



# The Bugle

May 2024

## *A message from Mrs Ramsell ....*

*As we reach the end of this term, I find myself wondering, where has the time gone? It has been a truly wonderful and successful term, and it has been an absolute pleasure to be part of your children's learning and progress. We have enjoyed many fantastic activities and visits over the past few months. A particular highlight was being a part of the Year 4 children's first residential trip to Eyam. The experience was enriching for the students and memorable for everyone involved.*

*Looking ahead, there is still much to be excited about. After the half-term break, we have several more activities planned that will make the last few weeks of this academic year just as rewarding. Thank you for your continued support and involvement. We look forward to finishing the year on a high note.*

The first day of term is

**Monday, 3  
June 2024**



## School Gateway

Please make sure that you keep your School Gateway App up to date through your App store to ensure that you continue to receive messages.



For any of our families who have younger siblings starting school in Autumn 2024, please remember that we have our New Intake Evening on Thursday, 13 June 2024 and a further Open Morning on Saturday, 15 June 2024.



## Sun Hats and Sun Cream

Just a reminder that the sun is strong at this time of year. Please remember to send your children with sun hats and sun cream to ensure they stay protected during outdoor activities.



We are excited to announce that a new staff member will be joining us in the upcoming academic year. Mrs Louise Purdy will be joining our team from August 2024 as a new Class Teacher, bringing with her a wealth of experience and enthusiasm. We are confident that she will be a wonderful addition to our school community.

Please join us in welcoming Mrs Purdy to our school family.



As you will be aware, we place high emphasis on good attendance and the impact that absence can have on children's progress and general education.

We wanted to clarify that if a child is unwell they should not come to school. We completely understand that children pick up all sorts of bugs and infections and, in those cases, we would wish them to be at home so that they can recover fully.

The matter relating to holidays being taken during Term Time is entirely different. We enjoy lengthy holidays during the school year and we actively discourage family holidays being taken during the remaining 38 weeks. The Department of Education and LCC stipulate that family holidays during term time will result in a Fine. We are obliged to strictly adhere to the guidance we receive from LCC as we are maintained by them. We recognise that costs vary hugely in term time and during school holidays, however, the impact on your children's education cannot be underestimated. Thank you for your support in this matter.

As a reminder, please it is important 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. If we do not receive contact from you, due to Safeguarding obligations, we will make a home visit and the matter be referred to social care;
- 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 97% which, based on the above criteria, is **GOOD**.



I am delighted to share that our Year 6 children took their SATs last week and were absolutely amazing. They demonstrated remarkable confidence and maturity throughout the process and we are incredibly proud of them.

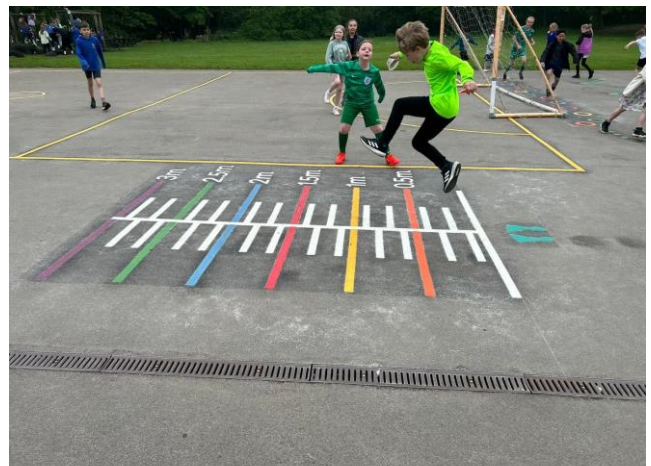
As we approach the end of the year, they will continue their learning in all areas whilst also planning and rehearsing their end of term Leavers' play.

It promises to be an entertaining experience for everyone!



Marc from Designs and Lines Playground Markings spent three days with us last week and completely transformed our playgrounds. The change is amazing, and we are delighted with the results. The children absolutely love the new markings, and it has given them a whole new playtime experience.

This incredible transformation is a testament to why our fundraising efforts are so important. The money raised from our events allows us to deliver projects like this, directly benefiting our children. Thank you for your continued support.



FOR THE  
**SPECIAL MEN**  
IN OUR LIVES



and to celebrate  
*Father's Day*

we are holding a super-  
dooper Raffle!

**Tickets on Sale after Half  
Term at pick up time!**

**£1.00 per strip**

Raffle to be drawn on Thursday, 13th June 2024



**New Swannington Primary School**

**Summer Bingo Bonanza**  
12.00pm until 3.00pm -  
22/06/2024

**Following the great success of  
Easter Bingo, we're going non-  
traditional and our Summer Fair will  
look a little different this year!**

- Mega Bingo - with DJ 'Jazzy' Mr Sparrow!
- Entertainment - we're delighted to welcome back Lucy Bremridge
- 'Early Enterprise' tables by our children
- Raffle - can you help with a Raffle prize?!
  - Tombola & Bottle Tombola
  - Cake Sale
  - Ice Cream van
  - Burger van

**Bring the family and come & have an  
afternoon of fun!**



Please note that  
Sports Day has been  
rescheduled to  
**Wednesday, 19th  
June 2024** due to a  
clash with the Year 6  
transition days.

The plan for the day will be as follows:

EYFS/KS1 – AM @ 9.30am-ish  
KS2 – PM @ 1.15pm-ish

We apologise for any confusion this change may have caused and welcome families to come and cheer the children on.

## End of Term Highlights

This term has been packed with fantastic trips and activities and it's been wonderful to see the children enjoying every moment.

From exploring new places to engaging in fun activities, the children have had a blast. It's been heartwarming to witness their excitement and joy.

One of the stand out moments of the term was the Year 4 residential trip to Eyam. This experience was more than just a fun trip; it was an opportunity for the children to build confidence and resilience. It was great to see them overcome their worries and embrace new challenges with courage.

Here's a look back at some of the highlights .....





## Looking Ahead ...

As we head into the last half term of this academic year, there's still lots more to come. While we prepare to say goodbye to our Year 6s, we still have plenty of exciting events and activities planned

## Holiday Wishes

Have a great holiday, make memories, and come back safe and sound on Monday, 3 June 2024. We can't wait to see you all again and continue our adventures together.