

Swanmore Primary School

Newsletter

Learning for
I ndependence
F riendship
E xcellence



Date: 4th September 2009

Issue No. 09/14

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.

Finally, the Parish Council's work on the village car park is nearly finished and we now have a footpath leading from the back of the car park to the side of the school, avoiding the narrow strip of pavement opposite the church. If you walk to school, passing the car park, please use the footpath at the side of the car park rather than walking through the car park itself.

OPEN MORNING FRIDAY, 2nd 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, 2nd 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 2005 and 31st August 2006 we will soon have the CR2 forms available in school. Please ensure that the CR2 form is returned to us by **12.00 midday on Friday, 20th November**.

Alternatively you will be able to apply online by visiting www.hants.gov.uk/admissions.

SCHOOL BAGS

As with most primary schools our cloakrooms are not big enough to store all the large bags and rucksacks that the children bring to school.

Infant children do not need to have a school bag / rucksack as everything they need to take to and from school can be carried in their book bag. Junior children, in some cases, may need a small school bag, but, in order for the cloakrooms not to become cluttered with bags falling on the floor, please only allow your child to use one when it is really necessary. Thank you for your support.

NEW BABY!

Congratulations to Mr Cook and his wife on the birth of their second child, Sophie, at the end of July.



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:

- * Friday, 9th October
- * Friday, 13th November
- * Monday, 16th November
- * Monday, 4th January 2010
- * Monday, 14th June 2010

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, 7th October at 9.30am for Juniors and 11.00am for Infants.



Year R Nativity on Wednesday, 16th December at 2.15pm

Mothers Day Service on Friday, 12th March at 2.45pm for Infants only.

Stations of the Cross on Wednesday, 31st March at 9.15am

Y6 Leavers Service on Thursday, 22nd 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 Jon Thompson after 3 years as a Governor. He has worked tirelessly for the Governing Body and we have benefited greatly from his hard work and support.

We are pleased to welcome Kirsty Williams to the Governing Body, who was elected by the Parents last term; we look forward to working with her.

The Church Council will decide this month on their Foundation Governor representative.



FOSPS FOOTBALL AND NETBALL



FOSPS Football and Netball will start on Saturday, 12th September.

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.

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.

OPEN EVENING SWANMORE COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

Swanmore College of Technology will be holding their annual open evening on Thursday, 1st October for parents and children. More details to follow.

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.



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.

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.

THANK YOU

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

SWANMORE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEW WEBSITE AND ON-LINE SHOP

There have been over 16,000 visits to the school website since November last year. If you haven't had a look yet go to www.swanmoreprimary.org.uk

While you are there click on the "Children" button and have a look at the activities there for your child's year group. The link at the top of the (year group) page will take you to a range of maths activities selected by your child's teacher.

- * On the "Interactive Resources" website select "pupil".
- * Then enter the username "swanmore" and the password "daisy1".
- * Then select the relevant year group and choose an activity.

I'd like to remind you about our online shop which can be found when clicking on the "parents" button. Here you will find hundreds of high street retailers who will pay us a small commission every time you buy something from them (you must access the retailer through our website for us to qualify). You will not pay any extra when shopping this way. So if you shop online have a look at our shop. Thank you.

Chris Vickery
ICT Manager



SCHOOL GARDEN HELPERS

Mrs Toft, and Mrs Bolton 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:
Pippa Thomson
Tess and Reuben Blakeway
Catriona and Robert Gill
Emma Currie
Mrs Harvey
Mrs Doran



CLASS NAMES

In addition to their year group Year R, 1, 2 and 3 have the name of a bird as follows:

YR Mrs Hall	Robins
YR Mrs Powell	Wrens
Y1 Mrs Hughes/Mrs Wills	Peacocks
Y1 Mrs Hatt	Flamingos
Y2 Mrs Seaman	Woodpeckers
Y2 Mrs Brown	Kingfishers
Y3 Mrs Doran	Penguins
Y3 Mrs Coombes	Merlins



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 2009/10. 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 2009/10

Name of child Class

Days/times available

Tasks you are willing to undertake

Name (please print)

Signed Date

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 2009

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 Kingfishers	Friday, 16th October	2.55pm	School Hall
Year 2	Mrs Seaman Woodpeckers	Friday, 23rd October	2.55pm	School Hall
Year 3	Mrs Doran Penguins	Friday, 27th November	2.55pm	School Hall
Year 4	Mr Cook	Friday, 25th September	2.55pm	School Hall
		Wednesday, 18th November	9.15am	St Barnabas
Year 4	Mrs Toft	Wednesday, 23rd September	9.15am	St Barnabas
		Friday, 20th November	2.55pm	School Hall
Year 5	Miss Duckett	Wednesday, 30th September	9.15am	St Barnabas
Year 5	Mrs Mundy	Friday, 18th September	2.55pm	School Hall
		Wednesday, 11th November	9.15am	St Barnabas
Year 6	Mrs Dirks/Mrs Davies	Friday, 11th September	2.55pm	School Hall
		Wednesday, 14th October	9.15am	St Barnabas
Year 6	Mr Hughes	Friday, 2nd October	2.55pm	School Hall
		Wednesday, 25th November	9.15am	St Barnabas

