

The Swanmead Pen

Parents' Newsletter – Spring Term 2.2

DATE: Thursday 8th February 2018

Swanmead Community School
Ditton Street
Ilminster
Somerset
TA19 0BL

Headteacher: Mr Mark Walker



Telephone: 01460 52431
Facsimile : 01460 55305

e-mail:
Swanmead@educ.somerset.gov.uk

Web Address:
www.swanmeadschool.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers

Blink and you'd have missed it! So we come to the end of a lightning quick half term and I am delighted to tell you all about the many positives that have happened over recent weeks.

Team Swanmead storm to Youth Speaks win!

Last Wednesday night, Swanmead were crowned winners of the annual Ilminster Rotary Youth Speaks Competition. Our Year 6s battled it out with local schools from Combe St Nicholas, Hambridge, Neroche and Curry Mallet. Swanmead's dreamteam of Noah Baker (Chairperson), Harrison Reeve (Speaker) and Joseph Baker (Proposer of thanks) discussed the area of 'The Real Cost of Paying to Watch Professional Sport.' Noah set the scene with a clear, professional address to attract the attention of all present before a word-perfect speech from Harrison amazed the judges on the team's chosen topic. Joseph, who was later named the evening's best boy speaker, then concluded the team's time on the stage with a staggeringly 'intellectual and jaw dropping' proposal of thanks.



The team were announced deservedly as overall winners. A fabulous achievement for all these children who were very much supported by team members Jasper Lefevre, Joel Francis and Emma Purdey (not pictured). Thanks also go to Mr Whitfield and Miss Kirk for all their hard work in the lead up to this prestigious competition.

Staffing News



After over ten years of dedication to our school, it is with sadness that we say our goodbyes to Mrs Donkersley today. As a Teacher of English, Mrs Donkersley has worked tirelessly for the school committing herself to high quality lessons and playing a full part in all aspects of Swanmead life. Many former pupils to the school will often refer to Mrs Donkersley as the inspiration towards them being successful in GCSE and in choosing to do English Language or English Literature at A Level. Mrs Donkersley leaves us to pursue other ventures and to spend time with her husband and young family. We thank her hugely for all she has done and achieved during her time at Swanmead.

Following the half term break, the school looks forward to welcoming back Mrs Perkins after her maternity leave. Swanmead will also welcome Mrs Liz Baker, an experienced Middle School Teacher of English. Between Mrs Perkins and Mrs Baker, the following lessons will be covered;

Mrs Perkins: 6S English (x 2 lessons), 8S English (x1 lesson), Tutor Group Duties for 6CH on Thursdays

Mrs Baker: 6S English (x 4 lessons), 8S English (x 2 lessons), 8W English (x 3 lessons)

We are lucky to have two such experienced teachers and look forward to seeing them after half term.

Parents' Evenings

Get ready to sign up for Parents' Evenings, with the Year 7 and Year 8 events occurring following the half term;

Year 8 – Wednesday 7th March

Year 7 – Wednesday 21st March

The Year 5 event will take place following the Easter Holiday break.

Finally, a reminder that our last day of this half term is today (Thursday 8th February). The school will be closed on Friday as all teachers go to attend the Somerset Middle Schools' Conference being held at Maiden Beech Academy. This will be the third time, following on from the success of the last two years, where every Middle Schools' teacher in the County will be under the same roof. We hope for a productive day together in order to talk about all things Middle School.

Enjoy a good half term and we look forward to welcoming your children back on Monday 19th February.

**Mark Walker
Headteacher**

Noah leads the way for The Glovers

It would be difficult to have not been aware that our very own Yeovil Town played the mighty Manchester United a week or two ago. Drawn against The Reds for the fourth round of the FA Cup, Huish Park was packed for a memorable night of football action. Despite the result not quite being on the side of Yeovil Town, the night will always be remembered by Year 6 pupil Noah Baker. Noah and his younger brother were proud to be two of the mascots for The Glovers on that incredible evening and I am pleased to show you some of his photographs. These include the moment he shook the hand of Alexis Sanchez (£35 million!), 'hanging out' with Manchester United Manager Jose Mourinho and leading the team out with defender Omar Sowunmi.



