



**Saltford**  
CofE Primary School

Saltford CofE Primary School  
Claverton Road, Saltford, Bristol BS31 3DW  
T: 01225 872185 E: [contactus@saltfordschool.org.uk](mailto:contactus@saltfordschool.org.uk)  
W: [www.saltfordschool.org.uk](http://www.saltfordschool.org.uk) [@SaltfordPrimary](https://twitter.com/SaltfordPrimary)  
Headteacher: Dawn Sage  
Co-Chairs of Governors: Megan Jackson and Richard Rowland

## ***Information Letter for Year 3 and 4 Classes***

September 2019

Dear Parents

We would like to welcome you back to a new year, whether you are returning after the summer or you are a new parent to Saltford School. We hope that your children settle happily and that you feel able to become involved in a long lasting partnership with the school, including all the varied activities the school and P.T.A arrange.

You and your child are now familiar with their new teacher and classroom. In order to maintain routines and keep your child safe, we would like to introduce you to (or remind you of) our expectations for daily procedures.

The school day starts at **8.50am** and ends at **3.15pm**. We understand that occasionally you get delayed and cannot always stick to these times, we are only human, however it can be very unsettling for children if they arrive late frequently and class has started. This is also true at the end of the day when most children have been picked up. All teachers will often have meetings directly after the end of the school day so this will delay the staff also.

We expect all children to be as independent as possible. In order to encourage this there are several things they need to do when they arrive at and leave school.

### **Morning Routine**

- **Children are asked to come independently into their classrooms from 8.40am. They are expected to hang up their coats and bags (please be aware that cloakroom space is limited so please ensure bags are as small as possible) and then go straight out onto the playground to meet their friends.**
- **We politely ask that parents leave the site as soon as you have said your goodbyes. Many children can find it difficult to settle if they can see you outside.**
- **When Mrs. Sage blows the whistle the children walk into class where the class teacher will then direct the children to a morning activity e.g. reading a book.**

**We thank you for your co-operation.**

### **Topics for the Autumn Term:**

Our topic this term will be **Megacities** followed by **Ancient Egypt**.

Our Science topic is **States of Matter** followed by **Electricity**

Any (named!) resources you could bring in to support this work are always well received.

We will also be covering a range of other learning and we hope that you find the Curriculum Map, on the website, useful to keep track of what your child is being taught.

### **Approximate costs**

At Saltford School we believe that children are given every opportunity to experience an enriched curriculum which includes going on external trips and inviting visitors in. However, mindful of increasing pressure on household budgets, we endeavour to keep costs to a minimum. As a result we set out below the estimated costs for the year:

#### **Year 3**

Approximate costs throughout the year for special events will be in the region of £40 (including trips, visitors and costumes).

**Snacks** The school policy on snacks is to ensure that they should be a healthy option. If you would like your child to have a mid-morning snack, we encourage them to bring in fresh fruit or vegetables. The best snack for break time, are foods that they can eat outside and they can eat with their fingers. Chopped up, fruit or raw veggies such as carrots or peppers are ideal. Breadsticks and wholemeal crackers are also great finger foods that can be spread with low-fat soft cheese. Please note: that the most recent guidance is that dried fruit is no longer recommended as a between-meal snack as its high in sugar and can be bad for teeth. Parents have asked about various shop purchased snacks, such as fruit winders and various breakfast bars etc. Most of these snacks are usually high in sugar. Water should be the only drink. Milk can be purchased through the [school milk service](#). **It is essential that your child has a named water bottle that is easy for them to refill during the day.** Thank you for your support

**Nut and seed life-threatening allergy awareness:** We have several children with severe life-threatening nut and sesame seed allergies and a reaction can be triggered by airborne contact. For safety reasons, we must insist that parents/guardians do not send children to school with peanut butter sandwiches, Nutella, cereal bars containing nuts etc. or indeed anything containing nuts or sesame seeds (i.e. on buns or snack bars.) This also applies our aim above to discourage confectionery for birthday celebrations – sweets and chocolates can contain traces of nuts and seeds. Thank you for your co-operation and understanding with this.

**Birthday celebrations:** We do not wish to spoil any child's birthday happiness but at the same time we do not want to add to the issues that we all know sugar causes for children. School council's presentation about the issues around sweets been sent in for birthdays can be found [here](#) and their presentations linked to our sugar smart campaign can be found [here](#). We are introducing other ways of celebrating your child's special day in school without cakes and sweets. We think these are choices for you to make for yourselves at home. So please do not send sweets, cakes or other treats into school when it is your child's birthday. You may wish to consider an Amazon voucher so the class can buy a book or a game for wet play as an alternative.

