

The Swanmead Pen

Parents' Newsletter – Spring Term 2.2

DATE: Tuesday 12th February 2019

Swanmead Community School
Ditton Street
Ilminster
Somerset
TA19 0BL

Headteacher: Mr Mark Walker



Telephone: 01460 52431

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

Web Address:
www.swanmeadschool.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers

So, once again, the snow arrived in Ilminster! As a Headteacher, it really is quite a difficult call to have to close your school. However, I'd like to thank parents for their support and understanding the Friday before last. I hope it wasn't too inconvenient to you all but, in the interests of the safety of everyone, I think we made the right call.



My appreciation also goes to parents for their attendance at Parents' Evenings over the last few Tuesdays. It was great to see a full hall for the Year 6 event and then again last Tuesday for the Year 8 Parents' Evening – the final one for those children with us. Do get ready to sign up for our Year 7 event on Tuesday 19th March with information going out to you after the half term.

Staffing News

After over five years of dedication to our school, it is with sadness that we said goodbye to Mrs Arnold a couple of weeks ago. As one of our senior LSAs, Mrs Arnold worked tirelessly for the school committing herself to supporting children in their lessons and working closely with countless children around the school assisting them with their problems and concerns. Mrs Arnold has been appointed as the Pastoral Leader at Holy Trinity Primary School in Taunton. This is a great opportunity for her and we thank her hugely for all she has done and achieved during her time at Swanmead. After half term the school will welcome Mrs Emma Bale to the school as our new Learning Support Assistant.



Finally, a reminder that Thursday is the final day of the half term. The school will be closed on Friday as all teachers take part in an INSET training session.

Enjoy a good half term and we look forward to welcoming your children back on Monday 25th February.

Mark Walker
Headteacher

Accelerated Reader Certificates
Platinum Award Kathryn Owens
House Point Certificates
Gold Millie Wilkes
Numeracy Ninjas
Numeracy Ninjas – Grand Master – Protractor Prize (28 x Black Belts) Rees Brunt
Numeracy Ninjas – Grand Master – Pen Prize (23 x Black Belts) Rees Brunt William Rees Thomas Sainsbury Alice Gibbins
Numeracy Ninjas – Grand Master – Ruler Prize (18 x Black Belts) Connor Swain Charlton Bowery Sam Holyday William Rees Thomas Sainsbury Anya Briggs Lily Broom
Numeracy Ninjas – Grand Master – Rubber Prize (13 x Black Belts) Nancy Pattison Lilly De'Ath Ethan Hughes-Humphries Emilee-Jade Phippen Noah Baker
Numeracy Ninjas – Grand Master – Pencil Prize (8 x Black Belts) Thomas Dunn Leyla Tunç Richard Godby Izzy Lawrence Leo Rich Jasper Lefevre Joseph Sainsbury Jaike Neal
Numeracy Ninjas – Grand Master - (3 x Black Belts) Izzy Parsons Ollie Upshall Katie Bolland Maddie Perry
Numeracy Ninjas – Black Belt Riley Bower Mia Riggs Emma Stocks

Sports' News

23rd January 2019

Well done to our Year 7/8 Girls' Netball Teams who played really well against two strong Holyrood Teams and saw us only lose by small margins.

24th January 2019

A mention to our Year 8 Football Team who gave 100% throughout despite the score line against Holyrood in the area cup. A great effort, well done.



28th January 2019

Well done to our year 5/6 Cross Country runners who all performed really well in their race at Kings College. Next half term will be a team race.

29th January 2019

Well done to our U12 Futsal Team who took part in a tournament at Holyrood. The boys won 1 and lost 2 to finish 3rd overall.



Parents, Carers and Members of the Swanmead School Community are invited to attend our SCOFF Race Night on **Friday 29th March**. The event will take place in the Swanmead School Hall and starts at 7.00 p.m.
A Licenced Bar and refreshments will be available.

There will be 8 races with 8 runners in each race. For the first 7 races members of the school community have the option to own and name a race horse for the price of £5.00. The final race of the evening will be an Auction Race where people present on the evening have a chance to bid for the horses. The winning owners for each race will receive a cash return of £20.00.

School will send out more information after half term and we encourage the whole school community to get involved and help us achieve our target of £1000 raised for the school on the night.

Help us support the school in supporting **your** children.

The SCOFF Team



**Swanmead Community of Families
and Friends**

invite the School Community to a

Family Race Night



Licensed Bar
Refreshments

Date: Friday 29th March 2019

Time: 7.00 p.m.

Venue: Swanmead School Hall

Admission: Free

Tote: 50p to win betting stake



Raising money for the pupils of Swanmead

Arts Award Trip to London



Twenty pupils who have been taking part in the accredited Arts Award qualification, visited London for an overnight stay at the Travelodge, on 31st January with Miss Ingram and Mr Raven. Pupils visited the British Museum, Covent Garden, watched Matilda at the Cambridge Theatre, experienced a professional vocal and pianist recital at St James' Church in Piccadilly and took part in a Stage Combat workshop at the infamous Pineapple Studios.

Asking the pupils regarding their particular highlights of the trip, many responded with the 'all you can eat' Pizza Hut buffet and the never ending English breakfast. Matilda impressed us all with the outstanding backdrops and effects; particularly the moving desks. Many of the pupils also commented on the cast, who they thought were exceptional; the performance clearly left a lasting impression with our Arts Award students.

The pupils were an absolute credit to the school with many people in London



commenting on their excellent manners and thought for others - they were an absolute delight to take on a school trip. We look forward to seeing what they will create in their Arts Award scrapbooks about their various experiences.



