



saltash.net community school

Newsletter

November 2012

Dear Parent/Guardian,

In advance of this term's edition of Community News, I am writing to update you on some of the developments which have been taking place at **saltash.net** over the last few weeks. Please also find enclosed with this newsletter information from Mr Langmead regarding the introduction of Homework Club.

One of the most important updates I need to give parents concerns our ongoing appeal to the AQA Exam Board regarding last summer's GCSE Maths results. An enormous amount of effort has gone into the appeal in a bid to help the students affected gain the results they deserved. I have attached to this letter the most recent communication from AQA which now states that they share our concern and are undertaking a full review of the whole cohort. Unfortunately, we still have to wait up to six weeks for a result from this next stage of our appeal, but we really do hope that at the end of this time our young people will receive the results they deserve.

Other news:

Setting the direction of the school for the next five years

Thank you to all the parents who sent in their suggestions for our 'Core Aims'. We have added these to the similarly excellent suggestions we received from students and staff and have begun the hard work of formulating these into a plan for the development of **saltash.net** over the next five years.

Well done to all of our Year 11 Mathematicians

Year 11 made truly outstanding effort in their preparation for the November Mathematics examinations. The revision sessions before and after school were extremely well attended and the three additional maths days provided in half term were attended by over half of the year group.

Student led designs—outcomes from Theme Day held on November 13th

Well done to the thirteen students from year eight who were voted by their peers as having the best ideas for redesigning areas of the school. Students worked in teams to pull together ideas including planting a school orchard, adding stair cases to improve circulation, recycling schemes, building new classrooms, new covered areas and performance spaces. The winning team presented their bid to the school's leadership team who were hugely impressed and will now be investigating the ideas further and adding them to our bids to central government for funding.

Liam Hosking

Harry Chapman

Stephen Wood

Olivia Higman

Ellie Noonan

George Leigh

Jasmine Gwyther

Billy Lanyon

Harry Lovelock

Rachael Garrett-Prentice

Dee Halcrow

Ellie O'Connor

Adam Olver

saltash.net is recognised by Apple as a regional centre of excellence

This term, **saltash.net** was confirmed as the Apple regional training centre for schools in the South West. This was awarded in recognition of our outstanding record of innovation and support for other schools. The use of the iPads to support both breakfast club and our new homework club as well as the use of Apple TV to live stream student work from their iPads in class were just some of the groundbreaking innovations that were included. What sets the school apart is the way in which these technologies are being evaluated in terms of the impact they are having on learning. As part of the new status the school will be hosting a number of training events for other schools in the region allowing for the sharing of ideas and techniques. These events allow students at the school to benefit from the collective experience of the region.

saltash.net begins supporting other schools in its role as the National Microsoft Innovative Mentor School

This month Mr Buckley, Mr Rowe and Ms Boothman travel to Prague to meet with schools from over fifty different countries. Following our work in Prague, fifteen schools from around the world will be working closely with **saltash.net** for the next twelve months doing a range of projects that will involve Saltash staff and students linking up directly with staff and students from India, Pakistan, Nigeria, South Africa, Israel, Bulgaria, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Ireland, Cyprus, Australia, Greece and Kenya.

As a European Winner of the prestigious Innovative Teacher award, Ms Boothman will be amazing international judges with the outstanding work she has been doing in History and in the wider community of Saltash through the 'Hit Squad'.

As Innovative School Mentor, Mr Rowe will be supporting three schools in different countries throughout the year. Last year this project provided opportunities for students at the school to learn from the advice of students in other schools and develop the Cre8aGame project. This year Mr Rowe is hoping to involve even more students and staff in similar projects.

As one of only eight International Coaches, Mr Buckley will be bringing together students from ten countries online each month so that they can experience what it is like to solve problems together with students in Africa, India, Europe and the Middle East.

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Rehearsals and ticket sales are hotting up for our school production this year of Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. This is an ambitious venture for us all, and the cast are rising to the challenge with their usual commitment and talent. The school hall is slowly being transformed into a magical forest in which anything can happen. As the lovers, Hermia, Demetrius, Lysander and Helena, venture into the woods to escape or pursue the ones they love, they cross into a world inhabited by fairies, spirits and goblins. These other-worldly beings are involved in their own disputes of love, and their worlds soon intertwine with interesting and sometimes amusing results. In another clearing in the trees a group of workmen have been chosen by Petra Quince, who runs the local amateur dramatic company, to rehearse their play to be performed at the Duke's wedding. Nick Bottom the Weaver, the leading actor, soon gets more than he bargains for when he exits stage left.

Come and see this adventurous production with original music written by staff and students at the school. Tickets are on sale now at school reception (£3 and £5). See you there for a summer's dream this Christmas!

Uniform and Attendance

I would like to take this opportunity of requesting that parents continue to do all that they possibly can to support the school in upholding its uniform policy and assist with helping our students secure high levels of attendance. We have given many reminders this term about the appropriateness for school of certain items of uniform, in particular school trousers. Some students are currently choosing to wear trousers which are ultra tight and/or in a jean style with studs, buttons and coloured belts. Can I please reinforce the messages from the Heads of Year that such styles are **not** acceptable. Also, we know that high levels of attendance help students to achieve well and fulfil their potential. Can I please remind you that unless there are exceptional circumstances holidays should not be booked during term time. It is always very difficult for students to make up lengthy periods of time missed. Your cooperation and help with both of these requests will be greatly appreciated.

Diary Dates

Thurs 6th Dec	Year 11 Presentation Evening
Tues 11th to Fri 14th Dec	Production: A Midsummer Night's Dream
Tues 18th Dec	Y11/13 Parents' Surgery
Thurs 20th Dec	Year 13 Presentation Evening
Fri 21st Dec	End of Autumn Term— Early closure, school finishes at 1.20pm
Mon 7th Jan 2013	Whole School returns for Spring Term

Yours faithfully,



Mrs I Bryce
Headteacher



Our ref: GCSE/EXT/ 53635

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The Examinations Officer
SALTASH.NET COMMUNITY SCHOOL
WEARDE ROAD
SALTASH
CORNWALL
PL12 4AY

05 November 2012

Dear Sir/Madam

AQA ENQUIRIES ABOUT RESULTS EXTENDED MARK-REVIEW

Level: GCSE
Series: JUNE 2012 SERIES 6M
Unit/component: MATHEMATICS UNIT 3 TIER H 43603H

Your centre requested an extended mark-review for the above, and at my earliest opportunity I am writing to let you know that AQA shares your concern.

AQA is extending the mark-review of the above to all your remaining candidates in the cohort, with the exception of those candidates who have already achieved the highest possible mark for a unit. Please note that we do not require candidate consent in this instance. This work will be carried out at AQA's expense and those fees for your earlier paid requests have been cancelled. Please note that the extended mark-review will not result in any reductions of subject grade or UMS mark for the additional candidates. Also, any candidate in the original sample whose mark went down will have their original mark and original grade reinstated and these reinstatements should be shown on the results section of e-AQA within 24 hours.

AQA will report the outcome of this extended mark-review as soon as possible but please bear in mind that the senior examiner appointed to carry out this work may have other commitments and thus there may be a delay in reporting the outcome of the extended mark-review to you; usually an extended mark-review can take about six weeks.

Thank you for your patience in this matter, and I apologise for any stress and inconvenience caused. We will write to you again as soon as the extended mark-review is completed.

Please be assured that we are taking the necessary steps to provide you and your candidates with the right results.

Yours faithfully

Mrs K Phillips
Senior Manager – Post Results