



The Bugle

July 2023



A message from Mrs Ramsell

Well where on earth did that year go? It's hard to believe that we are already at the end of the Academic Year; blink and you missed it!

It's been yet another incredibly successful year where everyone has achieved so much to be proud of. Very well done to all our children. Their hard work, determination and just absolute joy at being young has been wonderful to be a part of – thank you all!

Have a wonderful Summer everyone and thank you for your very valuable support. See you all next year.



One of our priorities for the next year is to review the Vision, Values and Ethos of our school.

In order to achieve this fully, we would like to involve our parents and we are keen to have your input and for you to share your ideas with us.

Therefore, on **Saturday, 2 September 2023 from 10am until 11am** we are holding an 'open' Parent Forum where everyone is welcome to join us for a brief meeting where we can openly discuss and share views and ideas. Please put the date in your diaries and come along and join us.



If any of our current families have children starting school in Autumn 2023, you may be interested to know that we are holding our New Intake Morning on **Saturday, 23 September 2023 and Saturday, 18 November 2023 between 10am and midday.**

This is an opportunity to come into school, have a good look around and meet the team.

The first day of term is

**Tuesday,
29 August 2023**



Schoolgateway



As we have previously advised, we will no longer be using PAY360 for our parental payments.

In order to continue to be able to pay for dinners, wraparound, trips and events, it is essential that you download this App onto your phone or other device.

This App also has messaging capabilities which we are likely to also transition over to. It is therefore important that you have access to this so that you continue to receive messages regarding your child.



Following the new legislation that the Department of Education have in place with regard to Attendance, we are very pleased to note that, year on year, our overall attendance has increased and children are attending school on a more regular basis.

In view of this, we will continue to firmly focus on achieving and maintaining good attendance levels across the school. It is essential that our absence policy is adhered to if your child is absent ie.

- ensure their child attends school every day the school is open except when a statutory reason applies;
- notify the school as soon as possible when their child has to be unexpectedly absent through sickness. In this case, parents/carers must call the school absence line as early as possible on 01530 832656 and provide details of the child's name and the reason for absence. Simply stating that a child is 'ill' or 'unwell' is no longer sufficient and a fuller explanation is required otherwise we will be required to follow this up;
- only request leave of absence in exceptional circumstances and do so in advance. Exceptional circumstances do not include holidays, family events, birthdays etc. We completely understand that booking holidays in term time has a financial impact, however, please do not underestimate the impact this time away from school has on your child's education. We would appreciate your honesty in reporting this absence so that we can use the correct coding;
- book any medical appointments around the school day where possible.

In order to provide continuous monitoring of children's attendance, Mrs Smith, our Attendance Officer in school, will contact families where we have identified a concern about the level of absence or where a pattern of absence has been detected.

- Absence will also consider children who arrive persistently late. Once again, I would like to clarify that school starts at 8.45am and the registers close at 9.00am. If your child has to press the buzzer to gain access to school, this means that they are late and will receive a late mark which will impact on their attendance percentage.
- If you remove your child from school during the day to attend a medical appointment, for safeguarding reasons, they are signed out of school (and back in, if appropriate), this will also show as an absence (as they have been out of school for that period of time).
- If you remove your child from school due to a family holiday, this will be recorded as unauthorised. On their return to school, you will be provided with all the learning material that was missed during this period of absence and there will be an expectation for this to be completed and returned, in full, by the end of their first week back for marking and recording purposes.

Following the changes to the guidance around C-19 isolation, we do not expect to be absence associated with this to be a problem (although to date this has been recorded as an authorised absence).

We will continue to report your child's absence percentage to you at the end of each half term which will be based on the following criteria:

- o 99% and above (excellent)
- o 95 - 99% (good)
- o 90 - 94% (poor)
- o Below 90% (persistent absentee).

As of today, our school's attendance percentage for the year to date is 94% which, based on the above criteria, is **GOOD**.

Governors

We are delighted to welcome onto our Governing Board, Miss Chloe Lawrence (Parent Governor) and Mr Dale Mellin (Co-opted Governor) who will be working with our governing board to deliver the school's strategic future.

Uniform

Our uniform standards are important and we would like all of our children to strictly adhere to them from the new academic year. Our uniform guidelines can be found on our website by following this link:

<https://www.newswanningtonprimary.org.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=2479&type=pdf>

Our very successful Pre-Loved Uniform Shop is available to everyone and we encourage families to swap uniform when it has been outgrown.