**Toys:** Toys may be brought into school if requested as part of a class activity or display. On Fridays, toys may be brought in to play with during golden time, **as long as they are not too big!** These are to be kept in the classroom and not taken out to play. Please be aware that while we do our best to take great care of anything that comes into school, we would not recommend that your child brings anything of great monetary or sentimental value. **Please make sure they are named. We do not allow digital equipment such as computer games or cameras.**

**Reading:** We understand that after the long summer break you will be anxious to support your child's reading development as soon as possible and we actively encourage daily reading with your child. As we get to know your child in the first few weeks we will be assessing their reading level and making any adjustment to reading colours that are required. Your support and patience at this time is appreciated. In the meantime, please continue to read with your child daily, ensuring you sign their record clearly. The children's reading records are checked regularly so this is another good way of communicating any messages to your child's teacher.

**Homework:** All children will have reading folders. These should come to school every day. In them you will find a book from our reading scheme collection and a reading record. Ten quiet minutes is all you need each day. It's amazing how this will aid your child's progress. *Reading to your child is invaluable.* Please see our presentation about how you can support your child's reading at home [here](#).

Spellings will be given to Years 3 and 4 from the first full week in September. A letter will be sent to accompany these with an overview of the spellings for that term. Maths homework is also given out weekly in both year groups in the form of times tables to learn and an expectation of 15 stars earned on DoodleMaths from the first full week.

In order to support the children's learning at home we suggest the following websites;

[TT Rockstars](#) (Y2 only) and [Doodle Maths](#) (logins required)

[ict games.com](#)

[Topmarks](#)

**Physical Education** Indoor P.E. kit should be red plain or [Saltford t shirts](#) and black shorts.

Outdoor PE Kits should include long warm jogging trousers, a red T-Shirt, trainers, (Please send velcro fasteners if your child is unable to tie their laces) and a fleece type jacket. Please keep these in school all week as sometimes we have to adjust our P.E. slots.

Class	PE	Outdoor	Swimming
ESST	Thursday	Tuesday	Thursday 1.30 – 3.00
PNMN	Monday	Tuesday	Monday 1.30 – 3.00
RJ	Tuesday	Friday	Thursday 10.30 – 12.00
NB	Friday	Tuesday	Thursday 9.00-10.30

**Swimming:** Swimming lessons start the week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> September and take place up until the October holiday however, it really isn't possible to have the lessons without adequate support. Please see our [Keep Salford Swimming](#) Letter on the website. We do understand how busy everyone is but even helping once during the term makes all the difference. We also appreciate help from Grandparents! Please check the class rota and add your name if you can help. **Helping with swimming requires a DBS form, you cannot help without one so please head to the office to apply.** Please find all information about swimming on the [Office](#) section of the website.

Children require a bathing suit or shorts, a swimming hat and goggles. Please ensure that your child comes with their kit on their correct swimming day as we are sure you can appreciate that the school does not have the capacity to make numerous telephone calls for children who have forgotten their kit.

**PLEASE ENSURE EVERYTHING IS NAMED!!**

**PPA Time:** This is class teacher's support time away from the class room and will be covered by Mrs. Godwin for Year 3 and Mrs. Brook for Year 4.

ESST - Every Wednesday pm

PNMN – Every Thursday am

RJ - Every other Tuesday (all day)

NB - Every other Tuesday (all day)

**Lost Property:** **Please make sure that everything is named.** This includes things like socks, shoes, hats, gloves, lunchboxes and drink bottles!! If everything is named, we will save a huge amount of time searching for lost items.

**School Dinners:** Key Stage Two children are required to pay should they wish to have a school dinner. Alternatively, parents can choose to provide their child with a packed lunch from home. If your child is having a school dinner please can you use the School Gateway system (link below) to make any payment. Please can we also ask that you go through the menu with your child to ensure that they know what is available that day and whether they would like a vegetarian dinner (green) or a non-vegetarian (red). Class teachers require this information so that the kitchen can prepare the correct number of meals. The menu can be found on the school website.

<http://www.saltfordschool.org.uk/the-office/>

**Payments:** Children in Key Stage One are entitled for free school meals so there is no need for payment for these however, where payment for trips or events is required, the school uses School Gateway, an online payment system. A link to the School Gateway system is available on our website or through

<https://login.schoolgateway.com/0/auth/login>.

**Hair:** We would like to request that all long hair (boys and girls) is put up for school in an effort to help prevent the outbreaks of head lice which are so common. Please can all hair be tied neatly, with only small clips and elastics to fasten them. Please see our uniform policy in the office section of the website for further information.

<http://www.saltfordschool.org.uk/the-office/>

**Voluntary Classroom Support:** We are always looking for parent helpers to support activities in school. Information regarding this went out in the newsletter in July. If you can help we are always very grateful- even if it is on odd occasions or only for a short period of time. DBS forms are available from the school office.

We would like to thank you for your continued support and hope that the year ahead will be a happy one for all concerned. Please do book an appointment with your child's teacher if there is anything you need to discuss with her – it is not always easy to have a conversation with the children present.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs. Nethercott

Mrs. Newark

Mrs. Spicer

Miss Tang

Mr Jenkins

Mr Baker