



# The Bugle

October 2024

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

Welcome back to school! It's been a fantastic half-term, and I think we all deserved a break. I'm thrilled to see how well the new children have settled in and become a part of the New Swannington Community so quickly, and I'm so proud of everyone for continuing their learning journey.

As we head into this half-term leading up to Christmas, there's so much to look forward to — more trips, carol concerts, the pantomime, and our advent calendar! Exciting times ahead! Thank you for your continued support in everything we do.

The last day of this term will be

**Friday, 20  
December 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.



If any of our current families have children starting school in Autumn 2024, you may be interested to know that we are holding a New Intake Morning on **Saturday, 18 November 2024 between 10am and 12pm.**

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

## Wraparound Care

As we have previously advised, it is essential that children are pre-booked into Breakfast and After School Club.

We are finding that a number of our families are not pre-booking and running up quite a debt. This is unacceptable as it is essential for us to be able to plan staffing and resources in advance.

**Please note, in future, if a child attends Breakfast or After School Club and is not booked in, parents will receive a telephone call to collect.**

It is possible to book Breakfast Club up to 6am on the day and After School Club until 2.45pm on the day.

## School Uniform

It's wonderful to see the children looking so smart in their uniforms! It truly reflects the pride we have in our school community. Thank you for that!

Just a reminder that our Pre-loved shop is available for anyone needing to replace uniform items. While it may not be outside due to the weather, it's always open and ready to help.

Another quick reminder about the PE kit: children should be wearing the uniform as outlined in our guidelines— white t-shirt, black/navy shorts/joggers, NSPS hoody or black/navy hoody and plain black trainers. We've noticed that many children are wearing kits in various colours and brands.

In the future, to ensure compliance with our uniform policy, we will provide clean, washed spare PE kits for those who need them. Thank you for your understanding!

# Penalty Notices for unauthorised absences: What you need to know about the changes.

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for unauthorised absences that occur after 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

## 5 Consecutive Days of Term Time Leave.

Penalty Notice fines will be issued for term time leave of 5 or more consecutive days, and for fewer days where this has happened before.

## 10 Sessions of Unauthorised Absence in a 10-week period.

Penalty Notice fines will be considered when there have been 10 sessions of absence in a 10-week period.

## Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice fines will be issued to each parent, for each child who was absent.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave will result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

### First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or irregular attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child when paid within 28 days.

Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

### Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or irregular attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child when paid within 28 days.

(No option to pay at £80 level)

### Third offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or irregular attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued. The case will proceed to the Magistrates' court.

Magistrate's fines can be up to £2,500 per parent, per child.



Please consult your school's attendance policy and speak with your school if you are thinking of taking your child out of school during term-time. It is likely you will need to make a written request to take your child out of school and any leave of absence will need to be agreed by your Headteacher before it is taken.

# We did it!



We won the Summer Reading Challenge with a record-breaking victory in the Marvellous Makers competition! A huge thank you to everyone who participated. It was fantastic to see everyone in 'The Chair' and celebrating their well-deserved medals and certificates.

It's wonderful to see so many great books being borrowed and enjoyed. Here's to next summer's Reading Challenge—can we do it again? We think we can!



Please remember to book your child's dinner in advance using the School Gateway App.

This makes things much easier for us as well as the kitchen staff as it saves time and ensures that children are served the meals they prefer. If you don't book, we automatically book them a Red option which isn't necessarily what they enjoy. Thank you for your cooperation!

## Year 6 Secondary School Choices

Year 6 families, a reminder to apply for secondary school places! The deadline is approaching fast—October 31, 2024. If you don't apply by this date, it could put you at the back of the list and delay your allocation. This may mean missing out on shuffle-up days and not receiving your allocation until the summer holidays when appeals are considered. Please make sure to submit your applications on time!

