



Friday 8th March 2024



Please check the upcoming events for the remainder of Spring 2 and the beginning of Summer 1.

Events Spring 2	
12 th March	Reading Breakfast for EYFS, Y2 and Y5 9am-10am
13 th March	Reading Breakfast for Y1, Y3, Y4 and Y6 9am-10am
13 th March	Swanwick Stars Concert and raffle 6-7pm
14 th March	Swanwick Stars Concert and raffle 6-7pm
15 th March	Red Nose Day- Dress in something red
21 st March	KS1 Easter Disco 3:30pm- Friends of Swanwick
22 nd March	Year 3 Magna Trip
22 nd March	KS2 Easter Disco 3:30pm- Friends of Swanwick
26 th March	Parents' Evening 3:40-6pm
27 th March	Online Safety Assembly delivered in school to all children
27 th March	Parents' Evening 3:40-6pm
28 th March	Break up on Thursday!
29 th March	Good Friday Bank Holiday- school closed
15 th April	School Reopens for children
16 th April	Primary School Offer Day
17 th April	Personal, Social and Emotional Development Assembly- Introducing our new Jigsaw topic for the Term- Delivered in school to all children
22 nd April	Friends of Swanwick Meeting 7:30pm
1 st May	Year 4 Bikeability
6 th May	Bank Holiday

Message from Mr Wray

Dear parents/carers,

So far it has been a busy term. It was wonderful to welcome parents and family members to our celebration assemblies on a Friday- I hope that everyone who has joined us so far has enjoyed being part of this experience.

We have lots of events coming up and I'd like to thank all of the staff and Friends of Swanwick for arranging these. We are reviewing the number of days the children are required to 'dress up' as we know there have been a lot recently.

It has also been great to see so many children sign up to our after-school clubs this term as well. We are trying to offer even more, and in particular some for Reception, from next term as well.

Thank you for your ongoing support and please remember to come in and see me if you have something to share- I'm always keen to hear the views of parents/carers. I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming Parents' Evenings.

Have a great weekend,

Mr Wray



Safeguarding

The most important part of our job is to keep children safe. Click this link to see our [Safeguarding Poster](#).

Please remember that **Safeguarding is everyone's business** and it is crucial that you report any concerns to the correct Safeguarding Leads as a matter of urgency.

For any Safeguarding concerns, please call 01773 602268 and ask for the Headteacher stating this is a safeguarding Conversation. In the event that you are unable to speak to Mr Wray, you should ask to speak with our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads- Mrs Jo Jilavu, Mrs Helen Stone, Mr Stuart Morris, Miss Jenny Wright or Mrs Mel Walton.



Who to contact and when?

As part of our response to your feedback, we have developed our school communication strategy. We now have a new contact page on the website and you can use this to access our Communication guidance. [this link](#)

There are three options: the first two will link to our new communication flowcharts and the final will link to our general office contact page.



Parents' Evening

You might notice that we have Parents' Evening Dates on the School Calendar. This is a good mid-year opportunity to discuss your child's progress and Targets with their class teacher. We will be using the same process as earlier in the year to book appointments. Information to follow!



Just a little update on Tapestry- we haven't forgotten! As outlined in the previous Swanwick Story, we have listened to your feedback and recognise that having Tapestry across our whole school will help to ensure there is quality home-school communication and sharing of information. We are in the process of extending our licence and once this is complete, you will receive a Microsoft Form to complete. We need to gather this information for all children from Year 2 - Year 6, unless they currently have an active account. We hope to get this sent out before the Easter Break, but will keep you posted.



Thankyou to all our followers on Facebook. We hope you are enjoying the updates and please keep checking in to see what we are up to!



English- Literacy Tree

Writing is an area we are keen to improve at our school and we are always looking at ways we can evolve our practice. 'Literacy Tree' has been up and running in all year groups since the start of the term.

