



Swallowfield Primary

Weathercock Close, Woburn Sands, Milton Keynes, MK17 8SR, Tel: 01908 582101

1st November 2022

To Parent/Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn term – and it is set to be a very busy one! Our main themes this half term are Julia Donaldson and Winter. Please take a look at our overview of the themes that we will be learning about on the school website, which is found under the Reception section or on Google Classroom.

Please may we remind you to regularly access your child's google classroom account. On there you can find online learning opportunities, additional materials that may support learning at home, as well as news and exciting things to share at home. Please contact your child's class teacher if you are having problems logging on. If you stumble across any technical issues whilst using the classroom, we would initially recommend googling your difficulty as it is created by the same company and has many useful help pages.

Please keep an eye on additional letters and the monthly newsletter for more information regarding the half term and possible events and activities to look out for. This week we have our firepit afternoon which we are looking forward to at school, as well as our Autumn walk next week. Children will have the opportunity to roast a marshmallow and experience a fire pit with their friends in connection with our theme of learning this week, based around fireworks and how to keep ourselves safe. Any changes to the routine and important correspondence will be shared with you via the SchoolPing app so please keep checking it for the latest updates and new information.

We have been contacted with a few concerns linking to our Autumn walk on Wednesday 9th November. When we are walking back to school we will be taking the footpath across the golf course rather than the roadside footpath. We have purposefully made drop off time very close to the usual school drop off time and kept the trip local in the hope it will not impact families working days too much. We would ask that if you are struggling with the drop off time and location that initially you reach out to other Reception families to see if lift shares can happen. If you are finding this difficult then please email your child's class teacher directly and we can offer support for the individual circumstances.

We hope you have taken the opportunity to book your child's first parent consultations which start this week. You should have received an email containing the link to join the consultation if you



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opted for an online consultation slot. Please email your child's class teacher directly if you have not received the link, making sure you have also checked your junk mail folder first as they tend to be redirected there.

This half term our hall space is available to re-start assemblies. We wish to invite children to bring in certificates and awards from outdoor clubs and activities they complete into school on a Wednesday to share as part of our KS1 and Reception celebration assemblies. Please ensure all items are clearly named.

A few gentle reminders:

Please remember to name all items of uniform and other belongings. If using a pen, this needs to be checked regularly as names wear off and iron on label can sometimes become unstuck. Please ensure children do not bring in toys or other items from home, as these often get lost or damaged which can be upsetting.

Please continue to ensure both classes wear PE kits into school each Friday. As it gets colder jogging bottoms and jumpers will be a necessity as children will still have playtimes outdoors. We would also like to remind you to ensure all children have a complete spare uniform including underwear and socks on their peg for accidents and falls – particularly now we are into the wet winter months. Please also ensure this change of clothes is clearly named. We wish to encourage children not to bring large rucksacks to school - we simply do not have enough space for the bags to all be stored. We would like to request that children bring their book bags daily with their water bottle and small fruit pot inside for their snack.

Children should now be wearing winter uniform. If you are unsure whether certain items fall into this category check with your child's class teacher. The main changes are that girls can no longer wear their summer dresses, but instead have the option of pinafore dresses with tights or socks or grey trousers and boys can no longer wear their shorts, but instead opt for grey trousers. We would also like to encourage families to also practise putting on coats independently at home, including children pulling through their sleeves- we are sure you can understand the need for a little independence in helping the smooth running of the school day as the weather changes.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Wisson
Early Years Leader

Mrs Blakeburn
Reception Teacher

Ms Millward
Reception Teacher