



SWANWICK STORY

Friday 3 December 2021

Staffing Shortages

We continue to encounter staff shortages. Thank you for your support and understanding.

These are the things you could do to really help us out:

- Ensure your child arrives at school on time
- Report your child's absence on EACH day of absence by e-mailing absence@swanwick.derbyshire.sch.uk ensuring you include your child's full name, class and reason for absence
- Reporting any positive LFD or PCR tests to covid@swanwick.derbyshire.sch.uk stating date of positive LFD, date of positive PCR and any symptoms and what they were

This is a bumper edition of the SS – keep reading until the very end!

Swimming in Y6 & Y5

Since we have missed a few sessions of swimming due to staffing shortages at the Leisure Centre, we have decided to **extend Y6 swimming after Christmas.**

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

We will review how things are going and keep you posted about when we expect Y5 to go swimming. Thank you for your understanding.

Panto & Pinxton Puppets

Please make sure you have logged onto your Parent Pay account to ensure you have paid in full.

Consent to go to the pantomime is taken from your contribution on Parent Pay – **we are unable to take children without this.**

Year 4 Visit Egypt!

This term, Year 4 have been working extremely hard learning all about Ancient Egypt, and for the children to gain a greater understanding of the Ancient Egyptians, we are organising an amazing Egyptian day. To fully immerse ourselves in the day (and for fun), **we are asking the children to dress up in costume on Wednesday 8 December.**

We would be very grateful if you could supply your child with a homemade or inexpensive costume in the style of an Ancient Egyptian (children could dress in all black or white and we will make a collar on the day).

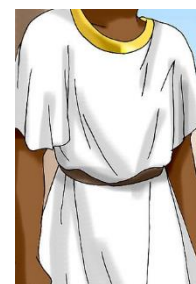


Children will be in their costume for the whole day and will have some time outside so please ensure they come with a coat and suitable footwear. We will not be doing our PE on this day.

Thank you for your continued support,

The Year 4 Team

Apologies for the day and date not matching in last week's Swanwick Story. Thanks for pointing that out to us!



Starting school - September 2022

Have you applied for your school place yet?

[School Place Application Leaflet](#)



SWANWICK STORY

Breakfast Club Bookings for Term 3

If you are requiring a place(s) for your child(ren) at Breakfast Club in Term 3 (January to February), please can you complete the form and return asap so places can be allocated.

Please note, the charge is increasing to £5.00 per session as mentioned earlier this term, and payment is due before attending the session. Failure to pay on time may put your place at risk.

Please can parents of registered Breakfast Club users complete the form (link below) **by Monday 20 December 2021** so that we can process the bookings before the Christmas holidays.

[Breakfast Club Bookings](#)

For new customers, we ask that you contact breakfastclub@swanwick.derbyshire.sch.uk in the first instance, as we are very limited on spaces.

Swimming Success!

'Over the last two weekends, Ethan has competed in his club championships for Belper Marlins. This was his first gala post COVID and despite missing so much training and 18 months' worth of galas, he 'swam away' with 3 golds in butterfly, individual medley and backstroke and a silver in breast stroke in his age group!

Ethan getting star of the week just topped it off! We're all very proud ... including Ethan as you can see by his face!!'



Well done Ethan from all of us at SPS!

Our School Council needs members!

We are extremely excited to be re launching our Swanwick Primary School Council following the lockdowns and disruption to school since March 2020.

In assembly today, we reminded ourselves of what a School Council is, what role the School Council play, how to become a School Councillor and the commitment and rewards this brings for the school and our community.

We are really looking forward to having an inspirational group of children from Y1-Y6 (one per class) to provide a pupil voice on a variety of exciting tasks. If your child would like to stand as a candidate, the elections will take place early next week, with the final decision being announced in assembly on Friday 10 December.

If your child would like to be a School Councillor, they should prepare a speech/presentation by Monday 6 December to tell their class why they should be chosen and the skills and qualities they can share. Each class will listen to the speeches and have a democratic vote to choose their representative.

Miss Holmes

Please park and drive respectfully

Parking and driving around school remains the biggest grumble that comes to us and takes up such a lot of time. We can't be responsible for the behaviour of our parents, or their driving habits, but we can remind you to be respectful in your driving and parking. We have heard some sad stories recently about some of our elderly neighbours enduring rude behaviour from one of our parents. This really makes us feel sad and we thank everyone for remembering to be kind.



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White Hall

White Hall payments should now be **paid in full**. There will be a parents' meeting via your child's Microsoft Teams account to give you further information. This will be at **Thursday 16 December at 5.00pm**. An invitation will be sent out.

Sporting Success

Another exciting competition last night with the Year 4 Handball team. It was a pleasure to take them to a competition at Alfreton Leisure Centre last night. The children all showed some excellent skills, but on top of that, great teamwork. They played 6 games and finished 2nd in the competition. Congratulations to all of the team - you did yourselves and the school proud.



