



Saltford
CofE Primary School

Launch Letter Term 3 • 5th January 2023



WELCOME BACK to the spring term and happy new year to all. This introduction to term three offers a preview all the main events and themes of the coming term. The [class pages on our website](#) are up to date with the class letter and the relevant curriculum web for the spring term that your child will be following.

We will be focusing on online safety through national 'Safer Internet Day' on Tuesday 7th February. This year's theme is 'want to talk about it?' This will be about making time and space for conversations about children's online lives, always with the goal of promoting safe, responsible and positive use of technology for children. Look out for more information in forthcoming newsletters.

Welcome to Mrs Gordon: we are delighted to welcome Mrs Mel Gordon to Elm class. Prior to joining us, she taught in London (where she trained) for the past 3 years, and has experience of teaching English in Madrid and Art in Sri Lanka. She is excited to get back to her roots in the South West and is enjoying getting to know her new class. In the classroom she places a big importance on kindness, mutual respect and children's well-being, along with having a big appreciation for children's sense of humour and fun. Mrs Gordon loves to read, travel, practise yoga, run, listen to music and exercise her vocal chords. She is part of a choir in Bristol and loves to encourage singing in children too. Parents of Elm class children are welcome to say 'hello' and introduce themselves to Mrs Gordon at pick-up time.

Governor news: we would also like to welcome Paul Cummings to his new role as Chair of the Academy Governance Committee (AGC), and thank outgoing chair, Richard Rowland, for his service. Please see below for more detail.

Open access afternoons for parents: we are looking forward to inviting parents in to school on 6th & 7th February to share the children's work. There will be more information nearer the time. As ever, if you find these times are not convenient for you, we will be inviting you to contact us to arrange another opportunity.

Vacancies: we have positions available at school for a [part-time receptionist](#) and for [lunchtime playworkers](#). These are part-time positions and we can be flexible when agreeing which days of the week would be worked. Please follow the respective links for more information, and please feel free to contact the school on 01225 872185 to talk to us about the roles.

Panto for children: this took place today in the school hall. It has been lovely to see the children around school in their fancy dress and to hear the laughter coming from the hall. Thank you to the PTA for funding this special treat. See our report and pictures below.

Reception places for next school year: Sunday 15th January is the closing date for applications for Reception places starting in September 2023 for children who will be four by 31st August. Please see all the [information for potential new starters on our website here](#).

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 8:40am is recommended. If you drive, please consider trying [active travel](#) by parking at The Crown in the morning and finishing the journey on foot from there.

Uniform: please send your child in full school uniform including footwear and suitable cold weather clothing. A useful presentation showing our uniform requirements can be found [on our website here](#). Please note that children should not be wearing a PE hoodie as part of their main uniform.

[Our website](#) is up to date and you can find our [term dates calendar](#) for this and next school year in [the Office section](#). Please [see our communications poster here](#) for a reminder of the many ways we can communicate with each other.

Have a good weekend,
Mrs Sage.

Special mentions for...

Arnaav N from palm class: premium soccer skills award trophy.

Martha A from cherry class: Baskerville's level 5 gymnastics award.

Lois A from horse chestnut class: Baskerville's level 13 & 14 gymnastics awards.

Frank D from palm class: Bristol Hawks Gymnastic Club gymnastic award certificate and medal.

Headteacher awards

Bumblebee class: Kate P for beautiful journal writing about her amazing adventures.

Butterfly class: the whole class for being amazing angels in their first nativity performance.

Apple class: Lily S for super sentences using adjectives to describe Max from 'Where the Wild Things Are'.

Pear class: Evelyn J for amazing phonics and super reading.

Palm class: Tatenda M for fantastic work in geography, finding countries in different continents.

Cherry class: George M for being a kind and helpful member of the class.

Sycamore class: the whole class for an amazing performance in the Christmas concert.

Maple class: the whole class for a brilliant performance in the Christmas concert.

Lime class: the whole class for all your hard work over the last term and for your fantastic performance at the school Christmas concert. Well done to you all!

Willow class: the whole class for all your hard work over the last term and for your fantastic performance at the school Christmas concert. Well done everyone!

Elm class: the whole class for excellent adjustments in the new term and for bringing positive energy to Elm class – well done!

Horse chestnut class: the whole class for making a fantastic start to term 3 and working really well as a team.

Ash class: the whole class for hard work with the Lighting of the Christmas Tree concert and the poem and song in the Christmas performance at school.

Oak class: the whole class for hard work with the Lighting of the Christmas Tree concert and the poem and song in the Christmas performance at school.

House points

Well done to **Robins** who are this week's house points winners.

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 7th February.
- A focus on writing and improvements in the children's editing and redrafting skills.
- Working on our Travel Plan 22/23 which includes pedestrian training for Year 5 and 6 and cycling proficiency courses for KS2.

Continuing work on 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: to keep in touch and get involved [join the PTA Facebook group here](#). The next PTA meeting will be held at 7.30pm on **Monday 9th January** in the staffroom. 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.

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 details.

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.

