



Mr Whitehead's Newsletter

October 2018 Newsletter

Thursday 18th October



Dear Parents and Carers,

The first half of the autumn term has flown by in the blink of an eye. It seems like no time at all since everyone was arriving for that first day in September – so much has happened in the last seven weeks with so many exciting topics from Dinosaurs to the Victorians.

School closes today, 18th October and reopens on Monday 29th October. We have a training day tomorrow.



Our Year 2 Dinosaur Museum

Mrs Davies

Many congratulations to Mrs Davies, one of our Year 2 teachers last year, who gave birth to a healthy baby boy. We wish her and Mr Davies well as they begin this exciting journey together.

Use of the playground after school

Following the half term holiday, please can we ask that the all-weather pitch, at the top of the school site, be reserved for exclusive use by our after-school provision – children not going to after school club should not play in this area. This will ensure that our staff can supervise the children appropriately and keep them safe.

Reading Books

Over the last few months, the reading books in our school have undergone a huge review, linking each book to a new system called Accelerated Reader. We now have timetabled reading sessions during each school day. When we return after half term, children in Reception and Key Stage One will continue to take a book home, in addition to the book they are reading at school. Children in Key Stage Two will keep their reading book at school but may choose a book from the class library to take home. More information about the new reading scheme will follow after the holiday. We are also providing information sessions for parents on Thursday 1st November at 9:00am and Wednesday 7th November at 3:30pm. Please come along if you would like to hear more about the new system.

Parent Forum – Wednesday 7th November

During November, we will be conducting a consultation regarding our behaviour policy, in preparation for a new policy which will be in place from January. We will be holding a parent forum on Wednesday 7th November at 2:40pm. It would be wonderful if parents can join us to discuss behaviour in our school, the policy and procedures we use.

Sporting Events

Well done to all of the children who have taken part in a sporting event on behalf of the school this half term. This has included football tournaments and cross-country competitions in Year 3, 4, 5 and 6. We're very proud of everyone who participated.



Parking

Please can we politely remind you to take extra care when parking on the narrow streets surrounding our school, avoiding neighbours' driveways. It is vital that all parents avoid parking on the zig-zag lines across the entrances to school so that children can enter and exit the building safely.

Attendance

Please see the following table with an overview of this half term's attendance for each class. Please note that we are aiming for 98% overall attendance this year.

RA	1H	2G	3B	4J	5H	6E
97.0	94.8	98.1	97.3	98.1	96.7	97.9
RKA	1M	2K	3F	4N	5SW	6W
95.4	97.1	96.5	96.9	96.9	96.2	95.9

Governor Information

Each month, one of our governors will introduce themselves on this newsletter:



My name is Naomi Hodgson and I am the Vice Chair of Governors at Saltaire Primary School. As governors we want to ensure that you know who we are and what we do, so we are pinching a small space on each of Mr Whitehead's newsletters to keep you updated.

Governors take an active role in appointing new staff. During the last school year, I was involved in the recruitment process for some important roles in school, including Parent and Pupil Participation Officer, Caroline Patterson, and Assistant Headteacher for Inclusion, Tracey Liddle. I also had the pleasure of being involved in appointing the new Headteacher: as you know, Mr Whitehead will begin this exciting new role in January.

Each governor is also linked to a class, whose progress they keep up with as they move through the school, through class visits and helping out on school trips. I am currently linked to 5SW and it was a pleasure to visit them earlier this term, even if they did ask me some really tricky questions. A number of governors are parents at the school, so please do feel free to find us in the playground if you want to discuss anything. If you're not sure who we are, our details (and photos) are on the school website's governor pages here:

https://www.saltaireprimaryschool.co.uk/website/our_governors/134965

I hope the children have a wonderful half term holiday and get lots of rest and relaxation. See you all on Monday 29th October.

Kind regards,

Mr Robert Whitehead
Head of School