



WELCOME BACK to our new school year! Here is our Launch Letter for term one, giving you a flavour of all that is happening this term. Newsletters will be back next week as usual – sent out each Thursday by email.

A warm welcome to our new families who have started with us this September.

Our website is up to date and you can find our term dates calendar under the Office. Please see our communications poster here for a reminder of the many ways we communicate with you.

Punctuality: please support us by making sure your child arrives at school at the correct time – all children should be in the classroom at 8:50am – arrival at 8:45am is recommended and please do space out at your pick up and drop off points. Please read this useful document that outlines pick up and drop off arrangements by year group. If you drive, do consider active travel by parking at The Crown in the morning and walking in.

Uniform: please send your child in full school uniform including footwear. A useful presentation showing our uniform requirements can be found on our website here – including requirements for school swimming lessons.

Enjoy the rest of the week,
Mrs Sage.

News

We hope you have had a lovely summer holiday and have enjoyed our first week back at school.

Operational plans for the school: Our operational plan which we shared with you last term will run until further notice and we need to continue to be extremely vigilant with our control measures as we have since March 2020.

We will continue with all the safety procedures that are now well-established and I know you will support us in this matter. Please **remember not to send your child to school if they have any of the symptoms of Covid.** The following document outlines our contingency planning at a glance and how procedures will change for pupils and staff in the case of escalating Covid numbers in school or in the community: Covid Outbreak Contingency Plan Sept 2021.

Welcome meetings for all year groups: we have scheduled welcome meetings over Zoom this year. Some have already taken place this week. These meetings give teachers and parents/carers a chance to talk through the year ahead. The schedule is on the school website news page here. If you have mislaid your meeting ID and passcode information, please contact the school office. Class pages on the website are also a good source of up-to-date information and the link to the welcome meeting presentations will also be posted there.

This term's focus

- Continuing to develop the zoning of our school site for developing play and outdoor education. Sharing our new play charter with the children.
- Working with our school council to support the launch of the Futura Learning Partnership.
- Further developing writing – including progression in editing – across the school.

We will share updates and links to information on the news page of our website, in our newsletters and through our Twitter account @SaltfordPrimary.

Continuing work on our School Improvement Priorities

Implementing our curriculum planning on relationships, sex and health education as part of the new statutory guidance.

Working with the team from SARI (Stand Against Racism and Inequality) to deliver training to the staff.

Implementing new schemes of work in RE (Discovery RE) and PE (Complete PE).

How you can get involved

PTA: to keep in touch and get involved join the PTA Facebook group here. The next PTA meeting will be held at 7.30pm via Zoom on **Monday 13th September.** ALL ARE WELCOME.

Volunteering: we love having volunteers in school and there are so many roles a volunteer can take:

- Volunteer to help on a regular basis in class or with swimming.
- Share your gardening skills and help look after the Secret Garden. Please call (01225 872185) or e-mail the school office (mailto:contactus@saltfordschool.org.uk) if you can spare time to help all the children get the maximum benefit from this great resource.
- Become a Library volunteer and support our team.

See more about what it's like to be a volunteer here, including this lovely account from the point of view of one parent volunteer who wrote to us about her experience.

Our governing body

The school's governing body is responsible for the strategic direction of the school and for holding the Headteacher to account for the academic progress of the pupils, to name just two areas. To find out what is covered in governors' meetings, click here to see this year's meeting planner with details for each term.

This term's clubs

At Saltford School we offer a wide variety of extra-curricular activities. The clubs section of our website provides full details of all the clubs we offer. We will contact you as and when more clubs are able to run. All clubs have their own Covid operating procedures
Chuckles Before and After School Club: all children who attend Saltford School are offered wrap around care provision. This means they have access to supervised before and after school care. This is run by Tiddlers Day Nursery.

