



Saltford
CofE Primary School

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Headteacher: Dawn Sage
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Information Letter for Year 3 and 4 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. Year 3 will begin their day at 8.45 and finish at 3pm. Year 4 will begin at 9am and finish at 3.15pm. Both year groups will enter and exit via the Claverton Road 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 Claverton Road entrance and across the school carpark (which will be closed during this time) and into the playground via this route. The children will then go straight round to their classroom 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 entrance to the playground.**
- **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 (pencil, colouring pencils, rubber and sharpener) 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.**
- **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 on the playground, socially distanced as far as possible – signage will support this. The class teacher will bring the children to you.**
- **Please can you make sure only one parent from each household comes on site 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 your 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 **Florida - The Magic Kingdom** followed by **The Stone Age**

Our Science topics are: **Rocks, Soils and Fossils** followed by **Animals (muscle and skeleton)**

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.

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. Due to Covid-19, it is unclear at this stage whether we will be able to offer these extended opportunities. If circumstances change, we anticipate costs to be in the region of the following:

Year 3

Approximate costs throughout the year for special events will be in the region of £30 (including trips, visitors and costumes).

Year 4

As Year 3 with the possibility of an additional overnight camp which usually costs around £80. We are waiting for further guidance on this matter and will keep you informed.

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 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. We are sure you can appreciate that the books from school will need to be quarantined after use. For this reason, each year group will have a designated day in which to bring in their completed reading books. For Year 3 this will be a **Wednesday** and for Year 4 this will be a **Monday**. There will be a box in each classroom for this. In addition to this they will then be issued with new reading books on a **Thursday** for Year 3 and a **Tuesday** for Year 4. If your child should complete their books before the changeover day, please feel free to supplement with home books and magazines or extra spelling practice/Doodle English.

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](#) 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
ESST	Tuesday	Thursday
CM	Wednesday	Thursday
RJ	Tuesday	Friday
PN	Monday	Thursday

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 class room and will be covered by Mrs. Godwin for ESST and Mrs. Brook for CM, PN and RJ.

ESST	Every Wednesday pm
CM	Every Wednesday (all day)
RJ	Every other Tuesday (all day)
PN	Every Thursday pm (Mrs Brook also teaching all day Fridays)

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.

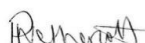
School Dinners: Key Stage Two children are required to pay should they wish to have a school dinner. Alternatively, parents can choose to provide their child with a packed lunch from home. If your child is having a school dinner please can you use the School Gateway system (link below) to make any payment. 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.

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,



Mrs. Nethercott

Mrs. Spincer

Miss Tang

Mr Jenkins

Miss Mulready