As previously advised, PE kits should still be worn to school on the days that children have their PE lessons. This has worked very well, particularly as we find that less time is spent getting changed and more time enjoying PE lessons. However, the standard of PE clothes has noticeably slipped so can we please reiterate the following:

- PE kits should comprise of white t-shirts, black/navy shorts/joggers, NSPS hoody or black/navy hoody.
- Coloured t shirts, shorts, joggers, hoodies are NOT acceptable.
- Trainers should be dark. Coloured or sparkly trainers are NOT acceptable.
- Non-branded kit should also be worn.

When the children have Forest School sessions, once again, they should wear their Forest School clothes to school. They will need:

- Old clothes
- Old boots/waterproof trainers
- Waterproof coat
- Waterproof outerwear

The key is to ensure that the clothes they wear are old and will not cause distress if they become damaged or dirty.

Please ensure every item of clothing brought into school is labelled! 200 cardigans/jumpers/hoodies all look the same and is virtually impossible to return if they do not have clear name tags. Please make sure you check name tags as they do fade with washing.



New Academic Year

We don't want to wish the holidays away but we have lots of great plans for our new academic year. Just to clarify our classes for next year, our teaching and support staff will be as follows:

EYFS: Mrs Mitchell
Year 1: Mrs Ferwerda
Year 2: Mrs Hall
Year 3: Mrs Palumbo/Mrs Jaques
Year 4: Mrs Harris
Year 5: Mr Skinner
Year 6: Mrs Jenner

- supported by Mrs Sparrow, Mrs Keenan & Mrs Franklin
- supported by Mrs Hutchinson, Mrs Banda & Mrs Walker
- supported by Miss Fessey
- supported by Mrs Tredwell & Mrs Banda
- supported by Mr Will
- supported by Mrs Orton & Miss Holt
- supported by Mr Will



Don't forget to get along to Coalville Library to sign up for this year's *Summer Reading Challenge*.

We know that a lot of you have already signed up which is great news – well done!

There's still room for lots more though so go and sign up and lose yourself in a Book.

We are committed to ensuring our children have a healthy well-balanced lunch when they are at school and our kitchen staff provide lovely meals on a 2-week rolling basis. Our menu for the next academic year is available to view by copying and pasting the following link into your browser:

<https://www.newswanningtonprimary.org.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=1213&type=pdf>



If you would prefer your child to bring a pack up from home, can we politely ask that the contents are healthy options ie.

- No chocolate bars.
- Healthy snacks at playtime.
- Water rather than juice (as not only is it healthier but juice is incredibly sticky when spilt).

May we also remind you that we are a **NUT FREE** school and it is essential that children do not bring snacks into school that contain nuts; please be particularly mindful of cereal bars and sandwich fillings as these often contain hidden nuts. We have children in school who suffer with nut allergies and it is imperative that we keep them safe whilst they are in our care.

Details of how to book dinners via the new App will follow in due course.



As we have recently advised, our start and finish times will change with effect from **Tuesday, 29 August 2023** to the following:

- Start time (for all children): **8.45am** (arrival from 8.30am)
- Finish Time (for all children): **3.15pm**

Children arriving after this time will receive a Late mark.



It's our 100th Birthday!

We're going to be 100 years old on Monday, 2 October 2023 and we'd love you to join us for our Birthday celebrations on Saturday, 30 September 2023.

We'd be delighted to receive memories from our past pupils, photos, anecdotes, anything really that we can build a great picture of the story of New Swannington since we opened on our current site.

Please spread the word so that we can welcome as many of our past (and present) pupils back inside our walls for one special day.

.... and of course, no Birthday Party would be complete without Birthday cake to enjoy!

GOODBYE

*At this time of year, although we always look forward to the end of another successful school year, we also have to say a fond farewell to our current **Year 6** children.*

Time flies by so quickly and it's hard to believe that it is now their turn to move on and up to their respective Secondary Schools. They are absolutely ready for this next adventure and we are so pleased to have had the privilege to support them all through their primary education.

It has been such fun getting to know them through the years and we send them on their way with our very best wishes and a reminder to come back and see us in years to come!

Good luck everyone!

Our Year 6 children are not our only Leavers this year as we also have to say goodbye to staff members who have decided to move on to pastures new.

We would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Matheson, Miss Jobburn and Miss Spiby who have made a valuable contribution to the success of not only our school but also the children whom they all worked with.

We thank them wholeheartedly and send them on their way with our very best wishes for the future.



Looking Ahead...

Next term promises to be full of exciting opportunities for all our children and we are looking forward to being part of their learning journey.

We are also excited to welcome our new EYFS children who will be joining us in the Autumn term as well as our new staff member, Mrs Keenan, who will be joining us to provide classroom support in EYFS.

Welcome to the New Swannington family!

*It's time to say goodbye but only for a short time.
We wish you all a very happy summer, spending special time with your families.
Stay safe, stay well and see you all again soon.*