

# The Swanmead Pen

Parents' Newsletter – Autumn Term 1.4

DATE: Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020

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Dear Parents and Carers

The busy weeks continue here and I am forever delighted with how, under ongoing difficult times and restrictions, the school is functioning and how your children are keeping so positive. Arriving to work in the dark and leaving for home in the dark can be demoralising yet the fantastic team of people we have in school will keep us going until the end and allow us to enjoy a great last couple of weeks with your children.

Over the next few days we have encouraged your child's tutor to make some contact with you via email. This will give you an opportunity to have a bit of interaction with them about how your child has been getting on this term if you wish to engage. As ever with this, there should be no surprises (!) and if we did previously have concerns then I'm sure you would have heard from us before now. However, the gesture is there over the next week or so to make some tutor contact. As ever in the Spring Term, we will formally set up your child's Parents Evenings and an opportunity to chat with your child's subject teachers. More details available in early January.

As you will have seen in your email inbox this week, we have made a new teaching appointment to start with us in January. Miss Ches Coleman will start as the new teacher and tutor of 5AW and will also take the teaching of 6Z Maths. This change will allow Mr Whitfield to come out of Year 5 and to take on the teaching timetable of Mr Lees who leaves us at the end of term. A bit of change to start in January but hopefully parents are comfortable with this and it leaves your child with minimal disruption to their lessons. I know we will all make Miss Coleman feel welcome.

Finally, the Christmas programme will be shared with the children today. At this special time of year we like to enjoy ourselves at Swanmead and to celebrate the festive season. Obviously, some of the things we normally enjoy in December, we are unable to do so but we hope it gives children the chance to safely enjoy each other's company and to enjoy the last few days of schooling in what has been a difficult 2020. This kicks off next Thursday (10<sup>th</sup> December) with the Tutor Group Christmas Lunch and follows the day afterwards with Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December.

I look forward to writing one more newsletter on the final week of the term.

**Mark Walker**  
**Headteacher**

## **Robot Wars!**

This is a special guest that we have in our DT department at the moment - Ming 3 from Robot Wars. Sure a few of you parents were fans back in the day!

It is on loan from the makers in Bath. It starred in four series with mixed results and you can see it in action on YouTube.

Pictured with Ming is Daniil who is a big fan of the show.



## **Children in Need**

A big thanks to all the children and parents that supported our non-uniform day a week or so ago. The school as delighted to send a cheque for £248.21 to Children in Need.

## **Head Teacher's Award**

### **Performing Arts**

Zoe N Lucas R Mia C Amy B George W Sean T Fraser H Sophia R  
Lexie W Cameron S Jack H Alisha C Phoebe B

### **ICT**

Christopher O Edward O Charlotte S Millie D Ruby C

## **Numeracy Ninjas**

### **Numeracy Ninjas – Pencil Prize**

Percy B Harry W

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

Gabriella C Lewis W Oscar S Frances E Laila B

### **Numeracy Ninjas – Black Belt**

Grace P Frances E Laila B Milo P Ryan M Eli C Stanley B Summer G Oscar S Flynn W  
Amber S Marcus W

## **Christmas 2020**

Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	1.05 – 1.35	Tutor Group Lunch
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> December		Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	9.00 – 1.05	Christmas Focus Morning – Arts, Crafts and Fun
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	2.15 p.m.	Tutor Group Christmas Quiz
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	11.15 a.m.	Tutor Group Time
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	2.30 p.m.	Final Virtual Assembly
End of Term		
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Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2021		Start of the new Spring Term

## **Awards' Evening/Presentation Event 2020**

Unable to do our normal Awards Evening in the Summer. We simply loved the chance to present prizes to a whole host of children from all over the school in recognition of their work in the 2019/2020 academic year. We used assembly time in order to do this for our children in school, however, after school we loved having the chance to briefly welcome back some of our old Year 8s to present them with their prizes and special awards.

A really great occasion and a fantastic opportunity to see a few of those wonderful faces!

Pictured below are the winners of our special awards.

Noah won the John Wilson Memorial Shield



The Headteacher's Award went to Billy.



Jasper won the MP Citizenship Award



The winner of the Ilminster Lion's Trophy for Endeavour was Alex



The Warehouse Theatre Cup for Performing Arts went to Emma.



The Commitment to Stage Crew Trophy was presented to Jasper.



Sydney won the Iminster Rotary Community Award



The Spurway Cup for Sport went to Luke



The Ann Kivett Ambassador Cup was presented to Emma



The Alison Rose Trophy for Art went to Evan



**Check us out on the web!**

I remind parents of our school website and this always contains updated information about the school. From policies and previous newsletters to staff information and news of our latest school performance, you can find us on:

**[www.swanmeadschool.co.uk](http://www.swanmeadschool.co.uk)**

Also online;

**Follow us on Facebook – ‘Swanmead Community School’**

**Art Twitter Page: @SwanmeadArt**



**SIMS Parent App**

If you're not involved already, then please look out for the email we have recently sent you to sign up for our 'SIMS Parent App'. This enables you to use your device in order to check your child's attendance and behaviour whilst in school and also to receive your child's report at the end of every term. We've had this for a year now and we encourage parents to sign up to get this free app onto their phones/tablets.