Our committed group of volunteers is led by Chair Paul Cummings. To find out more about the individual governors and their roles, minutes of past meetings and what it takes to be a governor, please see our website here. Please also see our meeting planner here for this academic year to give you an idea of what is covered in our meetings.

This term's clubs

Here at Saltford Primary School we run a large range of extra-curricular clubs. Extra-curricular activities play a large part in the life of our pupils. This term we are pleased to be able to add a netball club for Year 4 on Monday mornings before school, starting on Monday 9th January. Parents of Y4 children were emailed last term with full details of how to join the club.

The whole variety of sporting clubs includes football, tag rugby, basketball, cricket, netball and gymnastics. We also have a STEM club, art club, sewing club and recorder club. If your child is interested in learning a new language, Spanish club runs at lunchtime on Monday and Tuesday. For pupils who would like to learn to dance, Danni runs the dance club on Monday after school.

Some of the clubs we offer at Saltford Primary School are not available all year round so please check the website for details. www.saltfordschool.org.uk/clubs

If anyone is interested in running a club at the school please contact the school office. For further information about all the clubs that run here please see our school website.

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.

Futura Learning Partnership



We are a Futura Learning Partnership school. You can catch up on the Futura news by reading their monthly newsletters for parents

on our website here or learn more by visiting the Futura website here.

Community news

Here are some useful links where you can keep informed about what is happening in our community:

Saltford Community Association:

www.saltfordhall.co.uk/

Saltford Parish Council:

www.saltfordparishcouncil.gov.uk/

Saltford Environment Group:

saltfordenvironmentgroup.org.uk

St Mary's Church: www.stmaryssaltford.org.uk/

B&NES Council: beta.bathnes.gov.uk/

Keynsham Town Council: <http://www.keynsham-tc.gov.uk/>

News

Thank you to Richard Rowland

Richard Rowland, our Chair of the Academy Governance Committee (AGC), stepped down from his role at the end of last term. He has been involved in school governance since 2016 when he was co-opted onto the AGC.

Co-opted governors are appointed by the governing body as they have specific skills, experience and perspective to contribute to the effective governance, strategic management and ultimately success of the school and Richard has proved excellent in this role.

Richard has been Co-Chair (with Megan Jackson) and Chair of the AGC and has worked tirelessly in support of the school, however his work in the defence industry regularly takes him abroad, and he had decided this is the right time for him to step down. He has given his time very generously to help ensure the best education possible for our children.

We would like to thank Richard for his regular presence in school and dedication to the school community. We wish him well for the future and as he continues in his role as a school governor.

The trust board has agreed to our new Chair, Paul Cummings, who is already serving on our AGC as a parent governor and will be a familiar face to many of you within our community. Paul is looking forward to his new role and to opportunities to work with the school.

Pantomime comes to school

Today the children were treated to a fantastic performance of Cinderella - oh yes they were! There was lots of high energy interaction, audience participation and a lot of laughter from the funny jokes.



A huge thanks to Stage-Ed for coming to Saltford today and of course to our wonderful PTA for funding this fabulous experience. We also thank Mrs Nethercott for organising this treat for the children. Well done to everyone who came to school in such creative fancy dress. The winners of the fancy dress competition are:

Best dame – Zchenya
EYFS & KS1 – Violet
LKS2 – Frank
UKS2 – Anaya.



Health information

We have already sent useful information to parents last term from UKHSA (the UK Health Security Agency). The poster on the following page is a useful at-a-glance tool to support your decision making when your child is unwell. To find out more, you can also find the [government's guidance on health protection in children and young people's settings here](#).



UK Health
Security
Agency



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

Key dates

Monday 9th January 7.30pm: PTA meeting in the staffroom. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Sunday 15th January: closing date for applications for reception places for 2023.

Thursday 19th January 6pm: Y6 meeting on supporting your child and assessments in school hall. More info to follow.

Friday 20th January: Year 2 cake sale, along with uniform sale and book swap.

Monday 30th January 5pm: Y2 meeting on supporting your supporting your child and assessments in school hall. More info to follow.

Thursday 2nd February 5pm: Y5 camp and health education meeting in school hall. More info to follow.

Friday 3rd February: PTA disco for children. More information to come.

Monday 6th February 2.45 – 3.15pm: open access afternoon for parents. Invitations to come nearer the time.

Tuesday 7th February 2.45 – 3.15pm: open access afternoon for parents. Invitations to come nearer the time.

Tuesday 7th February: Safer Internet Day 2023.

Wednesday 8th February: Y1 meeting in school hall on supporting your child at school and phonics check. More info including confirmation of time to follow.

Thursday 9th February: Y4 meeting in school hall on supporting your child at school and times tables. More info including confirmation of time to follow.

Thursday 9th February: end of term 3.

Friday 10th February: INSET day.

Monday 20th February: beginning of term 4.

Friday 31st March: end of term 4.

For term dates for this and next academic year, please see our website: www.saltfordschool.org.uk/the-office/#term-dates. All other dates are up to date on [the calendar for parents here](#).