

## JOKER DAYS – CONGÉ JOKER

From the start of the school year in August 2024, families will be able to use “joker days”. Parents do not need to give a reason for this type of absence. Joker days are automatically granted as long as the following conditions are met:

- No more than 6 half joker days are taken per school year;
- No more than 2 half joker days are taken in one go, even if they are separated by a weekend, holidays, a bank holiday, or a school-wide closure;
- Joker days must be requested in writing directly from the class teacher;
- They must be requested at least 2 days in advance;
- Joker days cannot be taken on:
  - The first day of the school year;
  - Days when there is a school trip, class camps or other educational outings;
  - Days of important exams, such as the canton-wide assessments or certificate examinations;
  - The days immediately before or after an individual authorised absence, even if it is separated by a weekend, holidays, a bank holiday, or a school-wide closure;
- Joker days cannot be used if the student has already taken the equivalent of 2 weeks of holiday (both authorised + joker) during the school year;
- If you need to cancel joker days, this must be done at least 2 days in advance. Otherwise the joker day will be considered as used.

As with any time off, parents are responsible for ensuring their child catches up on the work they have missed. Teachers will provide the materials they need to complete the work.

The absence holiday slips for this diary (pages 99 onwards) do not have a “congé joker” checkbox yet. In the meantime, you can write “congé joker” in the *Motif* (reason) section. An updated digital version of the form is available online (see the link on the left below).



## Examples of how to use your joker days

### For a long weekend

- ✓ A full day off on Friday
- ✓ A full day off on Monday
- ✓ Friday afternoon and the following Monday morning
- ✗ A full day off on Thursday and Friday (equivalent to 4 half-days in one go)
- ✗ A full day off on Friday and the following Monday (equivalent to 4 half-days in one go)

### For time off during the week

- ✓ A full day off on Tuesday or Thursday
- ✓ Wednesday morning
- ✓ Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning
- ✓ The day before a special school-wide closure for all students
- ✗ A full day off on Tuesday and Wednesday morning (equivalent to 3 half-days in one go)
- ✗ Wednesday morning and all of Thursday (equivalent to 3 half-days in one go)

### To leave a day earlier for the holidays or a long weekend, or to return a day later

- ✓ The Friday before the holidays
- ✓ The Monday following the holidays (excluding the start of term in August)
- ✓ The Tuesday following the weekend of the *Jeûne* (a local public holiday)
- ✓ The Friday afternoon before the holidays and the Monday morning after
- ✗ The Friday before the holidays and the Monday morning after  
(equivalent to 4 half-days in one go)
- ✗ Wednesday morning before Ascension weekend and the Monday after  
(equivalent to 3 half-days in one go)

### For an extended individual authorised absence

- ✗ The school day before the start of an individual authorised absence  
(immediately preceding the authorised absence)
- ✗ The Monday following an individual authorised absence that ended on the previous Friday (immediately following the authorised absence)