



Saltford
CofE Primary School

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Headteacher: Dawn Sage
Co-Chairs of Governors: Megan Jackson and Richard Rowland

Information Letter for Year 5 and 6 Classes

September 2020

Dear Parents

We would like to warmly welcome you back to a new year after what we know has been a very unusual 6 months. Whether you are returning after the summer or you are a new parent to Saltford School, we hope that your children settle back happily and that you feel able to become involved in a long lasting partnership with the school.

You and your child will now be 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.

Due to the ongoing situation, we will be operating staggered start and finish times for different year groups. Both Year 5 and 6 will begin their day at 9.00am and finish at 3.15pm. Both year groups will enter and exit via the side gate by the Tiddlers' entrance. Please find the link here to the e-booklet with more detailed information. Please can you stick to these times to ensure the safety of all concerned. We ask that you do not approach staff members directly but understand that there may be occasions when you need to pass on a message. We just ask that at the current time you email these messages to the school and they will be passed on to your child's class teacher. 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 will go straight to the playground via the side gate entrance, Y6 will then go to their classroom, and Year 5 will walk around the EYFS play area and through the fire doors into their classrooms, where they will be met by their class teacher – on the first day the routes will be clearly marked and Mrs Sage will be available to support the children.**
- **We politely ask that parents leave the site as soon as you have said your goodbyes at the gate.**
- **Please can you ensure that all of your child's belongings fit into one small bag. We are asking that children bring all of their stationery in a plastic, wipeable pencil case that will be left in school. Please also bring in a plastic lunch box and two drinks bottles. Although we are not currently offering hot school dinners, you can purchase a grab bag lunch via School Gateway. Reading folders will need to be brought in daily.**
- **As the UKS2 zone is on a field, on wet days it would be favourable for the children to wear wellies in to school and bring their school shoes in their bag to wear inside.**
- **The children will be asked to wash their hands as soon as they enter the school buildings and at regular points throughout the day. School has plenty of anti-bacterial soap and hand sanitiser so you will not be expected to provide this for your own child. Please can you also ensure your child is washing their hands before leaving your house.**

Afternoon Routine

- **Please meet your child in the correct zone by the side gate where the children entered, socially distanced as far as possible – signage will support this.**
- **Please can you make sure only one parent from each household comes and we ask that where possible, siblings not of primary school age do not come on site if at all possible.**
- **We also ask that at the current time, children are picked up exclusively by members of their own family bubbles.**
- **Please ensure you child washes their hands on arrival home.**

We thank you for your co-operation.

Topics for the Autumn Term:

Our topic this term will be **World War Two – The Blitz.**

Our Science topics are: **Complex properties of materials and Earth and Space (Year 5)**

Electricity Dissolving & Separating Materials, Reversible and Irreversible Reactions, Basic Particle Theory (Year 6)

Although we usually welcome things brought in from home to support our topic work, we are unable to do so at this time.

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.

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 will always acknowledge and celebrate birthdays but we cannot accept any sweets or gifts brought in from home.

Toys: Unfortunately, children will not be able to bring in any toys or games from home. This also includes for Golden Time. We will ensure there are games and activities available in each class for this.

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 where appropriate. 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 reading record/planner. 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 5 and 6 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 a printed sheet reinforcing the maths focus for the week. English homework will look at the writing skills needed in Year 6.

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

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

[ict games.com](#)

[Topmarks](#)

Physical Education

There will be no indoor PE at the current time and we ask that your child **comes to school in their PE kit on the days they have outdoor games.** This should be a red plain or [Saltford t shirts](#) and black shorts or jogging trousers and trainers (Please send velcro fasteners if your child is unable to tie their laces) and a fleece type jacket.

| Class | PE | PE |
|-------|-----------|-----------|
| JSB | Tuesday | Wednesday |
| AB | Tuesday | Friday |
| NS | Wednesday | Thursday |
| JG | Monday | Friday |

Swimming: At the current time, there will be no swimming lessons in the autumn term.

PPA Time: This is class teacher's support time away from the classroom and will be covered in the following way:

AB Every other Friday with Mrs Parfrey (all day)
JSB Every other Friday with Mrs Parfrey (all day)
NS Every Thursday afternoon with Mrs Hathaway (Mrs Godwin teaches NS on Friday)
JG Every other Friday with Mrs Hathaway (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. As previously stated there is not hot meal option. The grab bag will consist of either a ham or cheese roll, crisps, a piece of fruit and a low sugar cake or biscuit.

Payments: 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>.

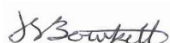
Hair: We would like to request that all long hair (boys and girls) is put up for school in an effort to help prevent the outbreaks of head lice which are so common. Please can all hair be tied neatly, with only small clips and elastics to fasten them. Please see our uniform policy in the office section 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 will be sent out when we are able to restart this - including all the current safety details etc. 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.

Year 5 and 6 Camps: At this stage we are not sure if Y5 and Y6 camps will go ahead. However, the cost of Y5 camp last year was £98 and the cost of Y6 camp was £255. We feel that it is useful for you to be aware of this in the event that camps do go ahead.

We would like to thank you for your continued support with all of the additional safety measures we have had to put in place and hope that the year ahead will be a happy and healthy one for all concerned.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Bowkett



Mr Boyle



Mr Styles



Mr Godwin