

NEWSLETTER



Swansfield Park Primary School, The Avenue, Alnwick, Northumberland NE66 1UL

MARCH 2021

I hope everyone is enjoying the warmer weather along with the emerging signs of spring and following the Prime Minister's announcement, it seems that there is a glimmer of light in our struggle against the Coronavirus.

We are all looking forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 8th March. Having read the guidance, we will be picking up where we left off in December with the same

approach to keeping the school community safe and well that we adopted in the autumn term.

Between now and Easter we will focus on safety and re-establishing routines, particularly those linked to learning. We will be keeping to our class bubbles and each class will have two members of staff, their own entrance and their own schedule in terms of drop off, pick up, break and lunch times.

As a reminder, here is the schedule for drop off and pick up – it is really important to be on time so that we minimize the number of people on site at any time. We also ask that only one adult accompanies their child to school, remembers to wear a face mask and keeps socially distant when in the vicinity of the school. The DfE guidance also states that parents should not gather at the school gates.

Time Zone	Early Years	Key Stage 1	Lower KS2	Upper KS2
8:35am – 2:50pm	PEAR	ASH	WILLOW	LARCH
8:45am – 3:00pm	APPLE	BEECH	CHESTNUT	SYCAMORE
8:55am – 3:10pm	PLUM	OAK	MAPLE	ROWAN

In line with our risk assessment we will be mitigating against the risk of infection by ensuring that the building is well ventilated, following a rigorous cleaning regime, insisting upon good hand and respiratory hygiene and adhering to a one-way system when moving around the school. The children will be provided with their own equipment and shared resources will be thoroughly cleaned, they don't need to bring bags to school and should continue

to wear clean school uniform or their PE kits on specified days. Children should bring a named water bottle each day.

Although things are not quite back to normal this is a significant step in the right direction, I am sure that with our positive "can do" attitude and the support from all our families we will get the children back to school smoothly.

Best Wishes
Jenny Smith



Swansfield Park Primary School, The Avenue, Alnwick,
Northumberland NE66 1UL

Telephone: **01665 602267** or **01665 603413**

More on our website: www.swansfield.northumberland.sch.uk



Family Learning Project

A Springtime Musical Adventure

With spring on the horizon, it's a great time to look forward to the possibility of more positive experiences in 2021 for us all.

The last year has meant that our whole school community has missed out on so many of the wonderful creative experiences that we take such pride in. Although not even the Corona Virus can dampen the buzz of music at Swansfield Park - there's been plenty of singing and music making at home and we were able to continue with instrument tuition during the autumn term, it's been so strange for our school building not to ring with singing on a daily basis. We'll never again take for granted the opportunity to sing in assembly, to practise and prepare performances for Christmas and the end of the school year and to take our school choir out into the community to entertain!

f I remain optimistic that these experiences will return again soon and we'll grab them with both hands as soon as it's safe to do so!

Until then, I thought it would be fun to have a bit of music based family learning for this half term. It's well known that music can have a positive effect on our mental health and there's

never been a time when it's felt more important to take care of the emotional health of ourselves and our nearest and dearest.

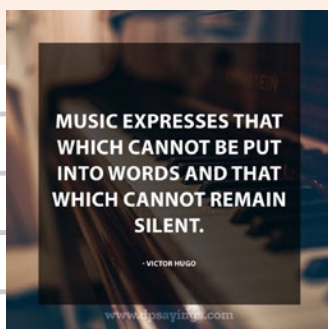
With this in mind, I've chosen three cheery and uplifting pieces of music that I hope all our families will enjoy listening to. **You'll receive an email each Friday this half term, from the 5th March with a link to the week's piece.**

There'll be a little note with some information about the piece and things you might like to listen out for.

The email in the final week of the half term will be a Google Form so that you can vote for your family's favourite piece.

As a little incentive, there will be a **certificate for all families who complete the challenge** and vote for their favourite piece and **one family will be chosen at random to win an Amazon voucher.** You could use this to download some music of your choice!

I do hope that you'll join in with this challenge. If there's a piece of music or a song that's a firm favourite and a 'go to mood lifter' for your family, drop me an email and let me know what it is. Maybe we can compile an ultimate compilation of the music that keeps us 'Swans' swimming!

