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12<sup>th</sup> September 2022

### **RE: Start of term letter**

Dear parents/carers,

It has been a pleasure to welcome back students and staff alike after a well-deserved summer break. In a week with so many positives, the Compass community joined the rest of the world in mourning the loss of Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth II including an assembly this morning.

### **School closed Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September**

Following advice from the Government and the Department for Education, the school will be closed on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September which has now been declared a Bank Holiday for the Queen's funeral. Please follow the [link](#) for the latest guidance.

In the next few days, the Queen's body will be moved to London where she will lie in state for members of the public to view her coffin in Westminster ahead of Monday's funeral. Many people across the nation and from around the world will arrive in London over the course of the week to pay their respects to the Queen.

### **Impact on the local area**

During this time, Southwark Park will be used as a camping site for such visitors and we expect the queue to view the Queen in state to extend from Westminster Bridge to Southwark Park. This means there will be some disruption to our regular routines when dropping off or collecting your child from school. It is anticipated that from the weekend to the days leading up to the funeral to be the busiest, as we are already seeing people congregating in many parts of London. Please expect walkways through the park, roadways around Bermondsey, and public transportation to be busy as people gather and mourn the Queen's death. If your child travels to and from school by themselves please talk to them about the route they take and stress the importance of safety when walking alone. We would recommend that your child does not walk through the park at this time. We will keep you updated as more information around arrangements become available.

### **Open Events**

We are looking forward to welcoming prospective parents/carers to our school to give them an insight into the Compass community through our annual Open Events. Our current cohort of pupils and staff will provide tours around the school and have meaningful conversations about transferring to secondary schools ahead of the deadline date of Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022. Below are the dates for our upcoming events:

**Open Evenings 5-7 p.m.**Tues 13<sup>th</sup> SeptemberMon 26<sup>th</sup> September

***Please note that students will be dismissed at the end of period 5 on these dates at 14:35.***

**Open Mornings 9-10:15 a.m.**Thur 15<sup>th</sup> SeptemberWed 28<sup>th</sup> SeptemberTue 4<sup>th</sup> October**Attendance**

At Compass, great emphasis is placed on pupils' attendance. Absence from school disrupts your child's educational journey and forms bad habits from an early age that will disadvantage them in life beyond school. For this reason, we've asked each parent and child to aim for 100% attendance. With your support, we've had a fantastic start to the year and I would like to thank you for this. I look forward to celebrating 100% attendance with pupils throughout this year through a variety of rewards including trips.

**Other key dates for your diary:**

Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> October:	Y7 Meet the tutor
Thu 20 <sup>th</sup> October:	Y11 Parents' Evening
Thu 1 <sup>st</sup> December:	Y8 Parents' Evening
Thu 12 <sup>th</sup> January:	Y10 Parents' Evening
Thu 23 <sup>rd</sup> February:	Y9 Parents' Evening
Thu 30 <sup>th</sup> March:	Y11 Parents' Evening
Thu 27 <sup>th</sup> April:	Y7 Parents' Evening

For all other key dates, please visit [our website](#).

Yours faithfully,



Marcus Huntley  
**Principal**