



Swallowfield Lower School

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Message from the Headteacher

We have been through a difficult few weeks with the amount of Covid cases that we have experienced in our staff and children. However, the fantastic team at Swallowfield have all worked hard to ensure that the school remained open and the children continued with their learning. A very big thankyou to every staff member for their efforts in such difficult times.

I hope all our families have a relaxing half term and enjoy the lighter evenings. Hopefully after the break we will be able to resume some more activities in school and welcome families and visitors to the site.

Values Education

At school we will start by learning to appreciate ourselves and the qualities we possess. We will then raise awareness of the world around us and all the things which we should be showing our appreciation for. We will learn that appreciation shouldn't just be shown when receiving gifts but also for friendship, care and support. The importance of appreciating our environment, and showing that appreciation by looking after our surroundings, will feature this month as will showing appreciation for those around us, our families, friends and people in school.



Busy Bees News

We hope you have all settled in nicely to 2022, the children have been very busy learning about their environment. We have looked at the garden, things under the ground and many other themes this half term. Our work for next half term will focus on some of the children's favourites such as 'The Zoo' and 'The Circus' so we will be very busy.

We had a fantastic time taking part in the NSPCC Rockstar themed day last week and you will find some of the photos on the Busy Bees Google Classroom. We hope you enjoy them.

We are looking for some floaty fabrics to use for our PE sessions so if you have anything like that and have no use for them we would very much appreciate a donation.

Have a wonderful half term.

Mrs. Bishop
Pre School Manager

Reception News

This half term our learning has mainly been based around the Elmer stories written by David McKee. Although Covid has hit us quite hard in our Reception classes it's great to be back on track with pupils back in school. It's great to hear from families that the children have been enjoying their environmental sessions and taking a keen interest in birds when out and about. A little reminder that 'Muddy Mondays' happens for YRG and Wellie Wednesdays for YRP. Please may all children bring their boots in on these set days.

From after half term we will start to share photos with you linking to our learning through Google Classroom - it would be a great conversation starter at home to share these photos together to prompt the children to talk about their learning. Please keep your eyes peeled on Ping for information on a stand-alone week straight after half term which we are really looking forward to! This includes a small project to complete at home over the half term break.

Miss Papworth
Early Years Leader

Key Stage 1 News

This term Year 2 have been learning about Famous People. They have really enjoyed finding out about the artist Vincent Van Gogh and have created some fantastic 'Starry Night' paintings. The children in Year 2 have also had lots of fun learning about The Great Fire of London and have written some great diary entries. Year 1 have had great fun learning all about castles this half term. They have also been working hard in their DT lessons to make costumes for Medieval Princes and Princesses. They are now excited to be creating their own moving pictures. A quick reminder: Please ensure your child is wearing the correct school uniform, which includes school shoes. More information about this can be found on the school website.

We would like to say a huge thank you to Mr Forrest, who was our student in Year 1 this half term, who has kindly donated a collection of story books to our home school library. This was done through his charity that he set up previously. The charity is called REMember: The Michael Forrest Foundation. If you would like more details on this you can find them on Facebook at @REMemberMF.

Miss Potter
Key Stage 1 Leader

Key Stage 2 News

We can't quite believe that we are almost at the halfway point of the year and the children and staff are all looking forward to a well-earned half term break.

Year 4 have really enjoyed learning all about the Ancient Egyptians and are really excited about their Design and Technology project - creating an Egyptian themed 'stop-motion' animation. In Year 3 we have learnt lots of amazing facts about the Romans, and have even had a go at writing our own Roman myths. We have also worked together to create a shared collage using lots of different materials - photos to be posted shortly. We all loved the NSPCC Rockstar themed day and everybody looked fabulous - including the staff! We spent lots of time practising our times tables but please remember to keep practising at home. Thank you as always for your support and we hope you enjoy a restful half term break.

Mrs Woodman
Key Stage 2 leader

NSPCC Rock Star Maths Day

Thank you all to those who took part in our maths Rock Star day. The children and staff had a blast! The day was arranged to raise funds for our maths department, and to support the NSPCC. We raised a total of £280



Governors Corner

Future Swallowfield - Our letter dated 26th January provides an update on becoming Swallowfield Primary. Confirmation has been received for a temporary unit to be used by our new Year 5s while the building work is completed.

Swallowfield Now- We have recently sent a communication in relation to the Parent Governor vacancy that has become available, we will inform you in due course as to the outcome and whether a ballot will take after the half term break.

Can you help?

We also have vacancies for Co-opted governors and a Local Authority governor for the school. Do you know anyone who may be interested in either of these roles and offer their time and expertise? Do you know anyone with skill sets that include, The Arts, Design and Technology and Human Resources? With an exciting future ahead, this is a great time to join our friendly Board.

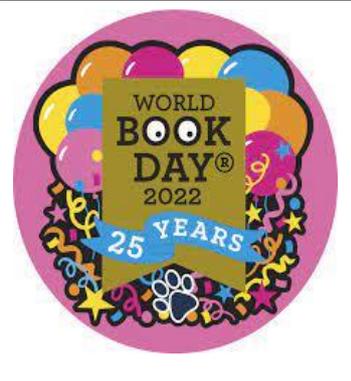
School Updates, and Information

Term Dates

End of term- Friday 11th Return Monday 21st February

Contact details

Please let the office staff know via email if you have any changes to your contact details. It is essential that your contact telephone numbers are up to date. Any changes including change of address need to be reported. Thank you.



This year World Book Day is on **Thursday 3rd March 2022** and it is a day where we can all celebrate our favourite stories and characters. We will be celebrating in school with lots of literary activities on this day and we would like to invite the children to come into school dressed as their favourite book character! However, we are mindful that we have recently done a whole school dress up day as rock stars for World Number Day, therefore if your child would like to come into school dressed in non-school uniform and bring in their favourite book or story this would also be fantastic.

As we celebrate **10 years of the Eco-Committee**, we have been lucky enough to have one of our founder members joining us in school! Charlotte was involved in planting our Jubilee trees by Busy Bees fence. We never thought then that they would be providing shade as they are now! We have welcomed the support given to our Recycle to Read campaign set up to try to encourage better reuse/recycling. We still have a little space in our collection box for broken plastic toys, so if you still have any out there... However, we have had very little re-usable tech box. This has the greatest benefit, as we get the sale value, so hunt out your previous phones, tablets etc.!

Great news too, The Pod, whose campaigns Waste Week and Switch Off Fortnight we take part in, are introducing a link to activities at home. Pod@home will be launching soon.

I hope everyone has taken a look at the information on the Woburn Sands Young environmentalist Award. The Mayor came to the school to discuss how we can get involved and we are really looking forward to as many of our children as possible taking part. Take a look at the Ping, or get in touch to find our more.

House News

Robins



Total 401

Woodpeckers



Total 553

Goldfinches



Total 534

Kingfishers



Total 566

Running the Friday mile

It is fantastic to see parents, children and staff taking part in the Friday mile. It is a great way to kick start the day ahead. We need to see more Robins- Robins have not as yet won points for their laps! Robins need a win after half term!