Diary Dates

February 2019

14th Thursday 5.30 p.m. Meeting of The Governing Body – Room 5

15th Friday **INSET**

Half Term- Monday, 18th February – Friday, 22nd February

March 2019

6th Wednesday PSHE Focus Day

Youth Speaks Event – 7 p.m. – Ilminster Rotary Club

14th Thursday 5.30 p.m. Meeting of The Governing Body – Room 5

19th Tuesday **4 p.m. – 7 p.m. - Year 7 Consultation Evening**

6.45 p.m. SCOFF Meeting – Room 5

21st Thursday 9.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m. Rotary Young Chef Competition

28th Thursday 'The Terrible Fate of Humpty Dumpty' at the Ilminster Warehouse Theatre
All day rehearsal and evening performance

29th Friday 7.00 p.m. SCOFF – Family Race Night in the School Hall

April 2019

Easter Holiday - Monday, 8th April 2019 – Monday, 22nd April 2019

30th Tuesday **4 p.m. – 7 p.m. - Year 5 Consultation Evening**

Pre-school Manager – Cygnet Pre-school Ilminster

About Us

Set in the rural town of Ilminster, Cygnet Pre-School is an intimate setting providing a safe, happy and stimulating environment to enable children to learn, develop and thrive.

The Pre-school is on the grounds of Swanmead Community School therefore, as well as the indoor facilities, we have access to our own private covered play area, allotment and climbing frame and also the school playground and field. We are able to offer free flow, allowing the children to access our outside areas for the majority of the play session.

The setting was rated good by Ofsted in June 2017 and has been at the heart of the community for over 25 years.

Potential candidates are welcome to come and visit the setting prior to interview.

About The Role

This is an exciting opportunity for an enthusiastic, energetic and motivational Pre-School Practitioner. There is scope to further develop and grow this well-established preschool and increase links with the local community. The right candidate will have a passion for working with parents and caregivers to provide individual care and support to each child.

Experience of working in a senior role is essential and all applicants with the relevant experience and qualifications will be considered. Applicants must have a thorough understanding of the EYFS and be able to work as part of a team.

Key responsibilities:

- To manage the day to day running of the pre-school to include co-ordinating the provision of a caring, safe, secure and stimulating environment, meeting Ofsted requirements.
- To ensure all staff comply at all times with pre-school policies, procedures and standards, including safeguarding, health and safety, hygiene, inclusion and confidentiality.
- To lead the planning of safe, creative and appropriate opportunities according to children's needs and interests to fulfil the requirements of the EYFS.
- To develop and maintain good relationships and communication with parents/ carers to facilitate meeting the needs of each child, including organising meetings to update and involve parent/ carers in their child's learning.
- Fulfilling duties as the Safeguarding Designated Officer for the setting to promote the safeguarding and welfare of the children, staff and parent/ carers.
- To actively promote and facilitate relevant staff training and development.
- Ensure Health and Safety policies are implemented. Carry out risk assessments on a regular basis.
- To actively promote the pre-school to ensure that vacant places are filled, and that services are marketed and advertised.
- **You will be required to attend staff meetings, in house training sessions and local authority training.**

A more detailed job description is available on request.

You will need:

- At least 1 years previous experience in a childcare management position (required)
- To have held a full and relevant Early Years qualification for at least 3 years (required)
- Minimum of 3 years occupational experience in a childcare setting (required)
- Paediatric First Aid Certificate (Required)
- Sound knowledge of EYFS
- Must have working together to Safeguard Children. (required)
- Experience and understanding of SEN, multi-agency and partnership working. Cygnet Preschool is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.
- A commitment to delivering exceptional childcare
- Excellent communication, organisational and interpersonal skills
- A solution driven approach to challenges and opportunities.

Please note: Due to the nature of this post, we will seek details about a successful applicant's criminal record from the Disclosure Barring Service before any appointment is confirmed. This will include details of cautions, reprimands or final warnings, as well as convictions. All references will also be verified.

Hours: Part Time 3 days a week

Salary/Wage: Negotiable/ Salary dependant on qualification and experience

Job Type: Part Time but potential to increase hours

Cygnet Pre-School is a registered charity. Charity number: 1052251

Ilminster Fair Trade

JOIN OUR EVENTS FOR

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 2019

STARTING 25TH FEBRUARY



FRIDAY 1st March 6:30 for 7pm start



FROM BEAN TO BAR The Minster Church, Court Barton TA19 0DU

Meet our special guest, Cyr Leocadie Voho, a Fairtrade Producer from the Ivory Coast and join us on a voyage through chocolate, as we explore the process from cocoa bean to locally produced chocolate bar. Hear from Cyr, the Fairtrade Foundation and a local chocolatier about the difference your shopping can make globally and locally. To include a range of Fairtrade refreshments and tasters. A suggested donation of £5 per adult is welcomed. Book in advance to avoid disappointment; Tel: 07746 727002 or go online via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/from-bean-to-bar-a-voyage-through-chocolate-tickets-55567007415>

SATURDAY 2nd March from 9am-3pm



CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL Greenfylde School, TA19 0DS

Find a range of South West chocolatiers in the main hall at Greenfylde, Ilminster's Fairtrade School, selling delicious eats and treats in time for Mothers Day (or why not before?!). Includes a children's activity and other chocolate-related fun. FREE to enter!

THURSDAY 7th March 7:30pm

THE BELL

FAIRTRADE EVENING MEAL The Bell, Broadway, TA19 9RG

A Fairtrade-inspired, three course meal, limited to 40 people, priced at £20.00 per head (2 course option also available). Tickets are available from Just Things, Fairtrade Shop.

THROUGHOUT THE FORTNIGHT LOOK OUT FOR!

* FAIRly local produce throughout the town * Fairtrade information and activities at Ilminster Library * The Greenfylde School and PlayArt Fairtrade Mosaic * and much more!

For up to date information visit our website www.ilminsterfairtrade.uk or find us on Facebook.