



## FAIRLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

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Pound Avenue  
Stevenage  
Hertfordshire  
SG1 3JA

22nd July 2010

Dear Parents & Carers

### ATTENDANCE & HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIMES

Children of school-age who are registered at a school must, by law, attend school regularly. Regular attendance is important, not just because the law requires it but because it is the best way of ensuring that a child makes the most of the educational opportunities which are available to him or her. There may be occasions when a child has to miss school - for example, if he or she is very unwell. Any other absences should be kept to an absolute minimum.

**In particular, parents should avoid taking their children out of school during term-time in order to go on holiday.**

Parents do not have any right or entitlement to expect term-time leave to be granted. Schools can, at their discretion, grant up to 10 days leave each school year but most schools are increasingly reluctant to do this as they believe that your child's education will suffer as a result.

I am writing to inform you that Stevenage Primary Schools, working with representatives of the Local Authority, have decided that **from September 2010, we will no longer authorise holidays in term time**, except in very exceptional circumstances.

If you feel that there are exceptional reasons why you need to take a holiday in term time, please discuss these with me before making your holiday plans.

At Fairlands, each request will be considered on a case-by-case basis in a meeting with the headteacher.

Yours sincerely

**Robert Staples**  
Headteacher

**Fairlands Primary School & Nursery**, Almond Hill Junior School, Ashtree Primary School and Nursery, Aston St Mary's School, Bedwell Primary School and Nursery, Bennington Primary School, Broom Barns Community Primary School, Camps Hill Community Primary School, Featherstone Wood Primary School and Nursery, Giles Junior School, Knebworth Primary School, Letchmore Infant School and Nursery, The Leys Primary School and Nursery, Lodge Farm Primary School, Longmeadow Primary School, Martins Wood Primary School, Moss Bury Primary School and Nursery, Peartree Spring Infant School, Peartree Spring Junior School, Peartree Way Nursery School, Roebuck Primary School and Nursery, Round Diamond Primary School, Shephalbury Park Primary School, St Margaret Clitherow Roman Catholic Primary School, St Nicholas C of E Primary School and Nursery, St Vincent de Paul Catholic Primary School, Trott's Hill Primary School and Nursery, Walkern Primary School, Woolenwick Infant School and Nursery, Woolenwick Junior School