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27<sup>th</sup> September 2018

## RECEPTION NEWSLETTER

Dear Parent/Carer (Reception)

### An Invitation to Join Us

We feel that it is very important that our parents are kept informed about what we are doing at school. We truly value the partnership between school and home, so after the half-term break we would like to invite parents/carers to share our classroom practice. By joining us you will be able to experience what it is like for your child at school. Throughout the year we would like to ask two parents at a time from each class to join us on a Monday morning, when you would work with different groups of children to complete a range of planned activities. If you would like to take part, please speak to the class teacher to organise a date.

### Autumn Term

Our Phonics programme is our main focus as we continue through the Autumn Term. In addition to this, we will be looking at how the seasons change and thinking about traditional celebrations like Bonfire Night and Diwali. Our topics will include 'I am Special', 'Special Times' and 'Special Places'.

### Reception Activities up to Christmas 2018

#### Harvest Festival

On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October we will be visiting a local church to celebrate Harvest Festival. The children have already been asked to bring in a voluntary donation of tinned or packaged food for a local charity. We will spend time around Harvest thinking about Healthy Eating and Autumn.

#### Hull Fair Activities

During the Week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> October we will be thinking about Hull Fair. We use this topic to look at contrasting environments and will spend a day discussing and creating fair-themed activities. If you have any photographs of your child at a fair or theme park, please pop one on Tapestry for us to share with the class.

#### Nativity Play

It will soon be that magical time when the children are starting to prepare and learn songs for our Nativity play. Some children will be given speaking parts and it is important that they practise saying these in loud clear voices. All of the children will dress up for the performance and you will be informed after our half term break which part your child will play. We will then ask you to prepare a suitable costume which will need to be in school **by Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December** (please consult staff nearer the time if we can be of any assistance). We are very excited to show you our fabulous Christmas performance and hope that you are able to come and watch! The Nativity performance dates are **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 10am and Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 10 am**. A letter regarding ticket sales will be sent out in November.

### Phonics

In December we “pause” our Phonics programme for most children so that they have the opportunity to consolidate their knowledge by applying and using the sounds learnt so far. We will resume phase three of the Phonics programme in January.

### Christmas Activities

On Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 2.15 pm, we will be inviting parents/carers or grandparents to come into class to see our classroom in action and to participate in some Christmas crafts with their children. (Unfortunately, we will have a limit of one adult per child owing to Health and Safety restrictions).

We will also be visiting Santa’s grotto at Cottingham Garden Centre as part of our literacy focus on letter writing. A letter to confirm dates will be sent nearer the time. All the children will have breakfast with Santa and receive a special present from him.

### The Key Stage 1 Christmas Party

The Christmas party will be on the afternoon of Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

Letters will be going out to you nearer the time to confirm all of the above details.

### Reminder – Newsletters are sent via email

School newsletters are sent *via email* to the email address given to us for your *first emergency contact*. They are sent out every Thursday afternoon. Please check that you have received your emails today and every Thursday evening. If the newsletters have not arrived via email, or you have not yet provided an email address, please contact the school office and we will check that our records are correct. Copies of newsletters are also available on the school website:

(<http://swanlandeducationtrust.co.uk/swanland-primary-school/parents/school-letters>).

Please keep the school office updated with any changes to your email address. Thank you.

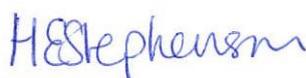
We use a system called ParentMail to send emails (and texts). With this system you can use a free mobile app on Android and iOS to pick up school messages instantly. Once registered with ParentMail, if you have an Android or Apple smartphone, we would encourage you to download the **ParentMail App** for the best user experience. To do this, simply search for “ParentMail” or “Swanland Primary School” in your App store. Using the ParentMail App will also save the school money, as all messages (unlike texts) will be sent free of charge from the school.

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

Yours sincerely



Chris Huscroft  
Executive Head Teacher



Hannah Stephenson  
Head of School

On behalf of the Reception Team