

24th May 2016

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the half term break, I am pleased to be able to write to you to bring you up to date with all that has been happening at **saltash.net** since the start of the summer term.

Exam season is, of course, well and truly upon us now, with years 10, 11 and 12 all taking some of their GCSE and A Level examinations before half term and Year 13 joining them from the start of June onwards. Although we hold 'official last day' events for both Years 11 and 13, all students sitting exams are still able to participate in and make the most of our extensive revision programme which will be running throughout the duration of the exams as well as over the half term holiday.

We have all been so impressed with how our young people have approached their exams this summer, especially those students who have experienced major challenges and difficulties in their home or personal lives over the past year. We are full of admiration for them and also pleased that our school has such a strong pastoral support network in place to help guide and intervene when necessary. We wish all students sitting exams this year all the very best.

As we regularly say to our students, academic success is very important but so too is how they are developing as well rounded individuals who appreciate and demonstrate the values at the heart of our school: Respect, Responsibility, Compassion, Honesty, Fairness and Perseverance. At the recent May Fair in Saltash, a number of members of our local community (including those who live close to our school) came up to tell me how impressed they were with the behaviour and conduct of our students – not just what they read about them in the local papers, but also when they see them around Saltash. It is always brilliant to receive positive feedback which not only reflects well on **saltash.net**, but also on all that you do as parents and carers to help us uphold these high standards. Thank you!

SMART expansion

Alongside doing everything that we can to help prepare our students for their exams this term, we have also been working hard to make sure we remain in a strong position with regards to the development of our Multi Academy Trust. Although the government has announced a U-Turn for the forced academisation of some schools, its agenda is very clear in terms of expanding Trusts.

Since last Autumn, we have been holding meetings with headteachers and governors from schools across South East Cornwall to explore the possibility of expanding our current Saltash Multi Academy Regional Trust (SMART), which comprises **saltash.net** and Landulph, to a larger South East Cornwall Trust. We have seen so many advantages come from our partnership with Landulph and really want to take this model of excellent collaborative practice further afield for the benefit of many more students and staff in this local area.

After a great deal of discussion, as well as communication with the Department for Education, I am able to confirm that the following schools all attended a meeting on Wednesday 18th May to show their commitment to being part of Wave 1 of an expanded SMART (South East Cornwall Multi Academy Regional Trust):

Dobwalls Primary School	Bodmin College
Landulph Primary School	Looe Community Academy
Trewidland Primary School	Liskeard School and Community College
	saltash.net community school

Although it has been agreed that we will keep the SMART acronym, we will be looking to redesign the SMART logo (currently representing images from Saltash) making it more appropriate for a South East Cornwall MAT. Bodmin College has very kindly offered to host a day for students from the seven partner schools to come together in their digital media suite, with the support of undergraduate students from the University of Falmouth, to help redesign the logo. This promises to be another fantastic enrichment opportunity!

Although I will be retiring from the headship post at **saltash.net** at Christmas, I have assured our Trust Board that I will do everything I can to continue to support the development of the expanded SMART until the appointment of a permanent CEO at some stage during 2017.

Interviews for the new headteacher at **saltash.net** will be taking place on Thursday 23rd June and Friday 24th June. The governors will endeavour to keep everyone up to date with the outcome of the appointment process.

Governor vacancies

Saltash Multi Academy Regional Trust (SMART) is looking to appoint governors to join the saltash.net Local Governing Board.

The roles, which are voluntary positions, are to contribute to the work of the Governing Board in ensuring high standards of achievement for all children and young people in the school by:

- Setting the school's vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its students; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

We are particularly keen to appoint governors who can strengthen existing links with the school and local community. If you would like to make a positive contribution to the education students receive at our community school, please complete an application form which can be obtained from the Clerk to Governors (contact details below). Further information on the role

of a governor can be found at <http://www.nga.org.uk/Be-a-Governor.aspx> or from the Chair of Governors, Kate Waghorn, who can be contacted through the Clerk.

The completed application form should be returned to the Clerk, Debbie Stoneman, by email to debbiestoneman@trailerland.co.uk or post at 'Flerswell', Trehunist, Liskeard, PL14 3SD by **Friday 10th June 2016**. All applicants will be contacted in due course.

