



**Swanmore CE (Aided)
Primary School**



School website:
www.swanmoreprimary.org.uk

Newsletter 3 : November 2020

Find us on Facebook
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ATTENDANCE

Thank you for your support with the children's attendance. Last half term we achieved 96.6% which, while is 0.6% above the national average, is something we want to improve further. Please do keep up the great efforts with this as it makes such a difference to the children's learning in the long run. Where children do have lower attendance, we will make contact with you to see if there is any support we can help with.

STAFFING NEWS

After 21 years at Swanmore Primary School Mrs Robinson has decided it is time to move on. We thank Mrs Robinson for her constant support of the school and our activities. We send her our very best wishes for good luck in the future.

CATCH-UP

The Government has provided schools with additional funds to support the children's COVID Catch Up achievements. We have been fortunate enough to have allocated additional adult time to each year group, based on the need of the children to support their achievements. We are also building our bank of tablets to support the children's rehearsal of skills in maths and spelling. We will share these with you too so you can access them at home with your children.

FOSPS FUNDRAISING

**NON-UNIFORM DAY FOR
FOSPS GIFT DONATION
ON THURSDAY, 19th NOVEMBER**

Just a reminder Thursday, 19th November is a non-uniform day in exchange for two gifts please one for men and one for women.

The gifts can be as varied as you like and don't need to be expensive. They could be nearly new items, unwanted gifts you'd like to pass on, or something you've picked up in the sales... whatever you can spare/manage would be brilliant.

NASAL FLU SPRAY FOR WHOLE SCHOOL

We need everyone to log in to say whether they do or do not wish their child to have the nasal flu spray. The online form can be found at:

<https://www.southernhealthimmunisations.co.uk/forms/flu>

The unique code for Swanmore Primary School is **SH116371**

Please complete the form by **Wednesday 18th November**

If you experience any problems accessing the form, please call the Immunisation Team on 01962 831111.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Thank you to everyone for your support of our recent harvest festival, and Southampton City Mission were delighted with all the goods you kindly donated to the homeless.

EDWARDS AND WARD SCHOOL MENU

Please see the attached school menu which finishes at the end of this term.

Just a reminder we have made changes to the Jacket Potato Menu which is now a specific topping for every day as follows:

Monday: Jacket Potato with Cheese

Tuesday: Jacket Potato with Beans

Wednesday: Jacket Potato with Tuna

Thursday: Jacket Potato with Cheese and Beans

Friday: Jacket Potato with Cheese

IT'S GETTING COLDER OUTSIDE

Please ensure your child has a coat in school each day, We try to get outside at break and lunch times even if it is raining.
Thank you for your support.

DOJO FOR YEARS 1—6

Thank you to everyone who has logged into Dojo to see the learning in your child's year group. We are up to about $\frac{3}{4}$ in most year groups, so please do continue to log in as the teachers are sharing the learning in class 3 times a week along with any helpful messages and reminders. If you need a log in they are:

Y1 <https://www.classdojo.com/invite/?c=CV4DBGX>
Y2 <https://www.classdojo.com/invite/?c=CPLM3RN>
Y3 <https://www.classdojo.com/invite/?c=CQ8R9WF>
Y4 <https://www.classdojo.com/invite/?c=CZPVD3B>
Y5 <https://www.classdojo.com/invite/?c=CUE43R6>
Y6 <https://www.classdojo.com/invite/?c=CQ4Y8AT>

DAY CLOSURES FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2020/21

The remaining day closures for this academic year are as follows:

- * Monday, 16th November 2020
- * Monday, 4th January 2021
- * Friday, 25th June 2021

APPLICATIONS FOR NEW YEAR R - SEPTEMBER 2021

If your child was born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017 they can start school in September 2021.

From Sunday, 1st November online applications are open to apply for a place in Year R September 2021. For more information go to www.hants.gov.uk/admissions.

If you prefer to apply on a paper copy, these are available from the School Office.



Hampshire County Council has asked us to share the following important public health message with you all:

Coronavirus infections are continuing to rise, and Hampshire is on 'Medium' COVID alert level.

