

# Swanmore Primary School

# Newsletter

Learning for  
I ndependence  
F riendship  
E xcellence



**Date: 3rd September 2008**

**Issue No. 08/14**

## WELCOME BACK!

We hope you all had a relaxing summer break and enjoyed the sunny weather (all 4 days of it!). As we look forward to the start of another exciting Autumn Term we would like to give a special welcome to all families who are new to the school.

We are also delighted to welcome Mrs Swain as our new Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator. Mrs Swain is keen to get to know all the children and parents who she will be working with and she will be continuing Mrs Danby's routine of "drop in" sessions on Tuesday mornings at 9.00am for any parents with concerns about their child's educational ability.

As you may have already noticed we have been very busy over the holidays and the outside of the school has been greatly improved with new line markings on the playground, a mosaic and games boards on the kitchen wall, new storage sheds, a climbing wall, a grassed play area for Year R and new seating outside the Y3 classrooms.



Once again a huge thank you to FOSPS and the Summer Ball Committee for their generous donations of £4,000 and £1,250 which have been put towards the cost of the new line markings.

## OPEN MORNING FRIDAY, 3rd OCTOBER

I am delighted to tell you that we will, once again, be holding an Open Morning for prospective parents to view the school at work.



This will take place on Friday, 3rd October between 9.30 and 11.30am. If you know of anyone who may be interested in applying for a place please let them know this date.

If your child was born between 1st September 2004 and 31st August 2005 we will soon have the CR2 forms available in school. There has been a change to previous guidelines and we are now able to issue CR2 forms to all parents even if you live out of catchment. Please ensure that the CR2 form is returned to us by **12.00 midday on Friday, 21st November.**

Alternatively you are now able to apply online by visiting [www.hants.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hants.gov.uk/admissions).

## ATTENDANCE

An increasing number of families are tending to take their children out of school for a variety of reasons other than those we can legally authorise. Once children reach the age of 5 years they should be in school on a full-time basis, unless there are very good reasons for their absence. I am legally only able to authorise 10 days holiday absence per academic year and this should only be for exceptional circumstances.



If your child will not be at school because of illness, injury or medical appointments you need to telephone the school, preferably between 8.30 and 9.00am.

Absences due to music or dance examinations and sporting activities approved by the school need to be applied for in advance on a holiday form (available from the school office). Individual days or half days of absence which are not applied for in advance will have to be counted as unauthorised and will be reported as such in our returns to the DCSF.

## DIARY DATES

Please find attached a list of diary dates for the school year. We add to this throughout the year and will keep you updated through newsletters.

## DAY CLOSURES FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2008/09

Just a reminder that the day closures for this school year are as follows:

- \* Monday, 6th October
- \* Friday, 14th November
- \* Monday, 17th November
- \* Monday, 5th January 2009
- \* Monday, 8th June 2009

## ASSEMBLIES

Parents are very welcome to attend Church Services and class assemblies, please see the list attached for the Autumn Term. During the coming year we will be holding special Services in St Barnabas Church as follows:

**Harvest Festival** on Wednesday, 1st October at 9.30am for Juniors and 11.00am for Infants.



**Year R Nativity** on Wednesday, 17th December at 2.15pm

**Mothers Day Service** on Friday, 20th March at 2.45pm for Infants only.

**Stations of the Cross** on Thursday, 2nd April at 9.15am

**Y6 Leavers Service** on Tuesday, 21st July at 2.15pm.

Could I please ask that if you bring babies or toddlers to the assemblies that you take them outside if they become noisy. I appreciate that it is often difficult to get childcare for these occasions but the classes have worked very hard for these assemblies and it is a shame if they are spoilt by distractions elsewhere in the Church or Hall.

## GOVERNOR NEWS

At the end of last term we said goodbye to two Governors, Sarah Dineen after 6 years as a Governor and Claire Guyer after 8 years.

Both have worked tirelessly for the Governing Body and we have benefited greatly from their hard work and support.

