



SWANWICK STORY

Wednesday 22 December 2021

Well done everyone – we did it! In spite of all the staffing shortages, illness and everything that has been thrown at our school community, we have made it to the Christmas holiday. Please remember that tomorrow (Thursday 23 December) is an INSET Day and we will be **closed to pupils**.

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

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](#)

It is really important that if your child or their carer considers themselves to have a disability that you are given a voice.

A visit from Mr & Mrs Claus!

A massive thank you to Mr & Mrs Claus who visited classes on Monday. Their sleigh (miraculously parked on South Street) was laden with selection boxes and treats for the whole school, kindly donated by Mr & Mrs Jerram and AVS Ltd.



Mrs Claus reminded all children of the value of kindness during her visit.

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 😊

Christmas Assembly

Over the last four weeks we have been following the story of Advent through some special online assemblies provided by Valley Cids.

Yesterday, we enjoyed a special Christmas Assembly comprising of lots of different musical selections. Here are some of them if you would like to enjoy too:

[Evolution of Christmas Songs](#)

[Strictly Sleigh Ride](#)

[Rudolph](#)

[What would Christmas be without love?](#)

[Bethlehemian Rhapsody](#)

[Disney & Pixar medley](#)

[Jingle Bells](#)

Today we say goodbye to...

Mr Blount-Hogg and Miss Gaunt as we mentioned in previous Swanwick Stories. We wish them all the very best in their new ventures. Thank you for everything you have done during your time at SPS!





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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.

Early Help News

Our Early Help Team have asked us to share the following information with you:

[AV Winter HAF](#)

(Holiday Clubs)

[Born this way youth prom](#)

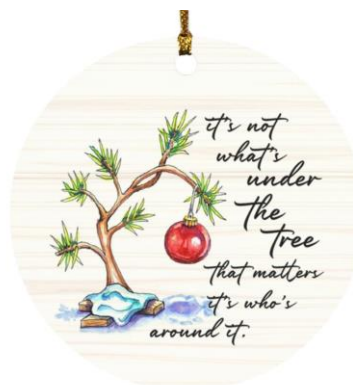
(LGBT prom for U16s)

[Free Holiday Activities](#)

(Holiday Clubs)

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...



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, not from school.

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](#)

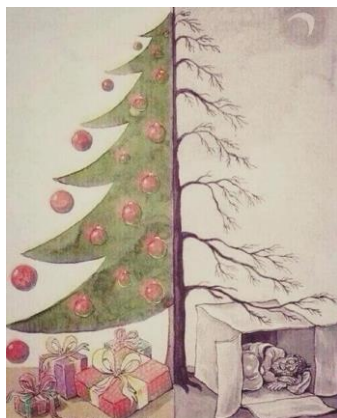
Pantomime News

We know that the children have been enjoying watching the two online pantomimes we have shared.

We will be in touch in January regarding refunds from the cancelled trip. Thank you for your patience.



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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.

Starting school - September 2022

Have you applied for your school place yet?
Apply by January 15 2022.

[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](#)

Covid 19 Update

As this week's Swanwick Story goes to press, it is hard to know what the Government will decide in terms of any future measures in light of the Omicron variant.

As far as we know, there are no plans to close schools. Just a reminder that if schools were to close, then our chosen platform to share work is Microsoft Teams.

[Parents' Guide to Microsoft Teams](#)

With the exception of Y6 (who have recently used their logins to access the White Hall meeting) it would be a good idea for you to test that your child's account is working.

Your child's username is their e-mail address. This is their first name, followed by a full stop, followed by surname.

All passwords have been reset to Swanwick1

So an example would be:

Username:

joseph.boggs@swanwick.derbyshire.sch.uk

Password: Swanwick1

Once you log in, the password can be changed.

We hope that we won't have to inform you of any more cases before Christmas, but please do continue to e-mail any Covid related information to covid@swanwick.derbyshire.sch.uk so that we can log cases and report accordingly.

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

We will continue with all the current measures in January in order to keep everyone safe.



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Christmas Bucket List

1. ~~Buy Presents~~ ^{Be}
2. ~~Wrap Gifts~~ ^{someone in a hug}
3. ~~Send Gifts~~ ^{Love}
4. ~~Shop For Food~~ ^{Donate}
5. ~~Make Cookies~~ ^{Memories}
6. ~~See The Lights~~ ^{Be} 

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!

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the school community for everything they have done to support us through another tricky term. This time last year, we never imagined that we would be having to make so many sacrifices to keep everyone safe this year too.

The children have adapted time and again to whatever changes we have had to make along the way and have taken it all in their stride. They have been brilliant.

We know many of you will have had a tough year with changes in circumstances, family illnesses, bereavement or loss. Please remember that we are always here to support you all in whatever way we can.

There have been some wonderful messages of support and thanks from you – and we really appreciate them.

We hope that all of our poorly staff, children and parents are feeling better really soon.

We have been short staffed every single day this year – some days we have only just had enough staff to stay open. And yet, whatever has been asked of them – they have done with a smile on their faces. An extra special thank you to them - they have been absolutely amazing!

Wishing all pupils, parents, staff and governors a very Merry Christmas, a Happy and Peaceful New Year and a very well-earned rest!