This week, Miss Harris (Writing Lead) and Mr Wray have spent time monitoring the impact of our new scheme and also completing pupil interviews. All of our children have spoken excitedly about the scheme and the 'hooks' that the scheme use to make memorable experiences. In Year 1, Beegu the alien crash landed on the school site! The children received a video message from Mr Wray asking for their help to investigate this strange event. It has been talked about ever since, as we create 'Lost' posters, write letters and begin to write a narrative about a different crash landing. It is elements like this that motivate the children to write and give them inspiration to be really creative. Feedback and monitoring to date have all demonstrated a positive impact on children's writing and we are really excited about continuing this scheme over the year.

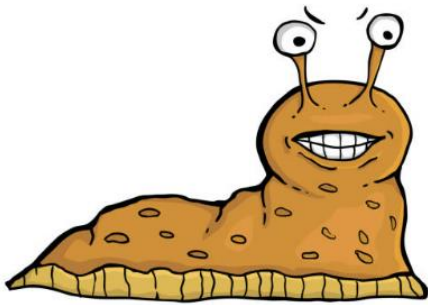


Adaptive Teaching

This week, our staff meeting was held by Mrs Walton (SENDCo) and Mr Wray. Teachers and Teaching Assistants attended.

It gave us a chance to explore 'Adaptive Teaching'. Standard 5 of the 'Teachers' standards' requires that teachers "adapt teaching to respond to the strengths and needs of all pupils." This is ensuring we do not create a ceiling for the attainment of all children but consider ways to scaffold learning so all children can reach their potential. We had professional discussions in order to collate a range of strategies we might use to support children with a wide range of learning styles. Mrs Walton then collated the strategies we discussed as a team and this collaborative document will be used by all staff in school to make small changes to their lessons: in turn supporting all of the children in the classroom.





Forest Schools

Last week the children learnt about Spring flowers. They painted a daffodil for Mother's Day and learnt how to work as a team. This week they have had a lot of fun searching for mini-beasts, studying and comparing them. Finally, they made a snail out of pipe cleaners.

Here are some pictures of their learning:



Internet Safety



Our school Facebook page has been going from strength to strength and we just want to thank all you for engaging and sharing the positivity as we share all of the exciting things our pupils do and learn.

In an effort to make our children more social media aware, we've begun asking pupils directly before we take their pictures and place it on our school website or Facebook page.

Don't worry, we still use parental permissions and we won't add photos of pupils without this but, for those with permission from parents, we want to normalise asking pupils as well. After all, we always encourage them to ask others before taking videos or posting videos of their friends (especially in year 4,5 and 6 where pupils are having increasing access to phones and social media) so we feel it's best to ask the pupils and respect their boundaries as well.

As always if you have any thoughts or need any support, please feel free to get in touch.
Mr. Cartwright



UPCOMING EVENTS



Red Nose Day- 15th March

Red Nose Day is swiftly approaching and as one of the UK's biggest fundraising events, Swanwick Primary, together with the nation, will once again come together to raise money for this cause. On Friday the 15th we are inviting all children to wear red if they wish. For this non-uniform event, please use the school's Parent Pay donation page that has been set up for this purpose.

Book Fair

The Book Fair will be in school next week and will be open every evening from **Monday 11th March to Friday 15th March, straight after school until 4pm**. The Book Fair will be in the school hall except for Wednesday when it will be available in Year 1 Ash class (please follow the signs). The Book Fair will also be open during the Reading Breakfasts on Tuesday and Wednesday morning. All books are payable online via a QR code which will be available at the Bookfair so you will need a smartphone to purchase. No cash transactions will be available. For every book purchased, the school receives 50% to 60% (depending on how much we take) of the total back in free books. Last year we received over £800 towards books for our class libraries and it would be amazing if we could achieve this again. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Mrs Holdsworth, Phonics and Reading Lead

13TH & 14TH MARCH
2024

SWANWICK Stars

6-7PM


TICKETS
£1

HELP US TO RAISE MONEY TO BUY BOOKS FOR OUR CLASSROOMS AND TO ENRICH OUR ENGLISH CURRICULUM!