We are pleased to welcome Marion Loveday and Sally-Anne Smith to the Governing Body, who were elected by the Parochial Church Council; we look forward to working with them.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

As always I ask for your support with our school uniform policy. We feel very strongly that wearing school uniform enables children to feel a sense of community and belonging.

If children maintain a smart appearance then I believe this instils a sense of pride in themselves which also becomes evident in their work. Furthermore, by avoiding any aspects of the latest fashion it takes away the pressure on both pupils and parents of feeling they have to update clothes, make up, jewellery, etc on a regular basis.

I would also ask that girls do not wear nail varnish, nail extensions or dye their hair during term time.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of this in more detail then please don't hesitate to contact me via the school office. Thank you for your support in this matter.

## OFFSITE VISITS



We are now required by law to request general permission from parents for their children to take part in offsite activities including local walks, crossing to Church for the weekly service, visits to Captain Phillimore's Woods, Y3 and Y6 swimming, etc.

Could you please complete the form attached for each child in your family and sign and return it to school to give your permission for these activities.

We will still continue to request permission for individual visits, sporting competitions, music festivals, etc as before.

## CLASS NAMES

In addition to their year group each class has the name of a bird as follows:

YR Mrs Hall	Robins	
YR Mrs Mordecai	Wrens	
Y1 Mrs Hughes/Mrs Wills	Peacocks	
Y1 Miss Whitwell	Flamingos	
Y2 Mrs Brown/Mrs Seaman	Woodpeckers	
Y2 Mrs Coombes	Kingfishers	
Y3 Mrs Doran	Penguins	
Y3 Mrs Mundy	Merlins	
Y4 Mrs Atkinson	Doves	
Y4 Mrs Toft	Goldfinches	
Y5 Mr Cook	Swifts	
Y5 Miss Duckett	Golden Eagles	
Y6 Mrs Dirks/Mrs Davies	Sparrow Hawks	
Y6 Mr Hughes	Snowy Owls	

## THANK YOU

Mrs Danby has asked me to pass on her thanks for your kind words and leaving gifts at the end of term.

Mrs Coombes (formerly Miss Ward-Smith) would also like us to thank the children and parents of her last Year 2 class for their very kind wishes and lovely presents that she received for her wedding.

## BIKE RACKS

The Parish Council are still in discussions with the County Council with regard to the development of the Parents Car Park. Once this is finalised Bike racks will be installed. Until this happens it is not possible to store bikes on the school premises.

## WANTED

The children have really enjoyed having a wider range of reading material in their classroom book corners.



We would like to update our stocks, so if you have any old comics, catalogues, take away menus or suitable magazines and newspapers that you no longer need please pass them onto your child's class teacher. Thank you.

## PARENTS CAR PARK

Unfortunately, the parents car park is currently being used to store equipment for the road works taking place in Church Road. We apologise for the inconvenience this will cause.

We have been told that the equipment will be moved on 8th September.

## SWANMORE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEW WEBSITE AND ON-LINE SHOP

September will be your last chance to access the school website in its present form. We are currently working on a newer version which will carry more information, more photographs and several new features. We are hoping that the new site will be ready by the end of September. Why not go along to [www.swanmoreprimary.org.uk](http://www.swanmoreprimary.org.uk) for a last nostalgic look. While you are there you might want to have a look at our online shop. There are hundreds of high street retailers who are prepared to give us a small percentage commission when you make a purchase through our online shop. You do not pay any extra for this. Here are some examples, B&Q - 3%, Marks and Spencer - 5%, IKEA - 2%, Next - 2%, and to keep your chocolate supply topped up Thorntons - 6%. The largest commissions are generally in insurance. A motor insurance policy could earn the school between £50 and £100 depending on the company. For the school to gain you would need to visit the school site and click on the online shop button and select your retailer from there. If you have any questions about the new site or the online shop please email me at [sps.chris@gmail.com](mailto:sps.chris@gmail.com)

## FOSPS FOOTBALL AND NETBALL



FOSPS Football and Netball will start on Saturday, 13th September. Please look out for a letter outlining the details due out early next week.

