

# Saundersfoot Community Primary School

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**Headteacher: Mr N. Allen**

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to our newsletter and what a summer it has been. Last week we saw our first wet play in months, hopefully the school field and your gardens are enjoying the much needed moisture.

## **Parking concerns from Whitlow.**

I would like to thank many of you for how we manage the traffic issues we face here in Saundersfoot School in high season. We all know during the high season the parking bays at the top of school fill quickly with a combination of tourists, seasonal workers and holiday accommodation vehicles.

I have been approached by a number of Whitlow residents, who fully understand and appreciate the situation, but kindly request that parents and carers do not block driveways. This has happened on occasion and does bring a little frustration to the residents. We kindly request those of you who use Whitlow, please park considerately.

## **Active Travel - Walk to school Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June.**

As part of the schools work to support the traffic situation we face, we are working with Pembrokeshire County Council Active Travel Co-Ordinator to help support active travel and reduce car emissions, the school will be holding a 'Walk to School day'.

We are encouraging as many pupils and families as we can to meet at the Regency for 8:30am as we all walk to school leaving the Regency at 8:40am on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June.

Please do your best to support us in any way you can.

## **Staffing**

Since I wrote to you about our staffing changes in September, another staff member has confirmed they are planning a career change. Mrs Andrea Davies (LSA) who has worked in the school for 14 years, will be taking up her new post in Bluestone, the week after we break up! We are in the process of appointing a replacement and are working alongside Pembrokeshire County Council HR department and interviewing LSAs who have faced compulsory redundancies in other schools. In short, this demonstrates that all schools in Pembrokeshire have faced significant challenges in terms of budget and staffing this year.

## **Absences.**

This is a polite reminder to please inform the school of absences. The school has a legal duty to document all absences and of late we have noticed a variation for any absences – in other words we are being told absences are due to illness, where it is apparent through pupil comments this was not the case. We pride ourselves on open and honest communication and fully understand the financial and employment pressure you face when it comes to holidays. Schools become concerned when individual pupil absences dip below 90%, in other words 10 days absence in a 90 day period. Below

85% is a key concern and Education Welfare Officers (EWO) contact the school for clarity of low attendance, as long as the school has this information and is working with parents there is no need for penalty notices being issued. To date, the school has been able to document and discuss individual cases with the EWO. Having accurate data is an important feature of these discussions. Thank you for understanding and informing the school of your child's absence, it does really help the school and Mrs Brace.

### **FOSS – Friends of Saundersfoot School.**

We always welcome support and volunteers to join the team and FOSS have the Summer fete approaching, Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July. Please contact Mrs Lewis (LSA Y1 and 2) who will be more than willing to accept your support. There are also vacancies coming up on the FOSS committee, we really do need the support to keep the FOSS running. For further details please speak to Mr Allen, Mrs Lewis or Mrs Brace.

Please do not forget we have a wonderful selection of pre owned – out grown uniform should you require additional items in our FOSS shop and we welcome additional out grown items to add to the stock.

### **Free school meal – September 2023**

We have received confirmation that from September all primary aged pupils will be provided with a free school meal, this is part of the Universal Primary Free Schools Meals scheme. Parents and carers are still able to apply for Free school meals additional support if, either the parent / Legal Guardian or student themselves must be in receipt of either:

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA). Contribution Based Jobseekers Allowance (CBJSA) does not qualify
- Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credits only, with an annual household Income of under £16,190 \*
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance (IR)
- Universal Credit

Please note that if you are in receipt of Working Tax Credits in addition to any of these benefits you will not be eligible for free meals, even if your household income is below £16,190\*.

\* As a guide, an applicant's annual household income is usually stated on a TC602 Tax Credits Summary/Award Notice.

Please visit Pembrokeshire County Council web site and the School meals section for more details.

### **LCW- Long course weekend.**

We understand that there has been a change in timings for those children taking part in Long Course Kinder (the event for children) on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June. The budding athletes are requested to attend at 3:30pm – we understand this will be difficult leaving school, getting children ready, parking and getting to the beach. Please contact your child's teacher if your child is taking part.

### **Dates**

June 29 <sup>th</sup>	Walk to school with Ziggy – Active Travel activity walking from Regency carpark 8:40am. Year 5 Stand Up paddleboard session begin.
5 <sup>th</sup> July	Summer Fete after school 3:30-5pm

7<sup>th</sup> July            Year 6 transition day to secondary schools.  
13<sup>th</sup> July            Year 6 leavers show for parents/carers.  
18<sup>th</sup> July            Year 5 camp out on school field.  
19<sup>th</sup> July            Year 6 Camp out on school field.  
21<sup>st</sup> July            End of term

New academic Year.

4<sup>th</sup> September    Pupils return for academic Year 2023/24.

27<sup>th</sup> October      Inset training - Design and Technology within the Science and Technology AOLE

6<sup>th</sup> November    Tenby Cluster Inset

22<sup>nd</sup> December – End of Autumn term 2023

8<sup>th</sup> January       Spring term 2024 begins.

Your Sincerely

Mr. Nick Allen