The first day of this term will be

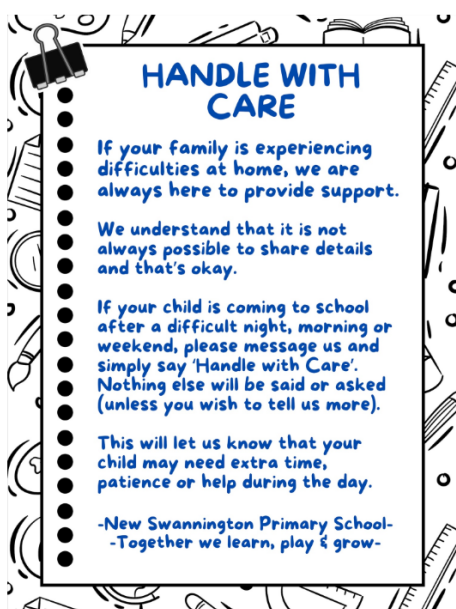
Tuesday, 7  
January 2025



## PARKING IN THE LANE

We have recently been receiving complaints from neighbours about parking in Church Lane. We understand it can get busy and congested, but we ask that you please be mindful of where you leave your vehicles.

Let's be respectful to our neighbours—avoid arguments, and do not block their driveways or park on them unless you have their express permission. Thank you.



The School Council will be selling Poppies during the school day in support of the British Legion from **Monday, 28 October 2024** until Remembrance Day.



The School Council are keeping very busy at the moment as they'll also be selling Children in Need Merchandise from **w/c 11 November 2024**. Various prices, various items.

# Fundraising News

Wow, what a fantastic and busy half-term we've had! It's been incredible to see all the fundraising hard work paying off with such amazing results.

Breaking the Book Fair record your generous spend of over £900, resulted in £400 in rewards which can be converted into new books for the children. The Disco raised a fabulous £400 and it was great to see the children have such great fun and making memories.

Finally the Zumbathon was an absolute blast and a great addition to our fundraising events. This was our first sponsored event and the children threw themselves into the day long event with a huge amount of enthusiasm. **We are now collecting sponsorship money so please do send money into school with your child.** We will update you with how much we raised in due course.

We've had loads of ideas from the children about new things they'd love to see in school, so watch this space! A huge thank you to everyone who got involved in supporting our recent events—the Book Fair, Disco, and Zumbathon. It's your support that makes these dreams possible!

## Harvest Festival



Following the success of our Christmas Carol Concert, it was wonderful to hold our annual Harvest Festival at Whitwick St. John Church.

The beautiful surroundings made it a perfect setting, and we are extremely grateful to Rev. Darren for welcoming us into his church. It was heartwarming to see so many come together to enjoy the children's singing talents. They had been practicing for weeks, and it was truly rewarding to see their hard work shine through — especially with the added surprise of dancing at Harvest! Well done to all involved!

Finally, thank you to everyone for the wonderful contributions to the Food Collection for Coalville Food Bank. It was all collected before half term and was very well received. Thank you.



## Christmas Carols



**Christmas is Coming!** We are delighted to invite everyone to our Christmas Carol Concert on **Wednesday, 18th December 2024**, starting at **6:00 pm** at Whitwick St John Church. Last year's concert was a wonderful evening, and we're eagerly looking forward to this year's festive gathering. The children will be practicing their Christmas repertoire over the coming weeks, preparing to make it a truly special evening. We hope to see as many of you as possible, but do keep in mind that last year was very busy—there may be standing room only!

## ***A busy Half Term for Trips!***

It's been a fantastic half term filled with enriching outings and experiences. Year 6 kicked things off with a memorable residential trip to Whitby in September, where independence bloomed, and memories were made. Year 3 also enjoyed a visit to Barden Quarry, which perfectly complemented their classroom learning—many thanks to Mrs. Slim for her help in making this trip happen. Additionally, Years 1 and 2 participated in Multi-sports events at the Leisure Centre; an energetic event enjoyed by all!

We strive to provide these exciting opportunities to enrich our children's education, though these trips do come with costs. Contributions from families are essential to help cover expenses, and although they are voluntary, our budget constraints mean we are unable to fill the gaps when payments aren't received. Unfortunately, we may have to cancel future trips, as we had to last year, if sufficient funds aren't available. We appreciate everyone's understanding as we work within our means, and we're grateful for your support during these times.

Finally, please enjoy some wonderful photos of our students on their adventures this term! ✨