## BOOK CLUB

Thank you to those of you who ordered books for your children through last year's book club scheme. We are very pleased to be able to tell you that last year the book club raised over £1,000 of free books for the school.

Unfortunately, a new company has taken over the Puffin Book Club and were not able to supply the books we ordered, resulting in very disappointed children! In view of this we have decided not to continue with a book club this year. We will, however be holding a Book Fair in school later this term.



## SCHOOL GARDEN HELPERS

Mrs Toft, Mrs Bolton and Mrs Jeffs have asked me to thank everyone who took care of the school garden during the holidays, and they hope you enjoyed more of the vegetables than the slugs and caterpillars!

Thank you to:



**Robert Hurley**  
**Ciara Blount**  
**Dominic Say**  
**Jack and Henry Williams**  
**Polly Armitage**  
**Harry Tuckey**  
**Amy Green**  
**Phoebe Blair-Rains**  
**Hollie Branson**



## AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS FOR THE JUNIORS

We will be sending out a letter on Friday listing the after school clubs for the juniors for both this term and the spring term.

Could you please complete and return the reply slip by Monday, 8th September. Thank you for your help.



## PARENT HELPERS

We were delighted with the offers of help we received from parents last year and hope that you will feel able to offer support again during 2008/9. We do, however, prefer parents not to help in their own child's class. If you are able to help please complete the slip below and return it to your child's class teacher. It will then enable us to compile a register of helpers and we will contact you as soon as possible to arrange days and times.

### SWANMORE PRIMARY SCHOOL - OFFERS OF HELP 2008/09

Name of child ..... Class .....

Days/times available .....

Tasks you are willing to undertake .....

Name (please print) .....

Signed ..... Date .....

## CHILDREN WITH ALLERGIES

We are aware that as children grow throughout childhood they can develop allergies to food, animals, medicines or other substances. In order to keep our records updated annually we have included on the offsite permission slip a space for you to let us know of any allergies your child may have. Of course, if an allergy develops throughout the course of the school year we would also be very grateful if you could inform us.

## FOOD TASTING

As part of the topic work the children occasionally take part in food tasting. We will let you know when this is happening in class, but it would be a great help if you could complete the attached form to give permission for your child to take part. Thank you for your help.



## ADVERTS

### YOGA CLASSES AT SWANMORE COLLEGE

Yoga classes take place at Swanmore College on Friday evenings between 6.15 and 7.30pm. Mitch is a fully qualified and experienced Yoga teacher who teaches in and around the Winchester area. This is a great opportunity to get fit and healthy. The benefits of yoga include:

- Improved strength and flexibility
- Improved posture and breathing
- Release stress and relax the body
- Calm and still the mind
- Increased confidence, energy and happiness.

If you are interested and or would like to know more contact

Mitch Tel 01962 861249 Mob 07785 926867

Email: [mitchyoga@yahoo.com](mailto:mitchyoga@yahoo.com) Website: [magicofbrazil.com](http://magicofbrazil.com)

### ROAD SAFETY CHARITY — BRAKE

The Swanmore Summer Ball Committee chose Brake, a road safety charity, to receive a percentage of the profits from the Summer Ball. Brake are currently running a petition asking parents to sign up to 20mph zones. If you would like to support this then please visit their website on [www.brake.org.uk](http://www.brake.org.uk)



Please complete the box below with any comments you have about any aspect of school life.

If you would like us to get back to you about any issues please include your name and daytime telephone number.

Name .....

## ASSEMBLY LIST FOR AUTUMN TERM 2008

Please find below a list of class assemblies for this term to which you are warmly welcomed.

