

Dear Parents and Carers,

I think we can all feel pleased and proud of the TEAM values demonstrated by our fantastic students during this half term. As we move into the half term break, we wonder: what will you and your family do to make this time special? With day trips and holidays strictly forbidden, we are having to be creative and use our imagination. Here are some ideas:

- Build a Rube Goldberg machine or a marble run.
- Start learning a new language.
- Hold a bake-off competition in your kitchen, or with friends via social media.
- Have a themed evening as a family – Italian, Mexican, football or jungle.
- Use Shrove Tuesday (16<sup>th</sup> February) for more than pancakes – find out about Mardi Gras around the world and make costumes, artwork, food and even dance.
- Look at the sky at night and find out the names of constellations and planets.
- Go on holiday from your sofa – there's all sorts online, from the [Barrier Reef](#) to [safaris](#) to [virtual backpacking](#) - or simply go to [Chester Zoo](#) for the day.
- Get engrossed in art – most museums and galleries offer virtual tours, or [Tate Kids](#) offers ideas for online art at home.
- Do you love nature? The [National Trust](#) has a few ideas.
- Do you love reading? Do you have a library card? [Borrowbox](#) is an app that allows you to borrow eBooks and eAudiobooks for your phone, tablet or laptop.

If you do something fun and would like to share it with us, please [send a photo](#). We'll publish a selection in the next bulletin.

### **Remote Learning**

If it's hard to read on a screen, you may find that a different colour background helps. Try this site: <https://www.aurelitec.com/colorveil/windows/> - it works on all school laptops.

Is your child finding it hard to write on documents online? Please remind them to "open in desktop app" - they should then be able to save it and write on it. We don't expect anyone to be printing!

### **Careers Update**

We have sadly not been able to host our Post 16 Careers event this year when we invite numerous providers to showcase opportunities for our students at Post 16 and 18, so we have put together a brochure including information from a wide range of local employers, further and higher education providers.

The document can be viewed as a flip-book or as a pdf, the pdf version can also be downloaded and printed. Please find links below:

Careers Information Booklet page: [Saltash Community School » Careers Information Booklet 2021](#)

Careers Information Booklet pdf: [Careers Info New v3.pdf \(saltash.net\)](#)

## Year 9 Options Update

We can now confirm the timeline, which is as follows:

- **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** – Options booklet shared with Year 9 students, parents and carers.
- **22-26<sup>th</sup> March** – Option focus in tutor time throughout the week, with presentations from all optional subjects shown and discussed. These will be available on the website to watch again as a family.
- **Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March** – Virtual Options Day, 12-6pm. You will be able to make appointments with subject teachers as well as with our Careers team, to ask specific questions and find out how courses match your child's interests and future plans.
- **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April** – the Options form will go live. This is an online form, and you will only be able to complete it once, although you will be able to go back and edit it.
- **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> April** – final deadline for submitting Options forms.

## Parent Survey

We are always keen for feedback so would be very grateful if you could complete this survey [here](#). It will remain open until Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

## Upcoming dates

Monday 15<sup>th</sup>-Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February – Half term

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February - SMART day – this is a staff training day so there will be no lessons or school

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February – school and lessons resume

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March – the first possible day that schools *might* re-open

We hope that all students (and their families) enjoy a well-deserved break and look forward to seeing you all again on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

Have a lovely half term!

TEAM Saltash

### **A message from Cornwall Council**

The number of infections is reducing in Cornwall because we have seen our residents respecting the social restrictions in place during the third lockdown. Thanks to this, we have slowed the spread of the virus through our communities, and for that we are thankful.

However, as the surge in cases in late December and January showed, if Cornwall lets our guard down infection rates can spiral quickly, and we could soon find ourselves back where we started.

Therefore, we are asking all residents, especially parents and carers to continue to respect the lockdown rules, especially during half term. We know this is a challenge, especially for those parents and carers who are home schooling and we understand the temptation to relax while the pressure of teaching is not there for a week.

However, we have done so well since January and we simply can't afford to throw all of that hard work away. We are asking those who are on a half term break to avoid travelling distances in the car and "explore from your door" instead.