Mrs Turner and Miss Wright

Flu Immunisation – another update

The Flu Immunisation Team have been in touch with us again. Due to the high number of children still needing immunisation, they have decided to 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

Covid Update

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.

Thank you for continuing to wear face coverings on the school site. We do still have cases in school (and lots of people testing) and it is impossible to know when they may escalate next.

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

Christmas Cards

A reminder that cards can be exchanged with friends in the same year group from Monday 6 December. We ask that this is done during playtimes and not during learning time. We are sorry, but we are unable to provide class lists as we are unable to share personal information in line with GDPR.

Christmas Gifts

We have been asked by some parents about buying staff gifts this year. Whilst this is something which is not expected, we are sure staff would be very grateful of such a kind gesture. Please ensure gifts are in school by Friday 17 December where possible. Thank you 😊

Christmas Jumper Day

We are not asking for a donation, but we invite children to come to school wearing something Christmassy on the following days:

Friday 10 December (Christmas Jumper Day)

Wednesday 15 December (Christmas Lunch)



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Christmas has started in Reception

Reception had an exciting 1st of December... some visitors came to the classroom! Elvis and Elton the elves will be helping the children learn and get ready for Christmas- everyone is very excited! They also have a super Advent Calendar in class to help them with the countdown. A huge thankyou to Booth's Convenience Store for donating the fantastic balloons as well as the Advent Calendar, chocolates and treats!



Farewell to Miss Gaunt

Miss Gaunt, who is one of our Teaching Assistants, will be leaving us at the end of this term to take up an exciting new role with the NHS. We would like to thank Miss Gaunt for all the support she has given to children during her time with us and wish her all the very best in her new venture!

Do you shop online?

Friends of Swanwick have set up two accounts for our school to help us to bring in some funds:

[Easyfundraising.org](https://www.easyfundraising.org)
[Amazon Smile](https://www.amazon.co.uk/smile)

These are essentially charitable cashback schemes for online shopping. They are super

simple to use and we are hoping that we might be able to encourage as many parents and staff

as possible to use them when doing both general online shopping but in particular, Christmas shopping, as this should yield a reasonable amount for us.

If you can, please sign up for the schemes (and share with your family and friends) and use them when you shop online.

Governor News

Parent Governor Election

We're recruiting...for Governors!

The school governing body are recruiting for 4 governors – 2 Parents and 2 Co-opted. This is a great opportunity for you to get involved in the future of your local school. We have a diverse range of skills and backgrounds on our governing board, and would welcome 4 new people to bring yet more experience. The Parent Governor Election is currently being run and nominations close Friday 10 December 2021.

As a governing board we get to influence the future direction of the school, have open and honest dialogue with the staff, and get to see the result of the hard work they put in day in and day out.

If you are passionate about making a difference, are driven and committed, and want a new challenge then a school governor may be just the right challenge for you.

For further information, please contact governors@swanwick.derbyshire.sch.uk

Are you a creative thinker?

Please keep on reading the Swanwick Story right to the very end to see if you can possibly help with one of our current Governor projects...



SWANWICK STORY

1 December 2021

Swanwick Primary School Need Your Support to Transform the Learning Environment.

The Governing Body at Swanwick Primary School are reaching out to local people, local businesses and other organisations to explore ways in which they can provide much needed additional space for the young people and the staff at the school.

Under relatively new leadership, number of children on roll is much larger than the amount of children the school was originally built for. In order to be able to continue to provide the high-quality teaching and learning it has become accustomed to, the school is in urgent need of additional indoor learning spaces.



The main building of the school was built to accommodate 7 classes of children and now houses 14 classes in total. Whilst the size of the school grew, the number of ancillary spaces, breakout areas and small teaching spaces hasn't grown. The grounds are of a reasonable size, but due to the nature of some of the land, we are unable to place modular buildings on the school fields as they are protected areas.

The Governors and the Leadership at the school want to be creative and transform the learning environment in a way to complement the forward-thinking and innovative curriculum they are developing for the pupils. All ideas would be welcomed.

Through the school's strategy for change they are looking for others that would like to help them address what is fast becoming a very difficult situation for the school. They are appealing for support from the local community, local businesses and any other key stakeholders that would be interested in supporting this very valued community school and their young people.

Thinking outside the box, you may have an idea to help: a bus, plane, caravan – who knows what our new space may look like?

Wayne Allsopp, Governor comments "We are very proud of the staff and the pupils at the school for how they work collectively within an environment that they are quickly out growing. It is now important that we explore ways in which we can provide facilities that enable them to deliver their 21st century education without any restrictions. "

If you would be interested in supporting the Governors, Staff and Pupils of the school, then in the first instance you can register your interest with Wayne Allsopp, Governor at:

Wayne.allsopp@swanwick.derbyshire.sch.uk



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*Thank you to you all for your continued support.
Have a lovely weekend and we will see you all
on Monday!*