**Please note the Friday assemblies
start at 2.55pm**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - AUTUMN 2009

Thursday, 3rd September	School opens for Autumn Term
Tuesday, 8th September	Y3D Woods Visit
Wednesday, 9th September	Y3C Woods Visit
Thursday, 10th September	Y4T Woods Visit Y2 Visit to Intech
Friday, 11th September	Y4C Woods Visit
Monday, 14 th September	Clubs Begin
Tuesday, 15th September	Y6D Woods Visit Y5 Visit to Hilliers
Thursday, 17th September	Y6H Woods Visit 7.00 for 7.30 FOSPS AGM - Everyone welcome to attend
Tuesday, 22nd September	Y1 Walk to Greens Wood
Wednesday, 23rd September	Y5D Woods Visit
Thursday, 24th September	Y5M Woods Visit
Sunday, 27th September	Circus Set Up
Monday, 28th - 30th September	Circus Workshops
Thursday, 1st - Friday, 2nd October	Circus Evening Performances
Friday, 2nd October	9.30—11.30am Open Morning for Prospective Parents
Wednesday, 7th October	9.30am Juniors Harvest Festival in St Barnabas Church 11.00am Infants Harvest Festival in St Barnabas Church
Thursday, 8th October	6.30—8.30pm Sainsburys Fashion Show
Friday, 9th October	PROFESSIONAL DAY CLOSURE
Monday, 12 th - Friday, 16th October	Y4 Residential Visits to Minstead (Y4C Mon-Wed and Y4T Wed-Fri)
Wednesday, 14th October	Y3 River Visit
Friday, 23rd October	Y6 Visit to Southampton Art Gallery
Monday, 26th - Friday, 30th October	HALF TERM
Friday, 6th November	Non-uniform day FOSPS Fireworks Night
Monday, 9th November	Y4 Evacuee Day
Tuesday, 10th November	Y3 Egyptian Day
Thursday, 12th November	School Photographer (individual photographs)
Friday, 13 th November	PROFESSIONAL DAY CLOSURE
Monday, 16th November	PROFESSIONAL DAY CLOSURE
Tuesday, 17th November	4.00—7.00pm Parents evening
Wednesday, 18th November	Y6 Greek Day
Friday, 20th November	12.00 noon Deadline for receipt of applications for Year R September 2010
Monday, 23rd November	4.00—7.00pm Parents evening
Tuesday, 1st December	pm FOSPS 50p Present Sale
Thursday, 3rd December	2.15pm Y1/2 Christmas Production to Parents
Friday, 4th December	2.15pm Y1/2 Christmas Production to Parents Clubs Finish

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - AUTUMN 2009
(continued ...)

Wednesday, 9th December	pm Y4 Music Concert to Parents
Thursday, 10th December	pm Y6 Christmas Party
Friday, 11th December	pm Y5 Christmas Party
Monday, 14th December	pm Y3 Christmas Party
Tuesday, 15th December	pm Y2 Christmas Party
Wednesday, 16th December	Christmas Lunch for Juniors only 2.15pm YR Nativity to Parents in St Barnabas Church pm Y1 Christmas Party
Thursday, 17th December	Christmas Lunch for Infants only pm YR Christmas Party
Friday, 18th December	9.15 Carols Round Tree pm Y4 Christmas Party

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - SPRING 2010

Monday, 4th January	PROFESSIONAL DAY CLOSURE
Tuesday, 5th January	School opens for Spring Term
Monday, 11 th January	Clubs begin
Wednesday, 13th January	6.30pm Meeting for Parents of Y6 re SATs
Friday, 29th January	Charity Fun Day!
Wednesday, 3rd February	3.40pm Meeting for Y6 Parents re Wales Residential Visit
Wednesday, 10th February	Governors Day
Monday, 15 th February - Friday, 19th February	HALF TERM
Monday, 22nd February - Friday, 26th February	Y6 Residential Visit to Wales Group 1
Monday, 1st March - Friday, 5th March	Y6 Residential Visit to Wales Group 2
Friday, 12th March	2.45pm Infants Mothers Day Service in St Barnabas Church
Friday, 26th March	Clubs Finish
Wednesday, 31st March	9.15am Stations of the Cross Service in St Barnabas Church 7.00pm Y4 Production to Parents
Thursday, 1st April	School closes for Easter
Friday, 2nd April	Easter Friday—School Closed

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - SUMMER 2009

Monday, 19th April	School re-opens for the Summer Term
Thursday, 22nd April	3.40pm Meeting for Y5 Parents re Swanage Residential Visit
Monday, 26 th April	Clubs begin
Thursday, 29th April	6.30pm Meeting for Parents of Y4, 5 and 6 re Health Education Videos
Monday, 3rd May	BANK HOLIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED
Tuesday, 4th - Friday, 7 th May	Y5 Residential Visit to Swanage - Group 1
Monday, 10 th - Friday, 14 th May	KS2 SATs
Tuesday, 11 th - Friday, 14 th May	Y5 Residential Visit to Swanage - Group 2
Sunday, 16th May	11.30am Fun Run
Wednesday, 19th May	Y6 Caribbean Day 3.40pm Meeting for parents of Y6 re Bivvy Camp
Thursday, 27th— Friday, 28th May	Y6 Overnight Bivvy Camp
Monday, 31st May - Friday, 4th June	HALF TERM
Thursday, 17th June	6.30 for 7.00pm Induction Meeting for Parents of YR 2010
Monday, 14th June	PROFESSIONAL DAY CLOSURE
Monday, 21st June	6.30pm Meeting for Parents of Y2 re SATS and transfer to Y3
Thursday, 8th July	6.30pm Meeting for Parents of YR re transition to Y1
Friday, 9th July	Clubs End
Thursday, 22nd July	2.15pm Y6 Leavers Service - All Y6 parents welcome to attend. 3.30pm Y6 Leavers Tea in School Hall
Friday, 23rd July	Last day of Term

Please complete one for each child in your family

SWANMORE CE (AIDED) PRIMARY SCHOOL - PERMISSION SLIP 2009/2010

Child's Name Class

I give permission for the above child to be taken offsite for curricular activities throughout this academic year 2009/2010.

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

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