

The Swanmead Pen

Parents' Newsletter – Autumn Term 1.4 DATE: Wednesday 21st November 2018

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Dear Parents and Carers

Much to tell you about from over the last few weeks in this edition of the Swanmead Pen. Firstly, and somewhat belatedly, welcome back to you all following the half term break (feels like a long time ago now!) but I trust you enjoyed a positive time with your children.

My thanks to all parents for joining us at our 'Come and show your books' evening last Tuesday. Over 120 sets of parents came through the door to see their children's books and it was great to chat with you on the way in and out of school.

Next, my thanks to Ethan and Phoebe Bailey for representing the school at the annual Remembrance Day Service at The Minster. Due to other arrangements, I was unable to go this year so was very grateful to both of them for stepping in at the last minute. The week leading up to the event was well respected at Swanmead with the chance to remember service men and women from around the world who have given the preciousness of life for us at times of war and conflict. We spent time in lessons and during assemblies thinking of them and their families. Ethan and Phoebe were the right people to lay the Swanmead wreath and we thank them for representing the school.



My thanks to parents for coming along to our SCOFF Meeting last night! So pleased that things have reignited with six parents present enabling us to allocate some of the funds to projects around the school. Our next meeting is booked in for Tuesday 22nd January and we hope to now keep this momentum going. The focus for us being the organisation of a Race Night in the Spring Term. SCOFF is so important to the running of our school and we hope to have even more present next time.

Finally, a couple of further pleas. Firstly it's getting really cold! Please make sure that your child comes along to school in a coat so that they can wear it at breaktime and lunchtime. Secondly, and again in the interests of safety, my annual plea for children to please be dropped off and collected from the back of school **not at the front**. Most children walk into school through the front and it is dangerous to have so many cars dropping children off at the front of school. Please drop them at the back in the small car park opposite the entrance to Tesco.

I look forward to writing to you in a couple of weeks.

Mark Walker
Headteacher

Recognition of Effort

Malachi Hall – Descriptive writing in Science

Jake Hampton – Maths

Lucy Jenkins – Maths

Jayden Westcott – Maths

Joshua McCartney – Maths

Keira Tavener – Maths

Reuben Sartin – Maths

Jordan Priddle - Maths

Numeracy Ninjas

Numeracy Ninjas – Grand Master – Ruler Prize (13 x Black Belts)

Alice Gibbins

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

Thomas Sainsbury Rees Brunt Charlton Bowery Sam Holyday Riley Woodard
Ethan Hughes-Humphries Jack Dobbs Jacob Grindrod William Rees Oscar Poole Toby Ward
Drew White Owen Charles Leo Rich Clara Skeels Luke Theobold
Emma Wheeler Jaike Neal Emilee-Jade Phippen Ryan Collins Zoe North
Charlie Herrick Alex Park Layla Pike

Numeracy Ninjas – Black Belt

Ryan Broome Ben Muxworthy Judah Cooke Katie Bolland Drew White
James Howlett Sydney Ingram Ben Hickman Rees Brunt Charlton Bowery
Sam Holyday Ethan Hughes-Humphries Maya Clements Freya Davis
Fraser Henderson Arthur Lewis Sydney Loveless Zoe North Izzy Parsons
Emilee-Jade Phippen Layla Pike Olivia Whinyates Aaron Biscoe Lily Elswood
Frankie King Meadow Tolman Heulwen Simpson Keira Timson

Success Shields

Congratulations to the following pupils for winning the Success Shield for the first 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: **Frances Evers**
Year 6: **Sophie Dwyer**
Year 7: **Elliott O’Nions**
Year 8: **Isabelle Lawrence**



PSHE Day

Yr 5 – Safety; Environment/Community

Yr 6 – Growing Up, Keeping Safe, Peer Pressure

Yr 7 – Celebrating Difference, Prejudice and Discrimination, Racism

Yr 8 – Strategies for Embracing Change; Emotional Health, Yoga, Healthy Diet, Exercise, Exploring Identity

On 12th November, children participated in our first PSHE day. The purpose of the day was to highlight and teach children about issues that affect their personal and social development, and about health issues that permeate our lives.

Children in Year 5 had a visit and talk from a PCSO about road safety and then went on an environmental walk around Herne Hill to learn about how we respect our environment. In the afternoon, the children used art as a medium to express what they had found out earlier in the day.



Year 6 learnt about puberty and how their bodies change and develop as they grow up. They also looked at staying safe, how peer pressure can be a strong influence and how to react to it appropriately.

In Year 7 issues on prejudice and discrimination were studied as well as how we celebrate our differences. The moral "right and wrong" were looked at and children were also shown the legal perspective. Racism was looked at too and children worked on how this manifests itself and how we can address it.

Strategies to embrace change was the theme for Year 8. The children enjoyed sessions in yoga, stamina and exercise and healthy diet. They also gained an insight into emotional health issues and strategies on coping with difficult times.

The children all had an informative day and enjoyed learning about these important themes. We will be having more PSHE days in the future on different themes.

Night out for Year 8

Working hard to give Year 8 the best possible final year at Swanmead, we took our 'senior citizens' for a night out at the bowling alley. What a great evening, with lots of fun. They were a real pleasure to take out for the evening.



Sports' News

Hockey Match against Holyrood

Well done to everyone who took part in the hockey match against Holyrood on 22nd October. It was fantastic to be able to take two teams and despite the results against very strong opposition, the girls represented the school brilliantly.



Lilly De'Ath, Meadow Tolman, Nancy Patisson, Belle Miller, Alice Gibbins, Sydney Ingram, Izzy Fowler, Freya Kent



Maddie Perry, Charlotte Fade, Emma Purdey, Lia Neves, Izzy Lawrence, Grace White, Caitlin Parsons, Lily Elswood, Drew White



Tuesday 6th November 2018

Well done to the U11 boys who ended up coming 9th in the South Somerset Football Finals. In a tough group the boys lost 1 and drew 2 before going on to win the plate semi final and final to end up finishing 9th.

The boys were unlucky not to finish higher, as they drew 0-0 with the eventual overall winners in their group game.

Swanmead's massive thanks to Peter

Peter Ingram has very kindly taken part in a half Iron Man on Sunday 23rd September to raise money for 'Illuminate Swanmead'; our on-going campaign to raise money for *new theatrical lights*.

We are incredibly grateful for the time and effort he has put into this venture. Peter has raised a fantastic £930 with still more money from tutor groups yet to be counted.

Thank you Peter!