Recognition of Excellence	Recognition of Effort															
<p align="center"><u>Textiles – Christmas Baubles</u></p> <p align="center">Charlotte Pritchard Emily Truong Willow Mallabar Amelia Francis Molly Conway</p>	<p align="center"><u>Textiles – Christmas Baubles</u></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Eliza Teague-Thomas</td> <td>Charlotte Wellman</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Emily Pearson</td> <td>Braxton Perry</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shayla Male</td> <td>Jennifer Pearson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tristan Farley</td> <td>Holly Lewis</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Connor Clapp</td> <td>Evie Lee</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sophie England</td> <td>Jessica Dobbs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jackson Dabanka</td> <td>Aurora Connett</td> </tr> </table>		Eliza Teague-Thomas	Charlotte Wellman	Emily Pearson	Braxton Perry	Shayla Male	Jennifer Pearson	Tristan Farley	Holly Lewis	Connor Clapp	Evie Lee	Sophie England	Jessica Dobbs	Jackson Dabanka	Aurora Connett
Eliza Teague-Thomas	Charlotte Wellman															
Emily Pearson	Braxton Perry															
Shayla Male	Jennifer Pearson															
Tristan Farley	Holly Lewis															
Connor Clapp	Evie Lee															
Sophie England	Jessica Dobbs															
Jackson Dabanka	Aurora Connett															
Accelerated Reader Certificates																
<p>Platinum Award</p> <p>Millie Golder Caitlin Parsons Caelan Urquhart Noah Baker Kathryn Owens Nancy Patisson</p>																
<p>Gold Award</p> <p>Tristan Farley Kai Nakayama Heulwen Simpson Clara Skeels Ryan Broome Hugo Cemas-Turner Emilee-Jade Phippen Jack Belobaba Gracie Bourne Maya Clements Frankie King Gracie Plant Charlton Bowery Harley Collins</p>																
<p>Silver Award</p> <p>Ellie Ash Annie Ashdown Joseph Baker Jack Belobaba Charlton Bowery Harley Collins Jack Dobbs Rebecca England Ethan Hughes-Humphries Frankie King William Lune Nicola Nosek William Purton Amelia Smith Kaitlynn Thomas-Day Molly Conway Emma Purdey Aurora Connett Summer Stoodley Grace White</p>																
<p>Bronze Award</p> <p>Sophie Dwyer Fraser Henderson Ciaran McKenzie Hector Montague Finn Moran Charlie Newbury Alexander Park Layla Pike Kai Taylor Lilly De’Ath Katherine Bolland Bobby Forrest Rowena Mallabar Marcus Perks Fenton Perry Marcus Watts Jack Winchester-Hine Jemma Arnold Lexi Knowles Jasper Lefeuvre Jaike Neale William Wright</p>																
Numeracy Ninjas																
<p>Numeracy Ninjas – Grand Master – Touch Pen Prize (18 x Black Belts)</p> <p>Caitlin Parsons Lily Broom</p>																
<p>Numeracy Ninjas – Grand Master – Ruler Prize (13 x Black Belts)</p> <p>Aurora Connett</p>																
<p>Numeracy Ninjas – Grand Master – Pencil Prize (8 x Black Belts)</p> <p>Joseph Baker Emma Wheeler Charlie Lefeuvre Evie Lee Leyla Tunç Dominic Mason Robert Lock</p>																
<p>Numeracy Ninjas – Grand Master - (3 x Black Belts)</p> <p>Amelia Smith Jess Ward Frankie King Thea Henderson Drew White Toby Ward Nancy Patisson Emma Purdey Laura Miller Harrison Reeve Kai Nakayama</p>																
<p>Numeracy Ninjas – Black Belt</p> <p>Jamie Winchester-Hine Gracie Plant Jenny Pearson Flora Godfrey Aimee Bird Joseph Gray</p>																

Athletics Success for Jasper

I'm delighted to tell parents about the superb success Year 6 pupil Jasper Clements has enjoyed whilst competing in the Regional Finals of the UK Indoor Athletics Championships. The keen athlete put his talents against over 400 athletes from all over the South West in a range of indoor jumping, running and throwing events. Jasper is proudly pictured with his t-shirt, medal and certificate after coming in the top 100 and achieving several personal bests in the individual events. Very well done Jasper!



A Haircut for good causes!



For two and a half years we've been used to the long flowing locks of Natasha Paramore in Year 7. However, shortly into 2018, Natasha took the decision to have a 'serious cut' (her words!) and did it for a good cause. The Little Princess Trust provides real hair wigs to children and young adults up to the age of 24 who have sadly lost their own hair due to cancer treatment and other illnesses. Inspired by the charity, Natasha donated several long inches of her hair to Little Princess in the hope that it will be used to support others. How fantastic and we love your new haircut!

Diary Dates

FEBRUARY 2018

8th Thursday
9th Friday

Final Day of Half Term for pupils

INSET – S4S6 Common Inset Day

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

22nd Thursday 5.30 p.m. Meeting of The Governing Body – Room 5
27th Tuesday 6.45 p.m. SCOFF Meeting – Room 5

MARCH 2018

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

Sign Up for the next Yeovil Town game!