Year Group	Class	Date	Time	Place
Year 2	Mrs Brown/Mrs Seaman (Woodpeckers)	Friday, 17th October	2.55pm	School Hall
Year 2	Mrs Coombes (Kingfishers)	Friday, 24th October	2.55pm	School Hall
Year 3	Mrs Doran (Penguins)	Friday, 28th November	2.55pm	School Hall
Year 3	Mrs Mundy (Merlins)	Friday, 10th October	2.55pm	School Hall
Year 4	Mrs Atkinson (Doves)	Friday, 26th September	2.55pm	School Hall
		Wednesday, 19th November	9.15am	St Barnabas
Year 4	Mrs Toft (Goldfinches)	Wednesday, 24th September	9.15am	St Barnabas
		Friday, 21st November	2.55pm	School Hall
Year 5	Mr Cook (Swifts)	Friday, 19th September	2.55pm	School Hall
		Wednesday, 12th November	9.15am	St Barnabas
Year 5	Miss Duckett (Golden Eagles)	Wednesday, 8th October	9.15am	St Barnabas
Year 6	Mrs Dirks/Mrs Davies (Sparrowhawks)	Friday, 3rd October	2.55pm	School Hall
		Wednesday, 26th November	9.15am	St Barnabas
Year 6	Mr Hughes (Snowy Owls)	Friday, 12th September	2.55pm	School Hall
		Wednesday, 15th October	9.15am	St Barnabas

**Please note the Friday assemblies  
now start at the earlier time of 2.55pm**

Please complete one for each child in your family

**SWANMORE CE (AIDED) PRIMARY SCHOOL - PERMISSION SLIP 2008/2009**

Child's Name ..... Class .....

I give permission for the above child to be taken offsite for curricular activities throughout this academic year 2008/2009.

I give permission for the above child to take part in food tasting during this academic year.

The above named child does not have any allergies. The above named child has the following allergies:

Signed (parent) ..... Date .....

**SWANMORE CE (AIDED) PRIMARY SCHOOL - PERMISSION SLIP 2008/2009**

Child's Name ..... Class .....

I give permission for the above child to be taken offsite for curricular activities throughout this academic year 2008/2009.

I give permission for the above child to take part in food tasting during this academic year.

The above named child does not have any allergies. The above named child has the following allergies:

Signed (parent) ..... Date .....

**SWANMORE CE (AIDED) PRIMARY SCHOOL - PERMISSION SLIP 2008/2009**

Child's Name ..... Class .....

I give permission for the above child to be taken offsite for curricular activities throughout this academic year 2008/2009.

I give permission for the above child to take part in food tasting during this academic year.

The above named child does not have any allergies. The above named child has the following allergies:

Signed (parent) ..... Date .....

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS - AUTUMN 2008

Wednesday, 3rd September	School opens for Autumn Term
Monday, 8th September	Y4T Woods Visit
Tuesday, 9th September	Y5C Woods Visit
Wednesday, 10th September	Y5D Woods Visit
Thursday, 11th September	Y4A Woods Visit Y2 Visit to Intech
Monday, 15 <sup>th</sup> September	Clubs Begin Y3M Woods Visit
Tuesday, 16th September	Y3D Woods Visit
Wednesday, 17th September	Y6D Woods Visit
Thursday, 18th September	Y6H Woods Visit
Monday, 22nd September	Y1 Walk to Greens Wood
Thursday, 25th September	Y5 Visit to Hilliers Arboretum
Wednesday, 1st October	9.30am Juniors Harvest Festival in St Barnabas Church 11.00am Infants Harvest Festival in St Barnabas Church 3.40pm Meeting for Parents of Y4 re Minstead
Friday, 3rd October	9.30 – 11.30am Open Morning for Prospective Parents
Monday, 6th October	<b>PROFESSIONAL DAY CLOSURE</b>
Friday, 10th October	Y6 "Think Safe" in Winchester
Monday, 13 <sup>th</sup> October - Friday, 17th October	Y4 Residential Visits to Minstead (Y4A Mon-Wed and Y4T Wed-Fri)
Friday, 24th October	Y6 Visit to Southampton Art Gallery
Monday, 27th - Friday, 31st October	<b>HALF TERM</b>
Friday, 7th November	FOSPS Fireworks Night
Monday, 10th November	Y4 Evacuee Day
Tuesday, 11th November	Y3 Egyptian Day
Thursday, 13 <sup>th</sup> November	School Photographer (individual photographs)
Friday, 14 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>PROFESSIONAL DAY CLOSURE</b>
Monday, 17th November	<b>PROFESSIONAL DAY CLOSURE</b>
Tuesday, 18th November	Parents evening
Wednesday, 19th November	Y6 Greek Day 7.00 Governors Annual Meeting for Parents - All parents welcome to attend
Friday, 21st November	12.00 noon Deadline for receipt of applications for Year R September 2008
Monday, 24th November	Parents evening
Thursday, 4th December	2.15pm Y1/2 Christmas Production to Parents
Friday, 5th December	2.15pm Y1/2 Christmas Production to Parents Clubs Finish
Wednesday, 10th December	pm Y4 Music Concert to Parents
Thursday, 11th December	pm Y6 Christmas Party
Friday, 12th December	pm Y5 Christmas Party
Monday, 15th December	pm Y3 Christmas Party
Tuesday, 16th December	pm Y2 Christmas Party
Wednesday, 17th December	Christmas Lunch for Juniors only 2.15pm YR Nativity to Parents in St Barnabas Church pm Y1 Christmas Party pm Y2 Visit to see Cinderella in Southsea
Thursday, 18th December	Christmas Lunch for Infants only pm YR Christmas Party
Friday, 19th December	9.15 Carols Round Tree pm Y4 Christmas Party

