – How to use different sentences in my stories Unit 1 – How to write a non-chronological report Unit 3 – How to write a poem	Unit 5 – How to write a diary story Unit 4 – How to write an Instruction booklet Unit 6 – How to write an acrostic	Unit 1 – How to write a defeating the monster story Unit 3 – How to write a recipe Unit 2 – How to build an image over a stanza	Unit 5 – How to write a buddy story Unit 4 – How to write a newspaper report Unit 6 – How to perform your own poem	Unit 2 – How to write a character flaw story Unit 1 – How to write a 'how to' guide Unit 3 – How to experiment with language	Unit 5 – How to perform Shakespeare Unit 4 – How to write persuasive letters and emails Unit 6 – How to write a renga
	CYCLE A					

 	Maths		<i>White Rose Maths</i>			
	Years 1 & 2		Years 3 & 4		Years 5 & 6	
	Autumn		Spring		Summer	
	Autumn Year 1		Place value Addition and Subtraction Multiplication and Division		Place value Four operations Fractions	
	Place value (within 10) Addition and subtraction (within 10) Geometry (Shape) Consolidation					
	Autumn Year 2					
Place value Addition and subtraction Shape						
CYCLE A						

 	Science		<i>Kapow Primary</i>			
	Years 1 & 2		Years 3 & 4		Years 5 & 6	
	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Autumn 1	Autumn 2
	Forces and space: Seasonal changes	Materials: Everyday materials	Animals: Movement and nutrition	Forces and space: Forces and magnets	Materials: Mixtures and separation	Materials: Properties and changes
CYCLE A						

	 		Religious Education (R.E.)		<i>Essex Agreed 2022 Syllabus & Saffron Academy Trust RE curriculum</i>	
	Years 1 & 2		Years 3 & 4		Years 5 & 6	
	Enquiry 1	Enquiry 2	Enquiry 1	Enquiry 2	Enquiry 1	Enquiry 2
	Philosophy	Humans & Social Sciences	Humans & Social Sciences	Theology	Philosophy	Humans & Social Sciences
	What do my senses tell me about the world of religion and belief?	How does a celebration bring a community together?	How do people express commitment to a religion?	What is the Trinity?	Is believing in God reasonable?	How has belief impacted on music and art through history?
Christian / Hindu / Jewish	Muslim / Christian	Jewish / Sikh / Christian	Christian	Multi / Humanist	Christian / Muslim	

			Computing		<i>Kapow Primary</i>	
	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Autumn 1	Autumn 2
	Computing systems and networks: Improving mouse skills	Programming 1: Algorithms unplugged	Computing systems and networks 1: Networks and the internet Option 1: Google) Option 2: Microsoft Office 365	Programming 1: Programming: ScratchJr	Computing systems and networks: Search engines Option 1: Google Option 2: Microsoft Office 365	Programming 1: Programming music Option 1: Sonic Pi , Option 2: Scratch
Online Safety: Online safety Y3 (4 lessons)						

			History		<i>Kapow Primary</i>	
	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Autumn 1	Autumn 2
History	Geography	History	Geography	History	Geography	
How am I making history?	What is it like here?	British history 1: Would you prefer to live in the Stone Age, Iron Age or Bronze Age?	Why do people live near volcanoes?	British history 5: What was life like in Tudor England?	What is life like in the Alps?	

			Art & Design		<i>Kapow Primary</i>	
	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Autumn 1	Autumn 2
Art & Design	Design & Technology	Art & Design	Design & Technology	Art & Design	Design & Technology	
Drawing: Make your mark (5 lessons)	Structures: Constructing a windmill (4 lessons)	Sculpture and 3D: Abstract shape and space (5 Lessons)	Cooking and nutrition: Eating seasonally (4 lessons)	Drawing: I need space (5 lessons)	Electrical systems: Doodlers (4 lessons)	
Edible windmills		Making and Evaluating Bread		Bread sticks		

 CYCLE A			Music		<i>Kapow Primary</i>	
	Years 1 & 2		Years 3 & 4		Years 5 & 6	
	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Autumn 1	Autumn 2
	Musical vocabulary (Under the sea)	Pulse and rhythm (Theme: All about me)	Creating compositions in response to an animation (Theme: Mountains)	Developing singing technique (Theme: the Vikings)	Composition notation (Theme: Ancient Egypt)	Blues

 CYCLE A			Physical Education (P.E.)		<i>Sports Coaching Specialist</i>	
	Years 1 & 2		Years 3 & 4		Years 5 & 6	
	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Autumn 1	Autumn 2
	Ball Skills	Gymnastics / Dance	Netball / Hockey	Gymnastics	Netball / Hockey	Gymnastics / Dance

 CYCLE A			Modern Foreign Language (French)		<i>Language Angels</i>	
	Years 1 & 2		Years 3 & 4		Years 5 & 6	
	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Autumn 1	Autumn 2
			Phonics 1 & 2 (X) & Instruments (E)	Seasons (E)	Phonics 1 & 2 (X) I Am Learning French (E)	Animals (E)

 CYCLE A			PSHE / RSHE		<i>C of E Goodness and Mercy Syllabus & Kapow</i>	
	Years 1 & 2		Years 3 & 4		Years 5 & 6	
	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Autumn 1	Autumn 2
	Family and relationships Relationships (G&M) Families What is a friend? What is bullying? How to try to stop it?	Health and wellbeing Health (G&M) Our wonderful bodies. How we love and care for ourselves: (A): exercise, being in nature, healthy food, good sleep) (B): personal care, hygiene (including teeth cleaning), sun safety, prayer and meditation, hobbies and helping others)	Family and relationships Relationships (G&M) 1. Families 2. Friendships	Health and wellbeing Health (G&M) 1. Managing your feelings: talking about mental health	Families and relationships Relationships (G&M) 4. Anti-bullying	Health and wellbeing Health (G&M) 3.2 and 3.3 Looking after yourself: Sleep, rest, spiritual practices, personal hygiene and helping others.



Dr Walker's Church of England Primary School

Term and Holiday Dates - Academic Year 2023-2024

September 2023							October 2023							November 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3							1			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
							30	31												

December 2023							January 2024							February 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	31					26	27	28	29			

March 2024							April 2024							May 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					27	28	29	30	31			

June 2024							July 2024							August 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31	

	School closed: Holidays		School closed: Bank Holiday		School closed: Staff training (INSET)		School days		Weekend
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In addition, schools allocate five non-pupil days out of the school days indicated, or the equivalent in disaggregated twilight sessions.

Autumn Term	Monday, 4 September 2023 – Wednesday, 20 December 2023 <i>Half Term 23 October – 27 October</i>	73 days
Spring Term	Thursday, 4 January 2024 – Thursday, 28 March 2024 <i>Half Term 19 February – 23 February</i>	56 days
Summer Term	Monday, 15 April 2024 – Tuesday, 23 July 2024 <i>Half Term 27 May – 31 May, and May Bank Holiday – 6 May</i>	66 days
		195 days

You are strongly advised to check with the school before making any holiday or other commitments.