

**EtonHouse**  
International Education Group  
伊顿国际教育集团

4 September 2009

Re: Change in Calendar

Dear EtonHouse Parents,

Just as school opened this year we found out that the Chinese government had changed the “extra” days which would be used to create the Chinese Autumn Holiday. As a consequence many of our Chinese staff will now be able to take not only the official holiday on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of October but also Monday through Wednesday the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of October (and some through til the weekend). Without our Chinese staff we cannot properly run our school. Given that many families have already made plans for the EtonHouse Holiday the 28<sup>th</sup> of September through the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October we have decided to create a two week holiday from Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup> of September through Sunday the 12<sup>th</sup> of October. It is worth noting that we join a large group of international schools across China in having to make this abrupt change.

Clearly this move jeopardizes five days of instruction but our plan is to make the days up by cancelling our three scheduled teacher professional development days and running class on our two parent-teacher conference days. On parent-teacher conference days the school day will end at 1.30pm and conferences will start at 2pm and run into the early evening.

**NOTE: WE WILL NOT LOSE ANY DAYS OF INSTRUCTION!**

While I loathe making changes to the school calendar once it is set there is a significant advantage in restructuring the calendar this year. As you all know we are in the process of bringing many new programs into the EtonHouse schools in China; the Primary Years Programme of the IB, the Middle Years Programme of the IB, the Literacy Framework and the new primary mathematics program. Staff will return to work during the second week of the upcoming autumn vacation and we will use this time to support implementation of the new programs.

Once again thank you in being patient as we ensure that your school is on a solid academic footing. If you have any questions or concerns about these developments please contact me at +86 135 848 70151 or [paul.lieblich@etonhouse.com.cn](mailto:paul.lieblich@etonhouse.com.cn).

Best regards,

Paul Lieblich, Ed.D.  
Executive Principal