



The Bugle

June 2022



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!

We have all achieved so much and even with the constant threat of Covid-19, the children have been incredible and their progress commendable. Being able to get out and about again on residential and trips, enjoying our famous Discos and simply being together again (like in the good old days) has been an absolute tonic for us all. Having all of the children in school, all of the time has been wonderful and brought home how incredible our school is when we are functioning at 100%.

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! I look forward to sharing many more achievements with them all next Academic Year.

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



We are excited to be introducing our plans for our new curriculum and we would like to invite our families to come into school to hear all about them.

We are, therefore, holding two open evenings where you are invited to join us. The dates are:

- 28 September 2022
- 12 October 2022

Both evenings will start at 5.30pm and we anticipate that the session will last for approximately 1 hour.



STARTING SCHOOL

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 Evening on **Tuesday, 20 September 2022 and Tuesday, 15 November 2022.**

This is an opportunity to come into school, have a good look around and meet the team. If you would like to book for one of these meetings, please contact the school office and we will be happy to add you to our register.



As per our recent letter to you regarding the Department of Education's (DfE) announcement that they will be actively focusing on improving children's attendance in school, we would, once again, like to draw your attention to this critical subject.

The recognised benchmark for achieving a good academic performance is attendance of above 97% and there is clear evidence to support this. Results have shown that children with no missed sessions in KS2, 83.9% achieve the expected standards at GCSE level compared to 40.2% of children who were persistently absent. As part of their announcement, the DfE published its expectations for schools to firmly focus their attention on improving attendance throughout a child's education.

In view of this, we would like to reiterate that from the new academic year, we will be firmly focusing 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 8.50am 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 **POOR**.

The first day of term is

**Tuesday,
30 August 2022**



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 3-week rolling basis. Our new 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=2546&type=pdf>



Dinners should be booked via PAY360 at least one week in advance to ensure that sufficient stock orders can be placed.

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.

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	- supported by Mrs Sparrow, Mrs Orton and Mrs Walker
Year 1: Mrs Ferwerda*/Mrs Palumbo	- supported by Miss Fessey
Year 2: Mrs Hall	- supported by Mrs Hitchcock and Mrs Tredwell
Year 3: Mr Skinner	- supported by Mr Carlin (student teacher)
Year 4: Mrs Ferwerda/Mrs Jaques	- supported by Mrs Banda and Mrs Hutchinson
Year 5: Mrs Harris	- supported by Mr Will
Year 6: Mrs Jenner	- supported by Mr Will, Miss Holt and Miss Spiby

*Mrs Ferwerda will be in post until Mrs Matheson returns from her Maternity Leave.

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>

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.



*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 High 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 Carr, Mrs Webber-Jones and Miss Fern who have made a huge contribution to the success of not only our school but also the children whom they have taught.

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



Don't forget to get along to the Coalville Library and sign up for this year's [Summer Reading Challenge](#).

New Swannington have won the Competition Award for the last few years and it would be amazing if we could once again reclaim the the Crown.

Make the most of the holidays and lose yourself in a book!

Looking Ahead...

Next term promises to be full of exciting opportunities for all our children and we are looking forward to delivering our new curriculum to them.

We are also excited to welcome our new EYFS children who will be joining us in the Autumn term as well as our new members of staff ... Mrs Hall will be joining us as our Year 2 teacher and Miss Spiby and Mrs Hutchinson will be joining us to provide classroom support.

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.*