



**Saltford**  
CofE Primary School

Saltford CofE Primary School  
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Headteacher: Dawn Sage  
Chair of Governors: Richard Rowland

## **Information Letter for Year 5 and Year 6 Classes**

September 2021

Dear Parents

We would like to warmly welcome you back to a new year after what has been another challenging year. 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, including all the varied activities the school and P.T.A arrange.

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.

The school day will revert back to the normal timings pre-Covid and therefore will begin at **8.50am** and end 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 into class where the class teacher will be waiting for you with an early morning activity to complete.**
- **Where possible, we ask that the children go straight to the classroom via the side gate entrance. If is more convenient for your child to come via one of the other entrances, this is fine.**
- **We politely ask that parents leave the site as soon as you have said your goodbyes. Some children can find it difficult to settle if they can see you outside.**
- **Please can you ensure that all of your child's belongings fit into one small bag. Reading folders will need to be brought in daily.**
- **The children will continue to be asked to wash their hands as soon as they enter the school buildings and at regular points throughout the day to continue with the good hygiene habits they have got used to over the last year.**

### **Afternoon Routine**

- **Please meet your child from the side gate exit or other agreed point at the end of the school day. We thank you for your co-operation.**

### **Year 5 Topic for the Autumn Term:**

Our History topic this term will be: Local History - Slave Trade

Our Science topics are: Forces, followed by Complex properties of materials

## Year 6 Topics for the Autumn Term:

Our History topic this term will be: Tudors and Stuarts

Our Science topics will be: Electricity and Dissolving & separating materials; Reversible and irreversible reactions and Basic particle theory

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 5

Approximate costs throughout the year for any trips and Y5 camp will be in the region of £185.00

### Year 6

Approximate costs throughout the year for any trips and Y6 camp will be in the region of £400

**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. We request that toys are not brought in for Golden Time.

**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 marked with (H). The children's planners 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 Saltford School Planner. 10-20 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. Maths homework is also given out weekly in both year groups in the form of reinforcement of skills taught at school and an expectation of completing DoodleMaths **3x a week earning a minimum of 30 stars**. This will be monitored weekly in class. Please help your child to get into a routine that works for you to enable them to achieve this.

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** 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 - Outdoors	Swimming (until Oct 21)	Indoor PE (from Nov 21)
AB - Horse Chestnut Class	Tuesday	Friday 10.30-12.00	Wednesday
JSB - Elm Class	Tuesday	Friday 9.00-10.30	Wednesday
NS - Ash Class	Wednesday	Monday 10.30-12.00	Monday
JG – Oak Class	Wednesday	Monday 9.00-10.30	Monday

**Swimming:** Swimming lessons start the week beginning 13<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 Saltford 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 classroom:

Teacher	Cover
Mr Boyle	Mrs Parfrey alternate Fridays
Mr Bowkett	Mrs Parfrey alternate Fridays
Mr Styles	Mrs Hathaway every Thursday afternoon and alternate Fridays
Mr Godwin	Mrs Hathaway alternate 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. 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.salfordschool.org.uk/the-office/>

**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.salfordschool.org.uk/the-office/>

**Outdoor Shoes:** Please can children always have a separate pair of outdoor shoes in school as we would like to use the side field at playtime and lunchtime wherever possible. These need to be waterproof.

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

Regards,



Mr Bowkett



Mr Boyle



Mr Styles



Mr Godwin