



# SWANWICK STORY

**Friday 10 September 2021**

It's been a very busy week here at SPS as we all settled back into our 'new normal'. We have spent a lot of time remembering how we used to do things and tweaking things as we go along!

We have loved eating together in the hall again and being able to choose our food. Our cook, Miss Shacklock, says that dinner numbers have gone up which is great news.

We have tried (and failed!) to do a whole school assembly where some children are in the hall and some in classrooms. So, for now, we will be leading whole school assemblies online and key stage assemblies will be held in the hall while we try to work out how to get the technology to do what we want it to!

One of the most heart-warming things we have seen this week is older children playing with and looking out for our younger children. Today was Reception's first full day and they have been brilliant! In fact – all the children have done so well.

It has also been amazing to hear singing in school once more. So many things we have missed – and now we are having the chance to do them again.

We know we will continue to have a few teething problems, but we will meet each challenge head on, with a smile, and make sure we find a solution.

Following a very busy first morning on Monday, we are thrilled with how supportive parents have been with using our one-way system, helping to get everyone into (and out of) school quickly and safely. Thank you 😊 However, there are still a few parents not using the system, which means that parents who are following it are feeling that this is unfair. Please help us out and show your respect and consideration for others.

We will be keeping an eye on things and making adjustments if we feel we need to.

A special mention has to go to our staff. They are now able to have a proper break and can spend it in the staff room with their friends rather than in classrooms. We know this is something they have missed for the last 18 months or so and they definitely deserve a break!

## Attendance

Just a reminder of some expectations for attendance:

- Attendance is compulsory
- Please ensure your child arrives on time for a positive start to the day
- Please ensure you are on time to collect your child so that they don't worry
- If your child is not able to come to school for whatever reason, please call us to let us know as soon as possible
- Parents should not routinely be asking to collect their child from school early.

Each week we will share our attendance with you in the Swanwick Story. Since Reception have not been in full time this week, this week's total is for Y1-Y6 only.

**This week's attendance is ...98.52%.** What a great start!

A special mention goes to Y2 with a brilliant 99.83% and Y6 just behind with 99.68%. All year groups had 95% or more. Let's keep up the great work.

## A message for Y1

Don't forget to check Tapestry – especially for your child's spellings.



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If you are able to share these links, we would appreciate it.

## Swimming in Y6

Thank you to all parents who have completed and returned the consent forms and paid a contribution towards transport.

Just a gentle reminder in case you've not got round to it yet!

## Flu Vaccine

If you haven't yet signed your child up for the Flu Vaccine, you can find more information here:

[Flu Vaccine](#)

If you have problems registering, please use the contacts on the letter, as it is not organised by school.

## School Dinners

Please see an updated version of the menu here:

[Menu](#)

This version should give you more information about vegetarian options. Don't forget to tell us if your child has any special dietary requirements.

## Mobile Phones

A reminder that children should not be bringing mobile phones into school. We are going to be reviewing this with our governors soon.

## Vacancies

We are currently advertising for permanent and relief Midday Supervisors.

<https://jobs.derbyshire.gov.uk/education-non-teachingsupport-services-contract-midday-supervisor-part-time-and-relief/27247.job>

Vertas, our cleaning provider, is also looking for new cleaners:

<https://www.vertas.co.uk/career/cleaner-derbyshire-7/>

## After-school clubs

We are planning the clubs we would like to run after school and will communicate this information to you via the Swanwick Story as each opportunity arises.

Please note that not all clubs will run for all year groups and we will be starting with the older children first. Our clubs are designed to enrich and enhance the curriculum we offer for children who are interested, rather than for childcare purposes. We do not run an after-school club in the same way that we run our Breakfast Club.

Don't forget, you can book places at Breakfast Club by e-mailing

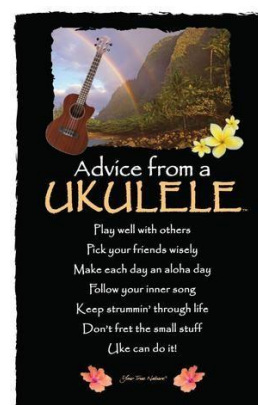
[breakfastclub@swanwick.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:breakfastclub@swanwick.derbyshire.sch.uk)

## Ukuleles in Y4 – Hot House Music

As part of our curriculum offer this year, we are excited to welcome our friends at Hot House Music into school. Y4 will be having weekly lessons with Mr Oakman and Miss Wright. As well as learning to play the ukulele, they will learn songs and rhythm games and start to learn how to read music.

If you went to the Darley Park Concert a couple of weeks ago, you will have seen Hot House's 'Saxophonix' group performing.

<https://hhmusic.co.uk/>



## Instrumental Lessons

We will be re-starting instrumental lessons very soon. Initially, these will only be for children who are existing pupils, but we will let you know via the Swanwick Story when we are able to open



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this up to more children once we get the routines in place.

Watch this space...

Thank you in advance for your support! For more information, click here:

[#helloyellow](#)

## Parking around the school site

We don't like to grumble, but we do want to keep all of your children and our school community safe. We kindly ask that you refrain from parking your car on the yellow zigzag lines outside the school gates. Several parents have commented on how disappointing and unsafe it is to see parents abandoning their cars in the middle of the road to let their children out. We also ask that you do not use the school gates as a turning point, as they form part of our one-way system and is the pedestrian exit in the mornings and evenings.

Please park considerately around our neighbours' driveways. If you block a driveway or the road, we would hate for your registration plate to be reported to the police.

Thank you for helping to keep everyone safe.

## Hello Yellow

This year we are excited to once again be raising the awareness of mental health by taking part in Young Minds' Hello Yellow Day. Whilst the official day for this is on Friday 8 October, we will be celebrating it at SPS on **Wednesday 6 October**. We would love for children to come to school dressed in yellow, but we do not expect parents to go to the expense of buying anything special. The children will have a themed assembly and they will complete activities around emotional wellbeing, mental health and mindfulness during the day.

So that we can raise some money for this fantastic charity, we are asking for a donation of £1 per child. All of the money donated will go to Young Minds and there will be an option within your Parent Pay accounts to make the donation soon.



*We hope that you have a lovely weekend.  
See you all on Monday for week two!*