Staffing update

- We were very pleased to welcome Mr Phil Mansell to our support staff team at the start of this term. He has responsibility for marketing and publicity, which includes keeping our website, @praisesaltash Twitter feed and Facebook page current. Please do follow us.
- We said farewell to Anneata Ambrose who left our catering team earlier this month and will be welcoming Sarah Bullen on the 6th June. We are also currently interviewing for a new cleaner.
- Congratulations go to Mrs Venner on the safe arrival of baby Jasper. Mr Mark Bond is covering her maternity leave as teacher of Music and Mr Oakes is acting Head of Performing Arts.
- We wish Mrs Silvester well as she departs on maternity leave after half term.
- We will be saying goodbye to Mr David Jones, Network Manager, at half term and wish him well in his new job as Head of ICT at Plymouth College of Art. Our new Network Manager will be Mr Anton Steinhardt, currently deputy Network Manager at **saltash.net**.
- In advance of the summer term edition of Community News, I can also let you know that the following staff will be leaving us at the end of this term:
 - Mrs Wadsworth (retiring) – Mrs Gue will be taking over as Head of PD and Careers from September.
 - Mr Reith – (taking up a new post as Head of ICT and Business at a Plymouth School). Mrs Broad will be taking over as Head of Computing from September and Mrs Angie Fuller joining us as a teacher of ICT and Computing.
 - Miss Dunkey (relocating to Gloucestershire). We have appointed two new English teachers – Mr Tom Ward and Mr Lewis Barnes – who will both commence in September.
 - Mr Johnson and Miss Smedley (moving to new posts after the completion of their one year contracts). Ms Sam Rogers and Mr Christopher Wills will join the Science department in September.
 - We are delighted that Mr Wieprecht has agreed to return to the Maths department (as we are enhancing staffing in both Maths and English next year to create more groups across KS3 & KS4). We are currently interviewing for a teacher of Drama and Mr Ryan Procter will join us as a teacher of Music to cover Mrs Silvester's maternity leave.
 - Both Mrs Blackmore and Mrs Feldwick will be returning from their maternity leaves in July. We would like to thank Mrs Moorhouse for being such a great maternity cover teacher in Science and also say how delighted we are that Miss Halliday will be staying with us next year as a teacher of Humanities, Integrated Learning and English after covering Mrs Feldwick's maternity so effectively!

Student successes

- Huge congratulations go to the Ten Tors teams on their outstanding success at this year's event:

Megan Seymour, George Seymour, Charlie Potts, Zak Newell, James Randall, William Oatey, Harry Pascoe, Seb Frost, Ethan Cox, Danny Snook, Jack Pritchard.

- Congratulations also go to our next cohort of Duke of Edinburgh Award recipients:

*Finley Reep, Harry Lockley, Ben McIntyre, Molly Davis, Mike Larkin, Jaymie Fisher, James Hambly
Matt Lawther, Alex Easson, Kate Randall, Jack Bennett, Megan Furlonger*

- Congratulations to David Wilks, Year 13, who became British Champion in Karate in Birmingham on 30th April – amazing achievement!
- Congratulations to Jack Phelan, Year 9, who was named as the Saltash Young Citizen of the Year at the May Fair, and also given the honour of being the Mayor's cadet for 2016-17.
- Congratulations to the cast and crew of 'Annie' who received the Mayor's Award for the best entertainment in Saltash throughout 2015-16.

(Rehearsals for 'Billy Elliot' are going extremely well. Congratulations go to Spencer Dunne, Year 6 from Burraton Primary School, who was selected to be Billy and to Jack Mills Year 6 from Landulph who will be his understudy.)

Events coming up

Thurs 26 th May	Year 10 Parents' Surgery
Fri 27 th May	Year 13 Last Day
Mon 30 th May – Fri 3 rd Jun	Half Term
Mon 13 th Jun	Year 12 return from study leave
Wed 15 th & Tues 21 st Jun	Year 6 Taster Days
Mon 27th Jun	Inset Day – School closed to all students
Tues 28 th Jun – Mon 4 th Jul	Year 10 Mocks
Tues 28 th Jun – Thurs 30 th Jun	6 th Form Induction Days
Wed 29 th Jun	Year 7 Parents' Surgery
Fri 1 st Jul	Year 5 Theme Day
Tues 5 th Jul	Theme Day
Wed 6 th Jul	Sports Day (Fri 8 th July Reserve)
Mon 11 th – Fri 15 th Jul	Curriculum Enrichment & Work Experience Week
Tues 19 th Jul	New Year 7 Parents' Induction Evening
Wed 20 th Jul	Last day of Summer Term – school closes early at 12.30pm

Yours faithfully,



Mrs I Bryce
Headteacher

The European Football Championships 2016

For all those die-hard football fans out there, you won't need me to remind you that the Euros 2016 will be taking place in France from the 10th June to 10th July. The matches will be played in ten different cities: Bordeaux, Lens, Lille, Lyon, Marseille, Nice, Paris, Saint-Denis, Saint-Etienne and Toulouse. Of the 24 teams scheduled to take part, two are from our home nations of England and Wales, and, as fate would have it, they are due to play each other on the afternoon of Thursday 16th June. As this is the only match affecting these teams due to kick off at 2.00pm, we have agreed that students who would like to watch the match in its entirety will be allowed to do so in our main hall. The expectation will be that those students wanting to be in the hall during period 5 on 16th June will remain on site until 3.45pm when the match will conclude.

In order to make the appropriate arrangements, it will be necessary for students wanting to see the match to return the attached reply slip to Mr Budd by Friday 10th June. Please note that the hall can only seat 250 students so it will, if needed, be on a 'first returns' basis.

When we have organised events like this in the past, the atmosphere has always been great so I'm hoping there won't be **too** much rivalry between the England and Welsh fans ... Mr Jones!!

If your son or daughter would like to be part of this event, please complete the reply slip below:

European Football Championships 2016

I give permission for, Form, to watch the England v Wales game on Thursday 16th June and understand that he/she will be expected to stay on site until 3.45pm and then make his/her own way home.

Signed **Date**

Please return reply slip to Mr Budd, PE Teacher/Technician