*We need **your help** to stop the spread of the virus, so please continue following national public health guidance this half term.*

Remember 'hands, face, space'.

Let's all work together to Keep Hampshire Safe.

HOW TO CONTACT THE SCHOOL

If you need to contact school, the office is open to take calls from 8am-4.30pm. If you need to report an absence, please do feel free to also use the absence email absence@swanmoreapps.com or the Parentmail App which can be accessed at any time.

If you wish to speak with teachers, please email adminoffice@swanmore-pri.hants.sch.uk and your message will be passed on and your teacher will contact you. Please do not use staff emails or dojo as they will not respond to these as speaking to you directly feels so much more personal.

Diary Dates for Autumn Second Half Term

Please see below for the list of events for the second half of the Autumn Term.

(More details will be sent nearer the time):

Monday, 16th November	DAY CLOSURE
Wednesday, 18th November	Y3M Swim Deadline to book a nasal flu spray online
Thursday, 19th November	Non-uniform day in exchange for 2 Christmas Gifts
Friday, 20th November	Nasal Flu Spray for Years R - 6
Wednesday, 25th November	am Y3 Workshop by Seacity Y3J Swim
Wednesday, 2nd December	Y3J Swim
Thursday, 3rd December	FOSPS Present Sale
Friday, 4th December	FOSPS Present Sale
Monday, 7th December	Y6 Bikeability
Wednesday, 9th December	Y3J Swim
Thursday, 10th December	FOSPS Film Night for Children
Friday, 11th December	pm Y5 Party
Monday, 14th December	pm Y4 Party
Tuesday, 15th December	pm Y3 Party
Wednesday, 16th December	Y3J Swim pm YR and Y1 Parties
Thursday, 17th December	pm Y6 and Y2 Parties
Friday, 18th December	Festive Jumper/Top Day FOSPS Quiz School closes for Christmas Holidays
Monday 21st December to Friday, 1st January	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
Monday, 4th January 2021	DAY CLOSURE
Tuesday, 5th January	School reopens for the Spring Term
Wednesday, 6th January	Y1 Visit to Marwell Zoo Y3J Swim

Key Stage 1 - Reading

You may recall in March I sent a letter to KSI families regarding homework and the importance of reading. As we then promptly closed I thought it may be helpful to revisit it.

Following discussions with parents about wanting the best life opportunities for their children and advice from Hampshire's Education team, I want to write to share some changes related to Year R and Key Stage 1 homework.

Homework

In essence, the homework for Year R and KSI children will the vast majority of times only be reading. Simply put, children who read the most at home surpass the educational success of their peers who do not read at home. Children need to be able to read fluently to engage with other areas of the curriculum and therefore reading supports all learning. While the entire focus of our lives should not be a child's academic success, I know that you have high expectations for your child. You expect them to do well in school, you expect them to go to college, and you expect them to have happy, productive lives.

Reading at Home

Knowing that you have these goals for your child, it concerns me greatly when children report to me that they do not read much at home. I obviously cannot make your children read at home. The only people who can carve out reading time for your children at home are you, their parents. This is hard, but it matters more than any other academic support you could provide.

Hopefully by removing the time used for other homework, will support daily reading. This can of course be:

- **To your child**
- **Hearing your child**
- **Reading with your child**

Looking at the reading groups across Year R and KSI, on average 40% of the children are not reading regularly (at least 3 times a week). I would like the children to read/be read to, on a daily basis as I want the children to enjoy reading and stories. I am sure this is happening as children have their 'bed time' stories.

Children's Log

I am not sure completing a log is going to help enjoyment, however, I now ask that the children's logs are completed - and I will be asking staff to follow up on this to support the children's learning. All we ask you to do is add a date and initial so we know the children are reading at least 3 times a week, as well as all of the other times at home too. I do appreciate this is a lot of information but I, like you, want the best for your child, so they have the best life opportunities in their future.

As the wider implications of reading regularly are so significant, KSI will not receive homework other than to read with an adult. Thank you for your understanding and support.