At the end of this newsletter is the next opportunity to purchase tickets through the school for Yeovil Town home games. Next on the list is the home game on Saturday 10th March when The Glovers take on Newport County. Buy your tickets through us (Wednesday, 7th March is the deadline) and help the club support the school and vice versa. Details at the end of the newsletter.

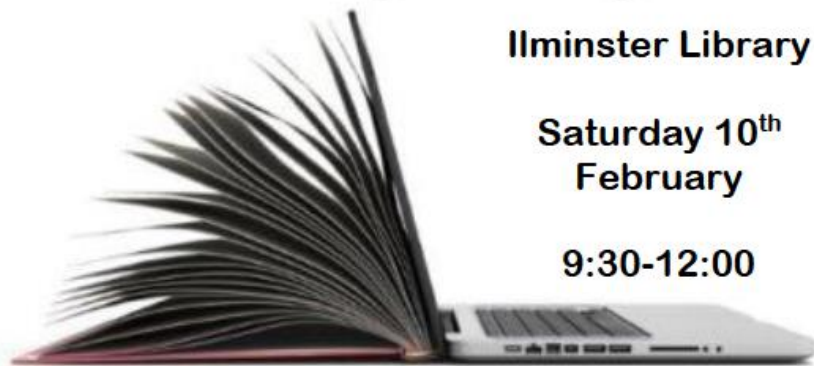
Somerset Library Services Consultation 2018

Have your say...

Ilminster Library

Saturday 10th
February

9:30-12:00



From 29 January to 22 April

Proposals are now available to view on potential changes to how future Somerset library services could be delivered

Ask library staff or go online
for more information

www.somerset.gov.uk/librariesconsultation

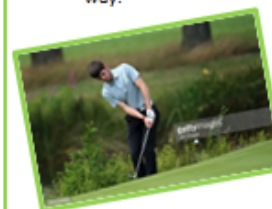


Junior Coaching Week

Come and join us for an exciting week of golf.

Half Term Coaching at Cricket St Thomas is a great way for children to get involved in golf, learning many aspects of the game with other children at a similar level. We aim to make the experience fun without over-coaching the children. We actively encourage everyone to enjoy golf through fun activities, humour and praise, to increase their confidence whilst in a safe environment. We deliberately keep group sizes to a maximum of 8 to ensure each Junior golfer receives plenty of individual attention.

During the week we will be looking at different parts of the golf game such as, Driving, Iron Play, Chipping and Putting. Everyone is welcome and our aim is to make sure the children leave us loving golf, and have improved their golfing skills and met new friends along the way.



Dates & Times

12th February – 16th February

Morning Session – 9am – 11am

Ages 5-10

Afternoon Session – 12pm – 2pm

Ages 11-16

Course cost - £50 for per junior for the week



If you would like any further information on the Junior Week or to reserve a place then call 01460 30231 – EXT 1 for Pro shop

Email – proshop@cricketstthomasgolfclub.co.uk

www.cricketstthomasgolfclub.co.uk



TICKETS for SCHOOLS

SKYBET EFL LEAGUE TWO

YEOVIL TOWN V NEWPORT COUNTY

SATURDAY 10TH MARCH 3PM

Bring your family to Yeovil Town this season and you'll be supporting both the Glovers and your child's school with Yeovil Town's 'Tickets for schools'

Take advantage of incredible discounts on match tickets to selected Yeovil Town fixtures and the club will donate £5 of every Adult ticket and £2 for every Junior ticket back to your school.

Simply complete and return the bottom section of this form along with payment to SWANMEAD SCHOOL by no later than Wednesday 7th March.

MATCH TICKETS ORDERED THROUGH YOUR SCHOOL WILL BE AVAILABLE TO COLLECT ON THE DAY OF THE FIXTURE FROM THE WHITE COLLECTION BOOTH LOCATED IN FRONT OF THE TICKET OFFICE AT HUISH PARK.

For directions to Huish Park, Stadium Map and further information about attending Yeovil Town fixtures please visit www.ytfc.net. For all enquiries please call 01935 847 888



SKYBET EFL LEAGUE TWO

YEOVIL TOWN V NEWPORT COUNTY

SATURDAY 10TH MARCH 2018 3PM



YOUR DETAILS

PUPIL NAME		PARENT/ GAURDIAN	
ADDRESS			
POSTCODE		TELEPHONE	
EMAIL			

TICKETS	AMOUNT	TOTAL
ADULTS - £15 PER TICKET (£5 per ticket donated to your school)		£
JUNIOR - £5 PER TICKET (£2 per ticket donated to your school)		£
TOTAL		£

*If you require a Wheelchair bay or have anyone in your party have any special requirements please call the Ticket office on 01935 847 888 to order your tickets directly. Please inform us of the school you are attending with when ordering.

Supporting the Glovers and your school