

The Swanmead Pen

Parents' Newsletter – Spring Term 2.1

DATE: Thursday 18th January 2018

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back and, although a little late in the month to say it, a Happy New Year to all our parents, carers and members of the school community!

A few things to draw your attention to as we enter the Winter months; firstly, and in terms of the weather, please see below the required information for school closure due to severe weather conditions. This is always an extremely rare occurrence but with the air getting colder, I felt it important to let you know the procedure. Secondly, in relation to the weather, a suggestion that your child, if not doing so already, brings a coat along to school to wear at breaktimes, lunchtimes and on their way to and from school.

Severe Weather Conditions – School Closures

Should the weather forecast tell us that we might be expecting some colder weather we will always endeavour to ensure that the school is open if it is safe to do so. If you suspect that there could be the potential that the school might be closed then I remind parents of the different options there are to check:

- a) Notices to be placed on the school website – www.swanmeadschool.co.uk and on the front door of the school.
- b) The following radio stations will pick up school closures for broadcast/publication on their website:
 - BBC – Somerset Sound. 95.5 FM, 1566 MHz
 - Heart FM. 102.6 FM, 97.1 FM (Yeovil Area), 96.5 FM (Taunton Area)
 - Breeze FM. 100.8 FM, 102.4 FM, or 107.4 FM
 - Tone FM 107.8 FM (Taunton & surrounding areas)

Also this time, a huge thank you to our Year 6 Parents for your attendance at the Parents' Evening on Tuesday. It was the busiest I've seen the Hall for a long time and I thank you for your support to our wonderful Year 6s in this really important year for them. Do continue to assist, question and challenge them with their Reading, Writing and Maths work at home. The dates for the Parents' Evenings of other year groups are detailed below.

Until next time, keep warm!

Mark Walker
Headteacher

Success Shield Winners

Congratulations to the following pupils for winning the Success Shield for the second half of the Autumn term for their year group. This award is made each half-term to a pupil in each year group who makes significant progress:

- Year 5: Maya Clements
- Year 6: Martha Godfrey
- Year 7: Noah Tolman
- Year 8: William Wright



Recognition of Excellence

- Freya Davis – English
- Izzy Parsons – English
- Sydney Loveless – English
- Arthur Lewis – English
- Evelyn Sumption-Smith – English

Recognition of Effort

Harry Bristow - English

Numeracy Ninjas – Grand Master (3 x Black Belts)

Kai Nakayama Harrison Reeve Emma Purdey

Year 7 Physical Education

Frankie King, a Year 7 student has done exceptionally well with regards to the Golden Mile. The Golden Mile was introduced into PE lessons with a view to improving fitness. The task is to run as many 100 meter laps in 4 minutes (average Year 7 child will be on 6/7/8 laps). Frankie, began recording 8/9 laps at the beginning of the term; in the last lesson of the Autumn term Frankie achieved a magnificent 12 laps in four minutes (averaging 100m every 20 seconds for 12 laps).

A very big well-done Frankie, keep going in 2018.



Money in a sealed envelope

With money for trips, uniform etc. please can we ask that all money comes into school **in a sealed envelope** with details about what the money is for on the front.

Reminder of the dates for the Parents' Evenings – 4.00 p.m. – 7.00 p.m.

- Year 8 Wednesday, 7th March 2018
- Year 7 Wednesday, 21st March 2018
- Year 5 Wednesday, 25th April 2018

A reminder - Attendance Notices

- 1. Reminder regarding Sickness** - Please can I remind parents that should their child be away from school due to sickness or diarrhoea the child should be kept off school until they are clear of symptoms for 48 hours.
- 2. PUPIL ABSENCE NUMBER:**
07518 393118

A text message or voicemail can be left at any time but MUST be left before 9 a.m. on the first day of absence. If you prefer to send an email regarding your child's absence then please send this to DEHarvey@educ.somerset.gov.uk before 9 a.m. on the first day of absence.

Sports' News - Sporting Fixtures booked for this term

Monday, 29th January – Cross Country at King's College, Taunton 3.15 p.m. - 4.45 p.m.
Tuesday, 30th January - Year 8 Football Match at Westfield, Yeovil –2.40 p.m. - 5.15 p.m.
Thursday, 1st February - U13 Chance to Shine Cricket Competition at The Castle School, Taunton - 12.05 p.m. - 5.45 p.m.
Monday, 19th February – Year 7/8 Cross Country at King's College, Taunton - Time tbc
Wednesday, 21st February - Year 7/8 Netball v Holyrood at Swanmead - 3.30 p.m.
Thursday, 22nd February - Year 5/6 Hockey Tournament at Holyrood 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Monday, 26th February – Year 5/6 Cross Country at King's College, Taunton - 3.15 p.m. - 4.45 p.m.
Monday, 12th March - Year 5/6 Netball at Westfield School, Yeovil – 1.00 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Friday, 23rd March - Year 5/6 Orchard Gymnastics – 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Diary Dates

JANUARY 2018

25 th	Thursday	5.30 p.m.	Meeting of The Governing Body – Room 5
31 st	Wednesday	6.00 p.m.	Ilminster Rotary Youth Speaks Competition

FEBRUARY 2018

5 th	Monday		Year 6 - Cardiff Trip
6 th	Tuesday		Year 6 - Cardiff Trip
7 th	Wednesday		Year 6 - Cardiff Trip
8 th	Thursday		Final Day of Half Term for pupils
9 th	Friday		INSET – S4S6 Common Inset Day

Half Term – Monday, 12th February 2018 – Friday, 16th February 2018

21 st	Wednesday	5.30 p.m.	Meeting of The Governing Body – Room 5
27 th	Tuesday	6.45 p.m.	SCOFF Meeting – Room 5

MARCH 2018

7 th	Wednesday	4 p.m. – 7 p.m.	Year 8 Parents' Evening
8 th	Thursday	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Ilminster Rotary Chef Competition
21 st	Wednesday	4 p.m. – 7 p.m.	Year 7 Parents' Evening
22 nd	Thursday	5.30 p.m.	Meeting of The Governing Body – Room 5
23 rd	Friday		Final day of Term

SYDNEY'S VALENTINE DANCE

**Social Dancing including
Ballroom, Sequence, Latin & Old Tyme**

LIVE MUSIC by RAY DENNING

Ilminster Parish Hall

Friday 9th February 2018

7.30 to 11.00pm

TICKETS: £5.00 (to include tea, coffee & biscuits)

from HARRIMANS MENSWEAR

or on the door.

**All proceeds to the
Warehouse Theatre Expansion Appeal**