Dear Parents

How do we let you know how your child is doing at Saltford School?

As your children are now well settled into their new classes and our first Consultation Evening approaches, we would like to give you some information about the way we report your child’s progress to you.

At Saltford, we believe strongly that we work in partnership with you to encourage your child to develop in many aspects of their life. We do this in a range of ways - by offering a rich broad and balanced curriculum; the opportunity to take part in performances and a wide range of sporting activities; a great emphasis on spiritual, moral, social and cultural development to name a few. Whilst not all of these are possible just at the moment, the development of the 'whole child' who is a confident, resilient, well behaved and independent learner is very important to us and we believe that all these experiences contribute to this.

In terms of the subjects we teach, we follow the National Curriculum. The emphasis is on children meeting the national standards for their year groups with the expectation that almost all children will be able to meet those standards by the end of each year. For English and Maths, we'll let you know about this at Consultation Evening.

More information about the expectations for each year group can be found in the booklets - Maths here and English here.

When we talk with you at Consultation Evening, as well as discussing your child's achievements and effort at school, for children in Years 2-6 we will let you know if your child is on track to meet their year group standards by the end of the year and will also discuss actions we can take together to support them to meet those standards. In EYFS we initially discuss how the children have settled into school life. We will share some information from your child’s Baseline assessment results and give you a general outline of which age and stage your child is working at according to the Development Matters document. In this meeting we will highlight any areas which we will focus on as an outcome of this assessment. Following this there will be a Wow Workshop week where your child can show you their classroom environment, their photo scrap book and favourite areas of learning. We will also encourage you to provide some feedback on the children's work and development. As some of the children in Year One are continuing to work on their Early Learning Goals and others have only been working on the National Curriculum for a maximum of seven weeks, the information that you receive from the teacher will relate more to their transition and how they are accessing the work on the National Curriculum so far. Teachers will still give you clear information on their strengths and next steps to help them achieve the end of year expectations. When children are meeting and applying the standards securely, we aim to deepen their learning through activities which encourage them to be creative, evaluative and analytical and really embed their knowledge, understanding and skills before moving on to the next year. This is what we mean if we report that your child is working at Greater Depth. This approach is called 'Mastery'. We will continue to encourage the children to discuss their learning meaningfully in terms of what they already do well and what they need to do next.
Of course, there will still be **statutory assessments** throughout your child's time at school. Here is a reminder of these:

**EYFS**

When your child enters school, a *Baseline* assessment takes place, which will help us work out which age and stage your child is working at in all 17 areas and how to support your child.

At the end of the Foundation Stage, you will receive a report about your child's attainment in the 17 areas of learning based on the ongoing observations of your child through the year shown in their online journal, ‘Tapestry’.

**Y1**

At the end of Y1, your child will take part in a *Phonics Check* which will show how well your child applies their phonics skills. You will be told whether your child has met the threshold set by the government or not met the threshold for the check. Children who do not meet the threshold for the check in Y1 will retake it in Y2. Our current Y2 will take the check this term, as they missed the check in the summer during lockdown.

**End of KS1**

At the end of Y2, the children have to undertake statutory assessment tests (SATS) in Reading and Maths. There is an optional Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar Test although, as a school, we have made the decision only to administer the spelling section of this paper as we feel that this gives us the most important information about our children. The papers the children will sit are:

- KS1 maths – paper 1 (arithmetic); paper 2 (mathematical fluency, problem-solving and reasoning)
- KS1 English reading Paper 1: combined reading prompt and answer booklet
- English reading Paper 2: reading booklet and reading answer booklet
- KS1 English grammar, punctuation and spelling Paper 1: spelling

The outcomes of these tests are given as scaled scores, where 100 will be the expected standard (less than 100 being below the expected and more than 100 exceeding the expected standard) and your child's teachers overarching assessment, taking in to consideration the outcomes of these tests, will be reported to you with their end of year report.

We continue to assess children's writing against the end of Key Stage standards, taken from a range of evidence.

**Y4**

This academic year Y4 children will be required to sit a Multiplication Tables Check – up to and including 12 x 12. More information about this will be provided by the Y4 class teachers in the Spring Term.

**End of KS2**

At the end of Y6, children also take tests, which are:
Key Stage Two test specifications
- English grammar, punctuation and spelling Paper 1: short answer questions
- English grammar, punctuation and spelling Paper 2: spelling
- English reading: reading booklet and associated answer booklet
- mathematics Paper 1: arithmetic
- mathematics Paper 2: reasoning
- mathematics Paper 3: reasoning

For the KS2 tests a scaled score of 100 will always represent the 'expected standard for a Year 6 child'. A pupil’s scaled score will be based on their raw score. The raw score is the total number of marks a pupil receives in a test. The pupil's raw score will be translated into a scaled score using a conversion table.

We will continue to assess children's writing against the end of Key Stage standards. Our partnership with you in supporting your child's learning has never been more important. We will continue to provide you with information about how you can support your child at home and welcome your views about how we can continue to improve our work with your child at school.

We look forward to seeing you at the Consultation Evenings.

Yours sincerely

Elizabeth Spincer
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