Parent Voice Group

With parent representatives from each class, **the Parent Voice Group** (PVG) is an important means of communication between school and families. See the PVG section of our website here to see how it works, who your representative is and how you could become part of it. We still have vacancies for representatives for the following classes: Bumblebee, Butterfly, Pear & Ash.

Community events coming up

Keynsham & Saltford Eco Festival: on Friday 17th & Sat 18th Sept. A range of fun and interesting activities for children and adults. More information here.

Keynsham Life Saving Club: this resumes on 19th September at Keynsham Leisure Centre and provides opportunities for 8-year-olds and above. More info here.

Free help and advice: from 14th September, free HENRY programmes from B&NES for parents/carers of children aged up to 5. The programmes provide everything needed to get your child off to a great start. See the flyer here and more information on our website.

New cook-it: from 15th September, online, these are 5-week programmes to give families the confidence and skills to prepare and cook healthy, budget-friendly family meals. £25 voucher for every family that completes the course. See the September dates and how to book on this flyer or find out more info here on our website.

Swimming

Swimming starts on 13th September for all years except Reception. The current timetable is here. **We urgently need helpers to sign up** so that this activity can go ahead. In particular, helpers are needed next week for Pear, Cherry and Horse Chestnut classes. Volunteers must hold a DBS certificate with the school before they sign up. We would be very grateful if you could consider whether you are able to help. There are also quick links for volunteer sign-up on the website here.

DBS certification: the process for getting a DBS certificate can take a couple of weeks so please apply in plenty of time if you think you could offer help in the future. A number of forms will need to be completed and identity verified to support this process. Once approved, the DBS certificate will be sent to your home and will need to be shown to the school office to complete our records. Please contact the school office if you wish to apply for a volunteer DBS.



Futura Learning Partnership



This new school year sees the launch of the new name for our trust, Futura Learning Partnership. The name was chosen to be forward-looking, while also referring to the origins of the trust. Futura comes from the Wellsway School motto 'Futura Aedificamus', meaning 'We build for the future'. 'Learning partnership' closely reflects the commitment and value placed on collaboration, partnership working and being one organisation.

Each of the schools in the Futura Learning Partnership has an individual improvement strategy, based on the 'Futura Way', to ensure consistency across the trust. This approach means that Saltford children can benefit from the expertise, opportunities and support afforded by being part of a larger organisation.

You can see the 'Introducing Futura Learning Partnership on YouTube here: <https://youtu.be/x32HYoM1zOg>

New school mural is officially unveiled



We were delighted to welcome guests from St Mary's Church, the diocese, our community and our staff and governors for the official cutting of the ribbon for our stunning new mural in the infant corridor. The idea for the mural developed from the Go Team's Bible Chat Mats which are designed to encourage young people and adults to read the Bible and have conversations together.



A special mention to our Year 6 girls for their fundraising

Daisy from Ash class, along with her sister Amelie and friends Nia (Ash class) and Ellouise (Oak class) raised £53.50 for Holly Hedge Animal Sanctuary by making and selling cakes and biscuits. They managed to sell all of them at the Salford garden sale. The charity sent a lovely letter and certificate thanking them. Well done to you all.



Key dates

Monday 13th September, 18:00 – 18:30: Year 2 welcome meeting via Zoom.

Monday 13th September, 19:30 – 21:00: PTA meeting via Zoom. All welcome.

Tuesday 14th September, 18:00 – 18:30: Year 1 welcome meeting via Zoom.

Thursday 16th September, 18:00 – 18:30: Year 3 welcome meeting via Zoom.

Thursday 23rd September, 6pm – 8pm: Wellsway School open evening. See [your invitation here for details](#).

Thursday 7th October: school census day with special lunch menu

Please note that, due to the extra bank holiday for the Queen's platinum jubilee falling in a school holiday, the DfE has asked schools to adjust their term dates. We will now finish one day earlier in Term Six, on Thursday 21st July. All information is up to date on our website: www.salfordschool.org.uk/the-office/#term-dates.