



SWANWICK STORY

Friday 17 December 2021

With three more days of the term to go, we thank you for your ongoing support. As we continue to encounter staffing shortages, we thank you for your patience, understanding and kind words at this time – they really mean a lot.

Please remember that the last day the children will be in school is **Wednesday 22 December**. Thursday 23 December is an INSET Day and will be **closed to pupils**.

The Spring Term will commence on **Monday 10 January 2022**.

Covid 19 Update

We know that the current news regarding C19 cases can be unsettling, especially so close to Christmas.

If there are any updates, we will inform you as soon as we know anything.

Just a few notes to remember:

- Attendance at school is compulsory.
- We have reduced face-to-face visitors in school.
- Some safeguarding/SEND meetings may still happen face-to-face. The guidance asks that we only have visitors in school who have a negative LFD test.
- We kindly ask you to wear a face covering on site unless you are exempt.

Please continue to e-mail any Covid related information to covid@swanwick.derbyshire.sch.uk so that we can log cases and report accordingly. We are asked to report on the type and date of any symptoms, the date of any positive LFD tests and the date of any positive PCR tests.

It is important that school is informed of ALL positive cases in children – whether through LFD or PCR tests.

As we have mentioned on several occasions, we give you as much information as we can with regards to C19 cases in school. Some schools don't even share that there have been positive cases. ***We are unable to share further information with you as this would be a breach of GDPR. Thank you for your understanding.***

South Street Gate – keeping everyone safe

So that we are able to safeguard all children, staff and visitors, **we ask that adults to not let other people in and out of the gate**. In a morning, we need to ensure that any latecomers are registered accurately. If children in Reception arrive after the gate closes, a member of staff will collect them from the gate to escort them to their classroom. Parents should not be wandering around the school site once the gates have been closed.

Unfortunately, we have had an incident this week where a parent has been very rude through the intercom system towards a member of our staff. This was witnessed by several children and other parents, which is completely unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

Thank you for helping us to keep everyone safe and for being kind.

Disability Equality Scheme

We are in the process of reviewing our Disability Equality Scheme. Please complete the form below by January 12 2022 so that we can plan to meet everyone's needs.

[DES Survey](#)



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Cars on Bolton St and South Street

We hate to grumble again, but the driving on both roads remains a real concern. The speed at which some people are driving in such close proximity to the school gates is terrifying. Children often step into the road without a thought of the traffic. Some parents have reported to us that cars are turning in the middle of the road, mounting the pavement and narrowly missing little legs. 😞

PLEASE help us to keep everyone safe by driving courteously and thoughtfully. Our gates (or nearby) should not be used to turn in.

Promoting Positive Relationships Policy

Following research, our staff have been working hard this term on developing this policy – which is effectively our Behaviour Policy. We will be sharing this with you soon, along with a new approach to rewards. Watch this space...

Pantomime Refunds

Thank you so much for your understanding regarding cancelling our visit to the pantomime. We will be issuing refunds in January – we will let you know when they are available. Thank you for your patience.

We have provided staff with two online options (Jack and the Beanstalk and Sleeping Beauty) to watch with the children before the end of term, paid for by the school – oh yes we have!

White Hall

Thank you to all parents who attended the parents' meeting last night. A copy of the presentation has been sent on Parent Hub (second time lucky!)

Financial Support

Derbyshire County Council have asked us to share the following ways in which you may be able to be supported if your child is eligible for Free School Meals:

Winter Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF)

[HAF Information](#)

Food Vouchers

The council are planning to send food vouchers to the families of children eligible for free school meals in late January/early February 2022. These will be issued directly from DCC.

Household Support Fund

Households facing financial hardship can apply to the Household Support Fund for help towards their food, energy and essential living costs.

[Apply here](#)

Food Bank

Over the last two years, we have worked closely with The Trussell Trust to ensure that families in need have been able to access products from food banks.

A big thank you to our staff who have made generous donations to the food bank this Christmas. Mrs Stone and Mrs Walton were able to deliver our contribution last week.





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Ventilation

One of the things we are asked to do to reduce C19 cases is to ensure rooms are ventilated. As you can imagine, there is a fine balance with ventilating and being warm during colder days. We will endeavour to have periods of ventilation throughout the day. Please ensure your child has an extra layer in case they feel the need to wrap up a bit.



Angel and Tiger Express!

A massive well done to our Reception and Y1 classes and staff. Amid a half-term plagued by serious staffing issues, they have managed to pull off a spectacular Christmas Production – Angel and Tiger Express!

The whole performance was recorded and shared with their parents and our classes. We thought it was absolutely brilliant. A big thank you to Mr Felix for his support with recording and editing. Thank you parents for wonderful costumes!





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Flu Immunisation

The Flu Immunisation Team will come back to school to do a mop-up session. This will be on **Tuesday 21 December**. The original letter to sign up for this is still on our website in case you would like to sign up.

[Flu Immunisation](#)

Please direct any questions regarding this to: DCHST.immunisationteam@nhs.net

Reception - Pinxton Puppets

Please make sure you have logged onto your Parent Pay account to ensure you have paid in full. If you haven't activated your account and need help with this, please e-mail info@swanwick.derbyshire.sch.uk and we will do our best to help you as soon as we are able.

Thank you for your generosity

A big thank you for all of the wonderful gifts, cards and boxes of edible goodies you have sent into school. We really don't expect presents, but we are so grateful – thank you 😊

Starting school - September 2022

Have you applied for your school place yet?

[School Place Application Leaflet](#)

Swimming in Y6

Y6 will continue to swim on 14, 21, 28 January and 4 and 11 February.

Premier Sport Soccer Coaching

[Premier Sport](#)

Vacancies

Our cleaning company, Vertas, have asked us to share their vacancies with our community:

[Cleaning Vacancies](#)

We are currently advertising for some Teaching Assistant roles:

[SENTA](#)

[EYFS TA](#)

PE Days – from January 10 2022

Please note the following changes for **AFTER** the Christmas holiday

| | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| EYFS | Friday |
| Year 1 | Monday and Thursday |
| Year 2 | Monday and Tuesday |
| Year 3 | Tuesday and Thursday |
| Year 4 | Wednesday and Friday |
| Year 5 | Thursday and Friday |
| Year 6 | Wednesday |

Classes in Bold have changes.

Year 4 Visit Egypt!





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Tricky Christmas for children?

It is recognised that changes in routine, especially around Christmas, can add to uncertainties for everyone. Here is some information we have received for children with Autism, but we think it would help lots of parents, regardless of your child's needs:

[Christmas Tips](#)

<https://www.autism.org.uk/advice-and-guidance>

Hello from the School Governors!

We would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all the staff within school, who have faced a very challenging school year. The hard work and dedication of our staff is greatly appreciated, particularly in these times when pressures have been far greater than usual. You are all superstars!

We would also like to thank our school community including parents and children, for your patience, understanding and support in difficult times. The children have been fantastic with adapting to changes that have had to be made to keep everyone safe and well. So a big thank you to you all!

We hope you all have a well-deserved break this Christmas, filled with happiness and shared with loved ones. So from all your governors, we wish you a very Happy Christmas and look forward to seeing you in the New Year!

Have a lovely weekend. We will mop up any extra news on Wednesday next week before we break for Christmas. Please take care and stay safe 😊

