



WELCOME BACK to our new term and happy new year to all. This Launch Letter is an introduction to term three, giving you a preview of all that will be happening this term. Newsletters will be back in the usual format next week, sent out each Thursday by email.

I would like to thank everyone who has supported us by making sure their child has done a lateral flow test before returning to school. Regular testing remains our best defence against the possibility of major disruption to children's schooling this term. We recommend regular lateral flow testing twice weekly, as staff do on Wednesday and Sunday. The latest change is that confirmatory PCR tests following a positive lateral flow (LFD) test result in asymptomatic cases are to be temporarily suspended from Tuesday 11 January. This will mean that **anyone who receives a positive LFD test result will be required to self-isolate immediately.** The [school website news page](#) is up to date with guidance for parents regarding Covid-19 procedures relating to school.

We are looking forward to tomorrow's pantomime event in school when we will all be watching a recorded version of 'Aladdin' from Eva Long Productions. Children can come in fancy dress or in their own clothes and there will be a costume competition for each year group with a prize for the 'Best Dame' and 'Best of the Rest'. The children can bring in a treat and a drink for the interval but please make sure this is nut and seed free.

[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 can communicate with each other.

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](#).

Enjoy the rest of your week,
Mrs Sage.

News

We hope you have had a lovely half term break and have enjoyed our first week back at school.

Covid update for term 3: we still need to continue to be extremely vigilant with our control measures as we have since March 2020. We will continue in school 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 have to change for pupils and staff in the case of escalating Covid numbers in school or in the community: [Covid Outbreak Contingency Plan Sept 2021](#).

Flu vaccines for children: these will take place on **Monday 10th Jan.**

Access afternoons and consultation evening: these will next take place on Mon 28th – Wed 30th March and Thu 31st March & Mon 4th April respectively. We will be in touch nearer the time with booking details as usual.

This term's focus

- Meetings for Year Six, Two and Year One with regards to forthcoming assessments and how you can support your child – you will receive a letter with all the details.
- Working with our Digital Leaders in Year Six to support children with online safety projects – Safer Internet Day is Tuesday 8th February.
- A focus on writing and improvements in the children's editing and redrafting skills.
- Working on our Travel Plan 21/22 which includes pedestrian training for Year 5 and 6, cycling proficiency course for KS2 and

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 curriculum leaders to develop their subject leadership roles and assessment in their subjects.
- Reviewing our schemes of work and medium-term planning in line with the Futura Curriculum. Please see [more detail in this Futura Curriculum document](#).
- Our [weekly newsletter](#) will provide updates and links to information on our website. We will also continue to Tweet about life in our school [@SaltfordPrimary](#).

How you can get involved

PTA: the next PTA meeting will be held at 7.30pm on **Monday 10th January**. ALL ARE WELCOME.

To keep in touch and get involved [join the PTA Facebook group here](#). Please also continue to support PTA events such as the regular cake and uniform sales as they have a direct impact on your child's school experience.

Volunteering: we love having volunteers in school and there are so many roles you could take. At the moment these are all subject to our COVID visitor protocols which include taking a lateral flow test.

- Volunteer to help on a regular basis in class.
- Share your gardening skills and help look after the Secret Garden. Please call (01225 872185) or e-mail the school office (<mailto:contactus@salfordschool.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.

Shopping choices: when you are buying online, please remember to check out [The Giving Machine](#) for links to the sites you would be using anyway. You can earn commission for the school funds at no extra cost to yourself. Please see [our Fundraising information here](#) for more information.

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, please follow [this link to this year's meeting planner](#) with details for each term.

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. You can see the minutes of each meeting [on the school website here](#).

This term's clubs

We are pleased to be able to offer a wide variety of extra-curricular activities. The [clubs section](#) of our website provides full details of all the clubs we offer and the timetables they are running to.

All clubs have their own Covid operating procedures

Chuckles Before and After School Club: all our children are offered wrap around care provision by [Tiddlers Day Nursery](#). This is supervised before and after school care

Community news

[Our Community notices page](#) is regularly updated with information from outside organisations that we think families might find useful. This can range from support for families to school holiday clubs and seasonal activities.

