



# saltash.net community school

## Newsletter

**January 2013**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Although it will be nearly the end of January by the time you receive this, as this is the first interim newsletter for the Spring Term I would like to take the opportunity to wish everyone 'Happy New Year' and all the best for 2013.

The Spring Term has started very positively at **saltash.net**, with our current Year 11 students receiving an excellent set of results for the GCSE Maths exams they sat in November. Our dissatisfaction with the AQA exam board and ongoing appeal against last summer's results, led to us changing exam boards and moving from a Modular approach back to Linear. Despite Year 11 only having six weeks to prepare for the new style of exam, they really did us proud, securing 62% A\*-C grades eight months early. These results put them 18 percentage points higher than similar schools nationally at this stage of the year and, with two more opportunities to take the Maths GCSE exams in March and in June, indicates that we should be celebrating records results this coming summer. Thank you to all parents of Year 11 students who did so much to help and support your children in the run up to the November exams. I am sure you will also want to join me in acknowledging all of the hard work put in by the Maths department, especially as they gave up most of their half term break to work with the students sitting their exams in November.

January has been another exam focused month with Year 11 sitting their English Language and English Literature exams, as well as other subject modules, and Year 12 and 13 taking AS & A2 exams. With a full timetable of exams this month, we have been very relieved that the adverse weather conditions affecting most of the country have not yet impacted upon our ability to open as normal. Please remember, however, that if there are severe weather conditions we will do all that we can to inform parents and keep you updated via our website and text messaging services. Also, if there was a need to close the school, we would inform the local radio stations.

### **After school transport**

Further to Mr Langmead's letter regarding our provision of an after school homework club, I am also writing to let you know that we are now organising transport for students who need it after attending either homework club or after school revision sessions. As the need for transport will vary from day to day and week to week, all we ask of students is that they let our site manager, Mr Drewery, know that they will need transport during the morning of the day they require it. If there is any parent who does not wish his or her child to be involved in this transport scheme, please could you contact Mr Langmead, Assistant Head, directly on langmead@saltash.net or by telephoning 01752 843715 ext 311.

### **E.Safety**

Last term, students from across all year groups were given an update of E.Safety by Mr Ledger, the school's Technical Consultant. We would like to offer all parents the opportunity of finding out more about how to help keep your children safe 'on line', especially with regard to the latest developments in mobile phone technology. An 'open' session has been planned for Thursday 7th February at 7.00pm in our main hall. All welcome.

(Further information is available on our website at <http://saltash.net/the-parents-and-carers-guide-to-the-internet/>)

## **Music Tuition**

A reminder to all parents of children in receipt of free school meals currently (or children who have had free school meals at some stage over the last six years), that you can request instrumental and vocal music tuition free of charge here at **saltash.net**. If your child would like individual or small group tuition in any of the following, then please contact Mrs Haighton, Head of Music, as soon as possible:

Singing  
Piano/Keyboard  
Drums  
Brass/Woodwind  
Electric or acoustic guitar  
Strings

Further details on all Music tuition and provision can also be accessed via Twitter. The school's Music and Drama account is @dotnetmusdram.

## **Key Stage 2 / Key Stage 3 Drama and Music Production**

I am delighted to tell you that following the success of the joint primary/secondary production of 'Snow White' last year, auditions are now taking place for our summer 'cross phase' production of 'Aladdin'. This production will be taking place in June and will be making the most of our latest 3D technology—very exciting! Further details to follow.

## **Review Day—Tues February 5th**

Mrs Griffin, Deputy Headteacher, has sent out information regarding Review Day. By now everyone should have received their appointment times. This week's tutorial period on Wednesday 23rd January will see all students preparing for Review Day, ensuring that there is maximum benefit from the process. I look forward to meeting with as many of you as possible on the day.

## **Technology project: One to One devices**

Deputy Head, Mr Buckley, has been working closely with Mr Rowe, Head of Year 7, and the ICT support team, to prepare for an exciting research project which our school will be undertaking over the next two terms. All Year 7 students will, on a rota basis, have the opportunity to use a new Windows 8 Tablet computer throughout all of their lessons over the period of 3 weeks.

<b>Tutor Groups</b>	<b>Estimated Start Date</b>	<b>Estimated End Date</b>
7ES and 7RT	March 4th	March 22nd
7AB and 7AE	March 25th	May 1st
7FM and 7LH	May 6th	May 25th
7HC and 7MI	June 3rd	June 21st

To assist with this project, every tutor group in Year 7 has put together a team of four students who are currently being trained by our ICT support staff in order to help their class mates during the extent of the project. All Year 7s involved in the 'Tech Team' will receive an in-house qualification. Any Year 7 parent who would like to find out more about this exciting initiative can contact buckley@saltash.net or by phoning 01752 843715 ext 223.

## **Road Safety**

Another request to all parents that you speak with your children about keeping safe to and from school. We have had some reports from members of the public concerned that both student cyclists and student pedestrians are acting in a way that could result in an accident on the roads around Saltash. We give regular reminders in school but would appreciate your ongoing support with this.

## **Non Uniform Days**

- \* Wednesday 13th February — in support of CATS (Community Action Through Sport)
- \* Friday 15th March — in support of Comic Relief. There will also be a sponsored 'Musical Mile' after school on Comic Relief day.

## **Staff Training Day**

A reminder that Monday 25th February (the day after half term break) will be a staff training day, focussing on Special Educational Needs provision. The school will, therefore, be closed to students.

## **Cornish Guardian competition in partnership with British Gas**

Please see the poster at the end of this newsletter for details. We have been shortlisted to be in the running for an 'energy makeover' worth £135,000. We would really appreciate your vote to help us become one of the most energy efficient schools in the UK.

<b>Tues 29th January</b>	Year 9 Parents' Surgery
<b>Thurs 31st January</b>	Post 16 Information Evening
<b>Tues 5th February</b>	Review Day
<b>Mon 18th to Fri 22nd Feb</b>	Half Term
<b>Mon 25th February</b>	Inset Day—school closed to students
<b>Wed 13th March</b>	Theme Day
<b>Tues 26th March</b>	Y8/12 Parents' Surgery
<b>Thurs 28th March</b>	Last day of term
<b>Fri 29th Mar to Fri 12th April (inclusive)</b>	Easter Holidays
<b>Mon 15th April</b>	Whole School returns for Summer Term

With all good wishes,

Yours faithfully,



Mrs I Bryce  
Headteacher



# PLEASE VOTE FOR OUR SCHOOL

For our chance to win an energy  
makeover worth up to £135,000

To help us become one of the  
most energy efficient schools in  
the country, pick up your Cornish  
Guardian newspaper on either  
January 25 or January 30, 2013  
for voting details.

**Cornish Guardian**

**this is** [Cornwall.co.uk](http://Cornwall.co.uk)



**British Gas**  
Generation Green

