

The Swanmead Pen

Parents' Newsletter – Autumn Term 1.3

DATE: Thursday 25th October 2018

Swanmead Community School
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Dear Parents and Carers

We come successfully to the end of a busy first half term and I would like to thank everyone for all their help and support in aiding the school get off to an excellent start during the last eight weeks. It has certainly been a long half term to start the academic year!

A huge thank you to all our children, staff and community members for the role they played in our recent Open Day/Open Evening. It was all pretty quiet during the day but the evening saw over 300 children and families through the door. Some were parents of our current children, here for a look around but most were new local families coming to experience Swanmead for the first time. Over 120 of our children came back in the evening to act as ambassadors for the school and talk to new families about their work – they did, as they always do, an incredible job.

Within this newsletter, I have included various other celebrations, achievements and news from the last few weeks. This includes the award winners for Numeracy Ninjas as well as a sports round up of recent fixtures. Also, news of the Year 5 trip to Osmington Bay with some great pictures from their time away.

Next some staff news. It is with sadness we say our goodbyes to Mrs Farmer at the end of this half term. Mrs Farmer has been a Learning Support Assistant in Ilminster for fifteen years, initially at Greenfyld and, for the past two years, with us here at Swanmead. A kind, caring, inspirational staff member to both our children and fellow colleagues. We wish Jane our very best wishes and thanks for all she has contributed to Swanmead and the Ilminster community.

Finally, you will have received an email inviting you to our '**Come along and see your child's books**' event that will occur on **Tuesday 13th November** between 3.45 p.m. and 5.45 p.m. Do make sure you put that event in your diaries and please do come and join us.

Wishing everybody a pleasant half term break with your children.

A reminder that we return on **Tuesday 6th November**.

Mark Walker
Headteacher

Numeracy Ninjas

Numeracy Ninjas – Grand Master - (3 x Black Belts)

Connor Swain Anya Briggs Amelia Smith Emma Purdey Charlton Bowery Rees Brunt
Sam Holyday Riley Woodard Nancy Pattison Noah Baker Rebecca England
Joseph Sainsbury Harrison Reeve Kai Nakayama Isabelle Lawrence Annie Ashdown
Jessica Ward Leyla Tunç Belle Miller Thomas Dunn Ethan Heppell

Numeracy Ninjas – Black Belt

Noah Baker George Conway Rebecca England Joseph Sainsbury Jasper Clements
Jasper Lefevre Charlton Bowery Rees Brunt Ryan Collins Jack Dobbs
Jacob Grindrod Charlie Herrick Sam Holyday Ethan Hughes-Humphries Alex Park Oscar Poole
William Rees Thomas Sainsbury Riley Woodard

30 Years for Mrs Kivett!

Last week the school marked the achievement of a very special person in our school community. Ann Kivett began work at Swanmead on October 19th 1988. Last Friday saw her celebrate 30 years at the School, an unbelievable feat!

In assembly children presented Ann with a card, flowers and a bottle of fizz to the loudest round of applause in the School Hall that I can remember for quite a while!

Back in 1988, Ann began her time at Swanmead copying up notes on a typewriter for the school governors before moving into the role of School Secretary, Personal Assistant to the Headteacher and Clerk to Governors. Ann's dedication to the school is unrivalled; spending hours of extra time making sure that the school runs smoothly and always with that familiar, friendly voice at the end of the telephone and smile for our visitors to be greeted with on arrival to the school.

We are all incredibly proud of Ann's achievement and congratulate her on all she has done during three fantastic decades at Swanmead.

Key Events of 1988

- Margaret Thatcher was Prime Minister of the UK
- Scott and Charlene got married on 'Neighbours!'
- The biggest selling single of the year was 'Mistletoe and Wine' by Cliff Richard
- Edwina Currie caused a nationwide stir by stating that eggs were infected with Salmonella
- 'This Morning' with Richard and Judy started on our TV screens
- The most successful film of the year was 'Big' starring Tom Hanks
- Mr Walker finished Primary School and was about to begin Dinnington Comprehensive School
- Mr Whitfield, Miss Cox and Miss Kelly were years away from being born!



Osmington Bay

I was delighted to join our Year 5 pupils briefly last week in a three day residential at Osmington Bay on the Dorset coast. A fun and action packed few days occurred and here are some highlights from their time away.



Sports' News

Monday 24th September

Cross-Country Relay Race at Kings College

Well done to Rees Brunt, Thomas Sainsbury, Charlton Bowery and Harry Bowery who took part in the Cross-Country relay event this half term at Kings College. Rees and Thomas formed one team and brothers Charlton and Harry formed the other. Teams could have consisted of three members so this meant with our teams only having two members each both Thomas and Harry ran 1800m instead of 900m! A great effort meaning we ended up finishing 10th and 19th out of 42 teams. The next event is on November 11th where we hope to enter more teams!