We also keep in touch with [Saltford Community Association](#) to pass on any news that might be of particular interest to families with school-age children.

Important online safety advice for January

Many families will have had new devices for Christmas and begun thinking about parental controls and responsibilities. January's [online safety newsletter for parents](#) is now available on [our online safety page](#). It contains really useful features on Tik Tok and the BBC 'Own It' app which could be a good way of supporting the older children in the school who have mobile phones. It offers advice as they type and intervenes where there may be risk. For example, if they're sharing their mobile number, the app will tell your child to 'think safe' before they send the message. Find out more here: <https://www.bbc.com/ownit/takecontrol/own-it-app>. BBC Own It also has a dedicated area for parents with video guides on useful topics such as 'the transition from primary to secondary school' and 'supporting children with social media apps' and links to other useful sites. Follow this link to access: <https://www.bbc.com/ownit/curations/parents>.

Please remember that you must be over 13 years old to use Tik Tok. Parents should be aware that some of the videos may contain explicit language and sexual imagery that may not be suitable for your child to view. There is also the risk of strangers contacting your child so please make sure you have set up the appropriate settings.

Green team's special 50p launch for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee



Four members of our Green Team are pictured showing the Queen's Platinum Jubilee 50p commemorative coin which is being launched by The Royal Mint today. They were asked to participate in this event because our Green Team are planting a tree for the Queen's Jubilee as part of the Queen's Green Canopy initiative.



Congratulations David

Many congratulations to David in horse chestnut class who achieved a bronze medal at the Year 5 Inter-school Playground Pentathlon competition which was organised and run by Dave Burston, our school sports partner from Wellsway School. David beat 42 other competitors from the local area to achieve his incredible third place spot and told us how much he enjoyed himself whilst he skipped, sprinted and speed bounced during the event. Well done David; we are all very proud of you.



Headteacher awards

KS1

Bumblebee: Willow D for making a fantastic, independent crown.

Butterfly: Zane F for really careful phonics when writing about the Christmas holidays.

Apple: Henry P for amazing ideas when writing about his Christmas holiday. Super work Henry!

Pear: Belle B & Eva L for amazing dancing and a great performance!

Palm: Poppy G for super sentences about her Christmas holiday. Well done Poppy! You worked really hard on this.

Cherry: Fred A for lovely thoughtful writing to start our work on Building Boy.

KS2

Lime: Isla H for a lovely piece of descriptive writing about her holiday

Sycamore: Florence S for a fantastic recount of her Christmas Holidays.

Maple: Aiden H for his great understanding of the features of a playscript. Well done Aiden!

Willow: Charlie T for always being a team player. Charlie was singled out by Mr Harrison for his super teamwork in Tag Rugby this week. Well done!

Elm: Emily T for a brilliant description of a theme park using senses and for using her creative imagination and super adjectives.

Horse chestnut: Emily M for an exciting description of Enchantment Land – a theme park – using adjectives, similes and onomatopoeia.

Ash: Jayden P for working hard on his organisation, taking responsibility and being independent.

Oak: Amelia L for excellent thinking in RE when deciding which things to value, as they last forever.



This week's house point winners are **Goldfinches** with 379 points



Key dates

All dates are on the [online calendar for parents here](#)

Monday 10th January: nasal flu vaccines for children.

Monday 10th January 7.30pm: PTA meeting, all welcome.

Friday 14th January 3.15pm: Y2 cake sale.

Thursday 20th January: census day with special lunch.

Thursday 20th January 6pm on Zoom: Y6 support and transition meeting.

Tuesday 1st February: beginning of Mental Health Awareness Week

Tuesday 8th February: Safer Internet Day 'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online'

Friday 11th February 3.15pm: Y5 cake sale.

Thursday 17th February: end of term 3.

Friday 18th February: INSET day

Monday 28th February: beginning of term 4.

Monday 28th – Wednesday 30th March: access afternoons.

Thursday 31st March & Monday 4th April: consultation evenings.

Please note that term 6 ends on Thursday 21st July. This is because the DfE has asked schools to adjust their term dates because of the extra bank holiday for the Queen's platinum jubilee falling in a school holiday.

Term dates for this and the next academic year are on our website: www.saltfordschool.org.uk/the-office/#term-dates.