



Swallowfield Lower School

Weathercock Close, Woburn Sands, Milton Keynes, Bedfordshire, MK17 8SR
Tel: 01908 582101 Email: Office1@Swallowfieldlowerschool.co.uk



Message from the Head Teacher

What a busy term we are experiencing! The children are all working hard and enjoying the build up to Christmas. Thank you once again for all your support during our recent Ofsted inspection. We intend to write to all families soon with our response to the two action points raised. However, we are all very pleased with the overall outcome as the new framework we were judged against is quite tough. The whole team at Swallowfield work incredibly hard for the benefit of the children, and the acknowledgement from Ofsted is certainly deserved.

Values Education

Our value for this month is 'Understanding'. In school the children will be encouraged to ask questions when they do not understand, especially in their lessons. The importance of speaking and listening will be emphasised as a crucial part of the learning process. As it is time for remembering those who have lost their lives in wars we will try to help the children to understand why Remembrance Day is an important date in our national calendar. We will promote the understanding that we should all be working towards peace and care in our world and how we can achieve this. This is especially important when understanding about how we can all play our part from the COP26 climate summit in November.

Busy Bees News

Busy Bees children have had a lovely first half term leaning about ourselves and our families and what makes us who we are. This half term we will be learning all about our favourite books/stories and the book of the month is the 'Fish Who Could Wish.'

Reception News

In Reception we have been busy settling back into our routines after half term and looking at several different celebrations and events that are happening in the calendar in the first few weeks. We have enjoyed talking about our experiences of Fireworks events and sharing our news from half-term. This week we are having a look at how Diwali is celebrated all over the world as well as exploring poppies for Remembrance. We have also started to practise for our Christmas performance - so please look out for information on your child's role soon.

Key Stage 1 News

What a busy start to the new academic year we have had! It has been wonderful to hear the buzz of learning again and to see the children making so much progress in their lessons already. Year One Superhero day was a great success, and all superheroes completed various missions throughout the day! They are now beginning a new History topic all about toys. Year Two have been busy designing their very own futuristic ways to travel so be sure to look out for rainbow-coloured, solar-panelled, fire-breathing, wind-powered cars, trains and planes in the future! The children are also working hard to design a moving car with axels in their DT lessons and are looking forward to making them in the coming weeks. With Christmas fast approaching, we are very excited to announce that the children in Key Stage One will be staging a production of 'The Christmas Baubles' this year. Rehearsals are already underway and more information about parts, costumes and tickets will be sent home soon.

Key Stage 2 News

Welcome back and we hope that you all had a relaxing half term break. This is a really busy and exciting term in Key Stage 2. Year 3 have already enjoyed a fantastic Stone Age Day experience with an amazing expert who knew everything about the Stone Age and brought some fascinating artefacts for the children to look at. Thank you to our PTFA for arranging the funding for this experience. We are looking forward to starting rehearsals for our Christmas performance this year and really hope that we will be able to perform them for you in person - more details will be available in the coming weeks. Of course, we have lots of learning to do this term including our new topics of 'Extreme Earth' in Year 3 and 'Somewhere to Settle' in Year 4. Thank you for your continued support.

Governors Corner

Swallowfield Now - We held our first Full Governors meeting this term as a recently expanded Governing Board. After over a year of virtual meetings, we were able to meet face to face to discuss our plans for the coming months and years.

Thank you to all our families who completed the Parent View questionnaire as part of the recent Ofsted inspection. This provides us with useful feedback and can be completed at any time during the year. You can find the link on the school's website on the home page.

Future Swallowfield - As part of our expansion to a Primary School in September 2022, Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) have submitted a planning application for our new five classroom teaching block. The reference number is CB/21/04832/REG3. As a school, we have consulted with CBC throughout the planning process in order to ensure that the impact of our expansion on our neighbours is kept to a minimum. Should you have any questions in relation to our expansion, please contact James Rolton, who is the governor overseeing the expansion at j.rolton@swallowfieldlowerschool.co.uk

Environmental News

As autumn hits us with morning frosts, it has also given some lovely leaf colours and leaf fall around the school and in the grounds. We were invited by Aspley Guise Parish Council to take part in planting to brighten the neighborhood. On the first day back, children from Busy Bees, Reception and Year Four, took turns to plant daffodils ready for spring. Hopefully they and the local community will be able to watch them emerge and bloom in the piece of land at the side of the school. We are encouraging awareness of the environment to link with COP26. The children are taking part in the WWF Forest of Promises in class and 'Switch off Fortnight' will be monitoring our energy use. We are also starting our Recycle to Read Scheme, which you will be hearing more about.



Harvest Festival

Thank you to all who donated for our Harvest festival. Rev Diana Young attended our Assembly and came along with a basket of food which she used to show the importance of thinking carefully about where our food comes from and being thankful for what we have. The food and money raised has been donated to the Salvation Army, to support those in need.



School Updates, News, and Information

School Car Park

A reminder to say please do not park in the school car park at drop off or pick up times, unless you have been given permission to do so. The car park should also not be used as a drive through for turning. Thank you.

Clothing

Please remember to **NAME ALL** school clothing and items that belong to your child/ren. The lost property box is always full, and we can not return to owners without a name.

Poppy Sales

In line with Remembrance Day Poppies are now on sale in school. Proceeds made will be donated to The Royal British Legion charity.



House News

Storming ahead are Goldfinches, can they be beaten? Will Robins catch? Come on everyone!

Robins



Total 108

Woodpeckers



Total 132

Goldfinches



Total 190

Kingfishers



Total 174