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS - SPRING 2009

Monday, 5th January	PROFESSIONAL DAY CLOSURE
Tuesday, 6th January	School opens for Spring Term
Monday, 12 <sup>th</sup> January	Clubs begin
Thursday, 15th January	6.30pm Meeting for Parents of Y6 re SATs
Friday, 30th January	Charity Fun Day!
Wednesday, 4th February	3.40pm Meeting for Y6 Parents re Wales Residential Visit
Monday, 16 <sup>th</sup> February - Friday, 20th February	HALF TERM
Monday, 23rd February - Friday, 27th February	Y6 Residential Visit to Wales Group 1
Monday, 2nd March - Friday, 6th March	Y6 Residential Visit to Wales Group 2
Friday, 20th March	2.45pm Infants Mothers Day Service in St Barnabas Church
Friday, 27th March	Clubs Finish
Wednesday, 1st April	7.00pm Y4 Production to Parents
Thursday, 2nd April	9.15am Stations of the Cross Service in St Barnabas Church
Friday, 3rd April	School closes for Easter

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS - SUMMER 2009

Monday, 20th April	School re-opens for the Summer Term
Wednesday, 22nd April	3.40pm Meeting for Y5 Parents re Swanage Residential Visit
Monday, 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Clubs begin
Thursday, 30th April	6.30pm Meeting for Parents of Y4, 5 and 6 re Health Education Videos
Monday, 4th May	<b>BANK HOLIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
Tuesday, 5th - Friday, 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Y5 Residential Visit to Swanage - Group 1
Monday, 11 <sup>th</sup> - Friday, 15 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 SATs
Tuesday, 12 <sup>th</sup> - Friday, 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Y5 Residential Visit to Swanage - Group 2
Wednesday, 20th May	3.40pm Meeting for parents of Y6 re Bivvy Camp
Monday, 25 <sup>th</sup> May - Friday, 29th May	HALF TERM
Thursday, 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Y6 Overnight Bivvy Camp
Monday, 8th June	<b>PROFESSIONAL DAY CLOSURE</b>
Thursday, 11th June	6.30 for 7.00pm Induction Meeting for Parents of YR 2009
Wednesday, 17th June	6.30pm Meeting for Parents of Y2 re SATS and transfer to Y3
Wednesday, 24th June	6.30pm Meeting for Parents of YR re transition to Y1
Thursday, 9th July	Clubs End
Monday, 20th July	9.15am Summer Sports' Assembly
Tuesday, 21st July	2.15pm Y6 Leavers Service - All Y6 parents welcome to attend. 3.30pm Y6 Leavers Tea in School Hall
Wednesday, 22nd July	Last day of Term