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16<sup>th</sup> July 2020

## PARENTS' NEWSLETTER

Dear Parent/Carer

Well, the year 2020 has been like no other we have had before. This year, we have all learned new skills and encountered obstacles and challenges that we only ever thought were possible in our dreams – or should we say our nightmares! We want to say a big “thank you” to all the children and parents who have worked with us over this very challenging time to support the home learning; we would also like to say a big “thank you” to all our staff for the tireless work they have put in to ensure this was available for the children.

It is traditional at this time of year for us to celebrate the many successes that have taken place over the previous months. Obviously, this year we are unable to do this as many of the things that we would normally like to celebrate, have not taken place. We feel sad that this is the case and, wherever possible, we look to make up for some of these by either postponing them until later in the year or adapting how they may take place.

It is also at this time that we would be able to share with you the achievements of the children who would have undertaken their statutory assessments. It is a bittersweet moment for those children, their families and teachers. Lots of hard work and preparation had gone into being able to undertake the assessments and the children have missed their opportunity to show this in the form of a grade at the end. However, what we want the children to know is that we have been incredibly proud of how committed they were to ensuring that they were ready to undertake their assessments and we feel certain that they would have done incredibly well.

We also like to give you an update as to staffing and any changes that will be taking place from September:

- We are delighted to be welcoming Mrs Cooper back from her maternity leave; she will be sharing her teaching commitment in Year 5, working four days, with Miss Spizer working the fifth day.
- You will already be aware that, from September, Mrs Patrick will take up the role of Deputy Head Teacher. She will continue to teach in Year 3 but will be joined by Mrs McCallum. This will allow Mrs Patrick to undertake more leadership duties, supporting Miss Stephenson in her new role as Head Teacher.
- It is with a degree of sadness but also happiness that we inform you that both Mrs Gill and Mrs Bell will be retiring at the end of this academic year.  
Mrs Gill has worked at Swanland Primary School since joining in April of 1998 and after 22 years with us she will be greatly missed. We thank her for all the dedication that she has shown to the children and the school over the years that she has worked here.  
Mrs Bell joined the school in April of 2005; again, having been with the school for 15 years she will be very much missed by all those she has worked with. Again, many thanks go to Mrs Bell for all her hard work and support.

We are sure that you will join us in wishing them both lots of happiness and we hope that they will enjoy a relaxing time with their families and friends.

- Finally, you are also already aware that from September 2020, Miss Stephenson will assume the role of Head Teacher at Swanland School. This is owing to Mr Huscroft relinquishing his role as Executive Head Teacher, to fully devote his time to his role as CEO of Swanland Education Trust. We would both like to thank you for the support that you have offered us in our current roles and we look forward to working with you in our new roles from September.



#### Stay Alert Over The Summer!

Please remember to stay alert and follow social distancing guidelines. Unless guidance is updated, please refrain from large gatherings over the Summer and keep safe.

#### Transition Day – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Please remember, Years 1–6 will need to wear school uniform on our Transition Day and we ask that Year 7 children wear dark trousers and come with either their leavers hoody or another navy sweatshirt for photograph purposes. For those leaving us, they will be able to undertake shirt signing in the afternoon as is the tradition for the last day of term!

Each child needs to bring their own **packed lunch on Transition Day** as there will not be a hot school meal option that day. However, we can offer school packed lunches to those who order before Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> July. Year 3–6 children will be charged £2.40 as usual, whilst KS1 children and children in receipt of Free School Meals support will not be charged. Please fill in the form at <https://forms.gle/LYwmxbXdKBTX3y3v5> for each child in your family, choosing the sandwich option that you require. The school packed lunch includes: a sandwich, a piece of fruit, a biscuit or cake and a yoghurt. If you will be providing your child with a packed lunch from home, you do not need to complete this form. Thank you.

#### After School Clubs and Music Lessons

Until further notice, we will not be holding any after-school extra-curricular clubs. Once we are settled into the new term and with regard to Government guidance, we will amend and update these plans. We will keep you informed as to how musical instrument lessons will be delivered once we have more details.

#### Term Dates 2020–21

Please see, at the link below, the updated term dates for 2020–21, with some changes to the training days as decided by the Swanland Education Trust Trustees for all Trust schools. Please also see the 2021–22 term dates. <https://swanlandeducationtrust.co.uk/swanland-primary-school/parents/term-dates>



#### WWF – Thank you!

Well done to Imogen Brown, Mrs Brown, Daisy Price, Sophie Murphy, Honey Prior and Daisy Ashbee for all your hard work organising a cake sale – you raised an amazing £217.58! The WWF truly appreciate your hard work and efforts, especially at this very difficult time. Please see the certificate from the WWF sent out with this newsletter.

#### Flyers on the School Website

Community flyers added to the school website this week are listed below. Please follow the link:

<https://swanlandeducationtrust.co.uk/swanland-primary-school/parents/out-of-school-events>

- The Swanland Heritage Centre challenges you with a “History of the School” Quiz (under ‘Out of School Activities’ tab)



**Vacancy: Teaching Assistant Level 1 (Maternity Cover) – DEADLINE: Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July**

We currently have a maternity cover, part-time vacancy for a Teaching Assistant at Swanland Primary School (part of Swanland Education Trust). This is a Level 1 post and would be suitable for those with a Level 1 Teaching Assistant's qualification or equivalent. The times are: Monday to Friday 8.45am–11.45 am and 12.30pm–3.30pm (term-time only). The vacancy involves working in the Early Years Foundation Stage. Previous experience of working with Early Years children would be preferred.

If you, or anyone you know, is/are interested in this vacancy, please see further details on our website at: <https://swanlandeducationtrust.co.uk/vacancies/swanland-primary-school>

Dates  
for your

**Summer Term 2020 Diary**

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July – School Closes for Summer Holidays (3.30 pm)



**Autumn Term 2020 Diary (→ [New Diary Item](#))**

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September – School Re-opens for Transition Day (8.50 am)

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September – School Officially Re-opens for Autumn Term 2020–2021 (8.50 am)

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September – Children's Individual Photographs (all day)

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September – Family Photographs (after school)

→ Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – School Closes for October Half-Term Holiday (3.30 pm)

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – School Re-opens After October Half-Term Holiday (8.50 am)

**And Finally ...**

We both hope you all, children and parents, have a well-earned, relaxing summer holiday period over the next seven weeks! We very much look forward to welcoming all the children back to school in September and, although things will still be a little different as we continue to implement Government guidelines to help stop the spread of Coronavirus, we do look forward to an enjoyable and successful Autumn Term with the children. We have missed you all!

Thank you for your continued support, now and into the future.

Yours sincerely

Chris Huscroft  
Executive Head Teacher

Hannah Stephenson  
Head of School