Wednesday 10th October

U13 Girls Cricket v Holyrood

Well done to the following pupils; Summer Stoodley, Kayla Winter, Maddie Perry, Emma Purdey, Nancy Pattison, Belle Miller, Grace White and Amelia Smith, who took part in an indoor cricket match against Holyrood with many of them playing their first ever game. Despite the loss there were great performances by everyone in batting, bowling and fielding with great improvement shown throughout the match.



Thursday 18th October

U13 Girls Football v Holyrood.

Well done to the girls who played Holyrood in their first football match. The game ended 6-2 to Holyrood with our goals scored by Emma Purdey and Kayla Winter. There was good goalkeeping from Amelia Smith and Alice Gibbins who did half a match each as GK. The girls all gave 100% and kept going to the end. Team: Meadow Tolman, Izzy Lawrence, Lilly De'Ath, Caitlin Parsons, Alice Gibbins, Amy Cox, Izzy Fowler, Emma Purdey, Kayla Winter, Amelia Smith, Grace White, Leyla Tunç.

Sean's Day as Mascot

Year 6 pupil Sean Timson enjoyed a superb day out at the end of September as mascot to Yeovil Town Football Club. Specially selected, Sean carried out the match ball for the Glovers' League Division Two clash with MK Dons at Huish Park. Sean had the chance to meet players and Manager, friend of the school, Darren Way before and after the game. The match ended 1-1. Congratulations Sean on your day out with Yeovil Town – good to see the linesman was keeping a close eye on you!



Student Councillors announced!

Our Student Council has been announced with pupils from all four year groups making up the crucial pupil voice of our school. In an assembly on Wednesday, the councillors outlined their plan and vision for the school year. I look forward to hearing their views and working alongside them as key leaders for our school.



Don't forget help raise funds for Swanmead Community School - Ilminster whenever you shop online!

Use easyfundraising to shop with over 3,300 big name retailers including Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, and Booking.com – and when you shop, you'll raise a free donation for us every time. It's that easy!

Help support us: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/swanmeadschool/>

Diary Dates

Half term Monday 29th October 2018 – Friday, 2nd November

November 2018

5 th	Monday		INSET Day – School closed to pupils
12 th	Monday		PSHE Focus Day
13 th	Tuesday	3.45 p.m. – 5.45 p.m.	'Come and see your child's books' event –.
20 th	Tuesday	6.45 p.m.	SCOFF Meeting – Room 5
22 nd	Thursday	5.30 p.m.	Meeting of The Governing Body – Room 5

December 2018

18 th	Tuesday	3.45 p.m.	Staff Meeting – Middle Leaders
		7.00 p.m.	Children's Christmas Show
20 th	Thursday	2.30 p.m.	Christmas Service at The Minster
21 st	Friday	a.m.	Pantomime at Yeovil – Aladdin – whole school

Christmas Holidays Monday, 24th December 2018 – Friday, 4th January 2019

ILMINSTER 'FOOD SHARE' & 'FOOD BANK'

'**FOOD SHARE**' is on Saturday mornings, from 10.15-11.15am at the back of 'Sweet Surprise', on Silver Street, Ilminster [use the side-door].

Anyone is welcome to come and take the food, which has been donated by Tesco the night before, because that is its 'Sell by' date, and to avoid waste. What is on offer varies each week.

There are also products available which have been kindly donated by members of the public via the trolley near the check-outs in Tesco [by the Photo-printer].

Come along for a free tea or coffee, company, and a chat: you can come as often as you like!

'**FOOD BANK**' is on Wednesday mornings from 10-12noon, in 'Sweet Surprise' Cafe, on Silver Street, Ilminster. It is also on during the 'FOOD SHARE' sessions, on Saturday mornings, from 10.15-11.15am at the back of 'Sweet Surprise', [use the side-door].

'FOOD BANK' gives you a whole range of foodstuffs and other house-hold essentials, ready bagged-up. The amount depends on whether you live alone, or are part of different sizes of family. It has been kindly donated by Churches in the local area, and other members of the public.

You need a 'referral voucher' to be given 'FOOD BANK' produce: these are obtained from Social Services, Doctors, Head Teachers, Clergy, etc.. Those who operate 'FOOD BANK' and 'FOOD SHARE' can also issue a voucher.

Both 'FOOD SHARE' and 'FOOD BANK' are run by local volunteers: we thank them for doing it. They were started by members of the Minster Church as a way of caring for our community, and they are registered with 'Fare Share', the national organisation.

Any donations are gratefully received: for 'FOOD SHARE' in the trolley at Tesco; for 'FOOD BANK' in the box in the Minster entrance.

Enquiries to: Lydia Munday

01460-54145 or 07713727605

Pop up Food Share Every Saturday 10:15-11:15

At 'Sweet Surprise', Silver Street, Ilminster (*use the side door*). Anyone is welcome to come and take the food, donated by **TESCO** because of its 'Sell by' date, and by kind members of the public. Come along as often as you like, for a free tea or coffee, company, and a chat.

Enquiries to:
Lydia Munday
Tel: 01460 54145
Mobile: 07713 727605

ilminster
a beacon of Christ's light
shining out and drawing in