



Swallowfield Lower School

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

Message from the Headteacher

As we come to the end of a very busy term I would like to acknowledge all the hard work from the Swallowfield team in very challenging circumstances. The outcome of our Ofsted report is a credit to the ongoing commitment the team put into the welfare and progress of all the children. Its lovely to see the children excited about the festive season. We have some lovely activities planned for the last few days of term which I'm sure the children will enjoy telling you about.
On behalf of the whole Swallowfield team, we wish all our families a very happy Christmas and we hope you enjoy quality family time.

Values Education

During this busy month the children will be learning about the value of 'Patience'. We will discuss how to be patient when we have something to say and how to be patient when things don't go as planned. At school we will also emphasise the importance of being able to wait for things to happen rather than having what we want immediately. We will learn how to be patient with others. We will talk about times when we could lose patience and find different strategies that we could use to help us.

Patience

Busy Bees News

We hope this finds you all well. The older children have now finished their Nativity performances, which will be on our Google classroom soon. Please check that you have your login details which were sent out via ping this week. We are busy making lovely Christmas things and the children are having a great time singing their Christmas songs. Our Christmas Concert will be recorded for you at the Christmas Party on the 15th December. Please let me know if your child will not be attending the party. Just a reminder that we need all of the children's presents for the Santa visits by Monday at the latest. We would like to wish you the best Christmas and New Year. Stay safe & take care.

Reception News

We have had a busy month in Reception. We have been listening to and exploring lots of Julia Donaldson books. This has included a Gruffalo hunt around the school and exploring the characters by using adjectives and creating them during our arts and crafts. In addition to this, it's been full steam ahead on our production of "Whoops a daisy Angel"! The children have worked so hard learning their lines and the songs for their performance and can't wait to share it with you soon. As we wind down for the Christmas break we have been creating beautiful cards and ornaments to share at home.

Key Stage 1 News

Christmas has now fully arrived in KS1 and the children have been working hard to learn songs, lines and dances for their performance of 'The Christmas Baubles'. We are very proud of how hard the children have worked and are excited to share these performances with you. They will be uploaded to Google Classroom before the end of term. We would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to all of our parents and carers for your support in providing costumes and helping the children to learn their lines.

In addition to our Christmas preparations, the children have also been enjoying lots of fantastic learning. Year 1 have been finding out about the history of toys and they have also been creating their own superhero 'Pop Art.' Year 2 have been learning how to use maps and atlases; as well as planning their own routes around Woburn Sands.

Key Stage 2 News

We are coming to the end of an incredibly busy term. We have learnt so much in all of the KS2 classes this term and all of the staff have been impressed at how hard the children have worked. We are still busy rehearsing our Christmas performances, and whilst we are really disappointed that you cannot share the performances in person this year we are confident that the children will deliver outstanding performances for you and your family to enjoy at home. We would like to send you our very best wishes and hope that you and your families are able to enjoy a healthy and very happy Christmas. We look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Governors Corner

Swallowfield Now - Following October's Ofsted inspection, reflections have been shared with you which include plans of how we move forward with the feedback received.

This forms part of our School Development Plan (SDP) which is a strategic plan for improvement. The Governing Board work with the school by reviewing the SDP throughout the year.

Future Swallowfield - Our letter dated 24th November shared the latest information regarding our expansion. We have been advised that completion of our new building is likely to be early 2023. We will be provided with a temporary unit to accommodate the children until the building is completed. This does not change our plans for our current Year 4 to stay with us as our new Year 5 from September 2022.

Environmental News

Reception made the most of Morrisons compost donation, planting strawberries and daffodils. Donated surplus and reused materials helped create lovely pots too. Frosts donated seeds which have been sorted in preparation for the coming season. Thanks to those who donated points to Morrisons 'Good to Grow' scheme. We are able to get a range of equipment to replace worn items!

Recycle to Read

Thank you to those who have sent items in. We are hoping to have our collection picked up in the new year. This is a one-off collection, so we need to have everything in by then. Please look back at the Ping to see which items we need and bear us in mind as you sort, pre- and post- Christmas, all those broken toys and unwanted tech!

Sponsored Read-a-Thon!

Congratulations and a big thank you to everyone who took part in our sponsored read with Usborne books. We raised over £1,000 to spend on literacy materials for the school. The event was planned in association with Dawn Fisher who has her own Teddy Bears Book Shop on Facebook.

School Updates, and Information

Term Dates

End of term- **Friday 17th December**- return back on **school 4th January**

School Car Park

We kindly reminded parents in our last Newsletter not to park in the car park at drop off and collection times. Sadly, parents are still parking here.

Late arrivals

We understand that occasionally being late can't be helped, however being late repeatedly is not acceptable. Being late, adds extra work for the office, disrupts the dinner register, and disrupts phonics sessions. Please ensure your chil/ren arrive on time.

Reception & KS1 gates shut at 8.55am
KS2 gate shuts at 8.50am

Absence

Please notify the office of an absence or medical appointment either by phone or email.



We raised a total of **£358.33** from your donations
Thank you



Wrapped Selection Box donation

We are collecting selection boxes for The Salvation Army this year for those in need. We are asking for wrapped selection boxes to put under our tree ready for donation. Please bring any donations to reception by **Wednesday 15th December**.



A big thank you to **Frosts Garden Centre** for gifting us yet another amazing Christmas Tree!

House News

Scores are closer, who will be the festive winner at the end of term?

Robins



Total 237

Woodpeckers



Total 294

Goldfinches



Total 307

Kingfishers



Total 329