



SWANWICK STORY

Friday 20 November 2020

A Big Hello to EVERYONE!

A very warm SPS hello to all of our children, staff, parents and governors. This has been a very interesting week, with some of you in school and some of you learning or working at home.

As mentioned earlier in the week, we continue to have a significant number of staff not in school. We thank all of you for your kind wishes at this time – we really do appreciate them.

Remote Learning

We are thrilled that so many children who are self-isolating at the moment have been able to send us in their home learning. We know it's all very new, but you are doing such a great job! Teachers have been enjoying speaking to you on the 'phone. We have seen some amazing work coming in to school – thank you so much parents for supporting your child at home whilst juggling your own lives and work too.

We are learning all the time how Microsoft Teams works. Here are a couple of top tips:

- Please download the work from teams in order to work on it, then upload it afterwards to avoid altering the master copy.
- We have found that if parents can upload their child's returned work into a clearly marked folder called "(child's initials) completed work" – this helps to keep things organised for teachers trying to find it and respond to it. This helps your child's work to not be in such a prominent place on the forum.

Things have been changing at a moment's notice, so even if your child is currently OK to be in school, please do make sure that you have logged into your Microsoft Teams account asap rather than leaving it to the last minute...just in case.

Thank you

We have an incredible team here at Swanwick Primary School. Thank you seems such an inadequate phrase to show the gratitude we have for such an amazing bunch of professionals. They have helped us to carry on opening the school every day at the most difficult of times by doing over and above – and then some!

Our teaching staff are juggling uploading and responding to remote learning and making phone calls, whilst continuing to teach their classes in school. Our support staff are doing whatever is needed to help us to run the school safely. The Admin team have been glued to the telephone and their e-mails. The Governors have been super-supportive (remember the hamper they sent us earlier in the week?)

Parents have been incredibly understanding; increasing their resolve in social distancing; reducing communication wherever possible; and asking how we are!

Most importantly, thank you to our children. They are the reason we are all here and they make us smile every day. Their resilience has been brilliant during this particularly tricky time. Routines are so different to how they used to be – and on the whole, they are just getting on with it!

COVID-19

Please remember that if there is a confirmed positive case of COVID-19, we will always follow advice and our risk assessment. If your child receives a positive test for Covid 19, then it is important that you inform us immediately by telephoning us or e-mailing a special e-mail address: covid@swanwick.derbyshire.sch.uk . We ask that you do not use this e-mail for anything other than a **positive test of a child**.



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Late children



We are still having a significant amount of children arriving at school after 8.55am, when the gates should close. We completely

understand that there are sometimes emergencies or traffic issues which affect your ability to get your child to school on time. However, it really would help us out if you could be on time, as we just don't have the spare staff to support latecomers into school at the moment.

Parents' Meetings

We do apologise for putting information out about Parents' Meetings - then having to postpone them. We will try again once we have a more stable staffing picture. Thank you for your patience.

Breakfast Club

It is with regret that **Breakfast Club will remain closed until further notice**. When we re-open Breakfast Club, we want to do so safely with the appropriate staff. We know that many of you rely on this service, but we thank you for your patience. We will let you know when we are able to re-open. Your bills have been adjusted. The period of closure will not be charged for. Thank you for your understanding.

Victorian Day – Y2

On Tuesday 8 December, Y2 will be having a Victorian Day. Children are invited to come to school in Victorian style clothes – and the teachers will dress up too! There will be some Victorian style lessons including a lesson drill!



Y1 London Day

On Monday 30 November, Y1 will be having a day to celebrate their learning about London. Children are invited to dress up as 'London Folk'.



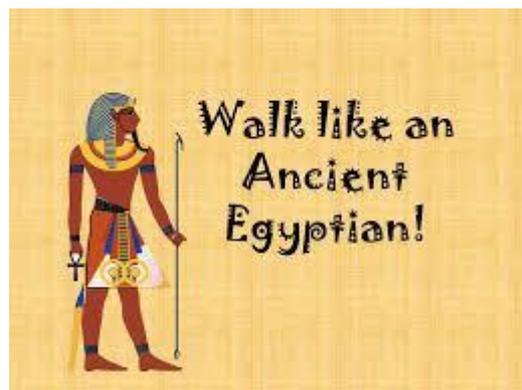
This can include ideas such as: celebrities; kings, queens or royalty; business men/women; famous characters of past or present; political figures etc.

BBC Children in Need

Thank you everyone for your donations to this very worthy cause. We can confirm that we have raised £535. Well done to us all!



Are you in Y4?



Y4 will be holding a special day on Wednesday 2 December where they will be having an Egyptian themed day. You should have received more information about this via Parent Hub.



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Miss Harris' Class v Miss Fogg

Miss Fogg would like to thank Miss Harris' Y4 class for inviting her to answer some questions in their quiz. Apparently, Miss Fogg got a score of 16.5 – but we're not sure how many it was out of!

She might have done a lot better had the questions not been so focused on all of her worst specialist subjects!

Flu Inoculations – Mop-Up Session

Just to let you know that if your child missed their vaccine today, there is a mop-up session planned for Wednesday 2 November.

Reception places for September 2021

We are very excited to share our virtual school tour. Please do share it with your contacts – thank you to everyone who has done so already:

<http://www.swanwick.derbyshire.sch.uk/new-starter-information/>

You can find out more about applying for a school place by going to www.derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions or telephoning 01629 537499.

Unfortunately, we are unable to offer visits to the school at this time. Thank you for your understanding.

A Visit from Father Christmas

Miss Fogg is quite friendly with Father Christmas – they even share the same birthday! This week he shared this interview he did with some children about what Christmas might be like this year. Please make sure you watch it first before you share it with your children, in case there are elements of it you don't want to share with them.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/uk-54994585>

We've booked an online pantomime...
...oh no you haven't!

We have found a fabulous way to bring live theatre into school at a time when we can't visit the theatre.

Take Away Theatre will present "Robin Hood and his Socially Distanced Men" for us some time in December.



Thank you to Friends of Swanwick who have agreed to fund this for us, along with a snack and a drink to consume during the performance. We will let you know when we will be showing the pantomime in school.

And this week's assembly was broadcast from...



Can you guess? Miss Fogg was asked for Greece but hasn't any photos from there. This is a place not far from Greece – any ideas? 😊

One of our Y1 children has requested next week's location...watch this space (or there might even be a clue in this week's Swanwick Story!)

Thanks for everything – we are going to log off for the weekend to recharge our batteries!