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

COME AND JOIN US FOR AN EXCITING EVENING FILLED WITH MUSIC, SINGING AND SPECIAL PERFORMANCES FROM OUR SWANWICK STARS! ENTER OUR RAFFLE FOR A CHANCE TO WIN SOME AMAZING PRIZES!

RAFFLE TICKETS
£1



It is NEXT WEEK!

Make sure you get your tickets and enter the raffle for your chance to win amazing prizes including a two-night stay in Scarborough!

This year, all money raised from the concert and raffle will be going towards new books for the whole school.





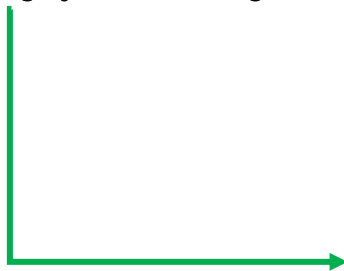
Donations Needed!

Have you walked through our EYFS Outdoor classroom recently? If you haven't, you should take a peek next time you are in school. We have been working hard to ensure the environment is the best it can be for our smallest children. Inside and outside, we have been busy enhancing the areas and the resources on offer. We hope you can notice the difference. Here are some pictures of our unit now.



We just have a few items we have been unable to get.

Do you have any of these items you could donate to our school?



Dolls in good condition or baby clothes / accessories



Nuts and Bolts to build hand muscles



Fancy pens/pencils to motivate writers



Small World animals/people/landscapes



Toy Garage in good condition for Nurture



Hand Puppets for storytelling and language



Natural items for the mud kitchen and for counting tasks



LET'S Celebrate

World Book Day

Yesterday was a fabulous day in school as we all came together to celebrate World book Day! It was great to see so many children dressed as their favourite book characters and eager to share their favourite stories. Thank you to all the children who entered the competition and sent in a photograph of themselves reading in an unusual place. There were so many creative places it was hard to choose! We do however have five lucky winners, who will each receive a £5 book token. The winners are: Iris, Thomas, Freya, Eric and Emily.

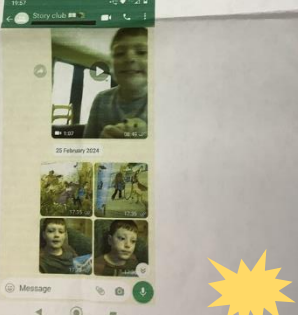
Throughout the day children took part in book-based activities, including story book treasure hunts and an online live World Book Day lesson.



The screenshot below shows Thomas reading to four of his friends from school. Earlier in the school year Thomas wanted to form a book club. He came home with a list of children from the class who wanted to join so I set up a Whatsapp group with the children's parents. The children like to each record themselves reading a story, then ask their parent to pop it into the group for the other parents to share with their children.

Reading online to classmates is Thomas's different place to read.

He has also been sending his recordings to a couple of elderly people who have dementia and live in a care home. They were both teachers earlier in life and love hearing a child read to them again.




Thank- you to everyone for your efforts with the outfits!

We would also like to extend a huge thank-you to ladies from Valley Cids charity who helped to run our 'Reading Book Camp' in the hall. Amazingly, the charity also donated a free book for every child which was much appreciated by the children.





Year 2 India Day

Year 2 had an amazing time during our India day.

We cooked a delicious curry, tasted amazing foods from India, made Diva lamps and created mehndi patterns.

Thank you for your support in providing wonderful consumes and thank you to the children for being lovely!



Team work!

We just wanted to share some lovely learning happening in school this week. Some of our children access 'Bucket Time' and Sensology in order to ensure they learn key skills and to maximise their achievements across the whole curriculum. Here is a picture of our lovely group enjoying their time together yesterday.



Tractorfest!



Tractor Fest

Sunday 28 April 2024

Storforth Lane Trading Estate,
Chesterfield, S41 0SN 10am–3pm

Come and see a fantastic display of vintage and modern tractors and machinery.

- Mini tractor driving
- Refreshments
- Stalls
- Games
- Colouring
- Activities ... and much more!

Pre-book your tickets now!

www.ashgatehospice.org.uk/tractor-fest



£3 for adults, FREE for children age 11 and under