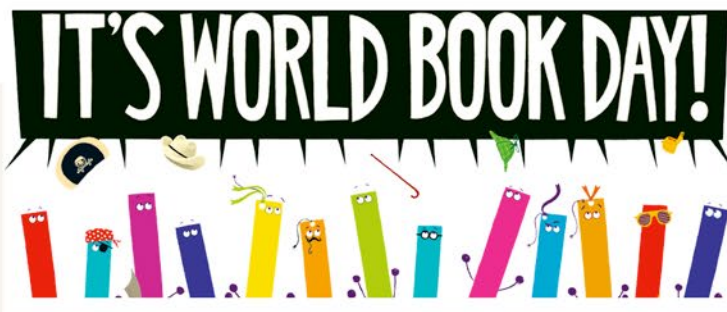


I can't wait to find out which piece is your favourite!

Mrs Grimes

annemarie.grimes@school360.co.uk





World Book day is on the 4th March and is always a fun day at Swansfield. We see no reason why this should be any different this year. So, whether you are learning at home or at school, our activities on this day will be firmly rooted in enjoyment of reading and of course, there can be dressing up!

We are inviting all of our home learners to dress up if they'd like to and you can send any photos of the children to admin@swansfield.northumberland.sch.uk. If your child is not keen to dress up, you can send a photo of them reading in their favourite spot!

Our children in Early Years up to Year 2 are invited to join the challenge to see how many picture books they can read (or have read to them) during the day. We'll then gather a grand total and share it with you in the weekly blog.

In Years 3 and 4 the children are currently thinking about stories from imaginary worlds and they are going

to be designing their debut novel front covers on World Book Day.

In Years 5 and 6 our children will be listening to lots of stories and there will also be the opportunity to create an 'extreme reading' opportunity. Safety first though Year 5 and 6 – we want to see you all safe and well on the 8th March!

Children coming into school on the 4th March are very welcome to dress up as their favourite book character. We do ask that costumes are freshly washed and that children do not wear face paint. Simple costumes and sensible footwear would be appreciated. Children not wanting to dress up should wear their school uniform as usual. Children don't need to bring any money into school.

You should have already received electronic World Book Day tokens and we hope that the children enjoy spending these and reading their new books.



A Cheery Message of Support from our Head Boy and Head Girl

Hello everybody!

Right now, you are probably working in your house, doing calculations, or writing adventurous stories, well that's why I'm writing this for you, to help you not overwork and try to enjoy this time at home. Before I explain to you some of the techniques and things that you can do to help improve your work, and still have fun in walks and games daily, you should be using this time not at school as an advantage, and an excuse to wear your pajamas! Firstly, don't work all day, take breaks to eat, drink, chill, and exercise as working too hard is bad for your mental health, so please, try to get away from screens! As well as this, be in a comfy, quiet place where you can do your work, undisturbed by any distractions such as siblings. Finally, make time for hobbies and enjoyable things to do, I hope you follow these tips because I find them really helpful, and also keep in mind that hard work pays off!

Kobi - Head Boy

It has been an interesting time learning from home. Personally, I have learnt to become more independent and think for myself because I don't have a teacher to hand. To help me learn from home I made sure I had a quiet space so there weren't any distractions or interruptions and I tried to do my lessons at the same time I would have at school. It also helped to set myself goals in the morning of what I wanted to achieve that day. It is very important to break up your day and not stare at a screen too long so make sure you have breaks, drink water and get outside. Never forget to stay positive, don't give up and try your best!

Lily – Head girl



Snow Days at Swansfield



No winter is complete without a bit of a covering of snow and it's always a great opportunity to get the sledges out of the shed and let the children enjoy the winter weather on our fabulous school field. This year was no exception and although we missed our home-learning friends, much fun was had! We sledged and made snowmen to our heart's content! This provided the perfect end to the half term. We hope you enjoy this small selection of snowy pictures taken during the last week before the half term holiday.

Communications

We use many different ways to communicate with parents.



Keep up to date through the school website at:
www.swansfield.northumberland.sch.uk



Email the office at:
admin@swansfield.northumberland.sch.uk



Check the text messages received from **Teachers2Parents**
- please ensure that the office have an up to date mobile number for you.



Read the **Head Teacher's weekly blog** posted on the website and on Facebook every Monday for the very latest news.

DIARY DATES

Thursday 4th March
World Book Day

Monday 8th March
Whole School
Return to School

Friday 12th March
Comic Relief

Friday 26th March
School Closes
EASTER HOLIDAY

Monday 12th April
School Re-opens for the
Summer Term

New Governor

Welcome to **Ruth Cunningham-Spence**, our new parent governor, who has joined the team this term. Please have a look at the Governors webpage for details of all the governors and their roles in school.



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