

Swaffham Bulbeck Church of England Primary School

Newsletter: 16th September 2019

A Message from Mr Buddle

A big welcome back to all our children and families! It is lovely to see the children's enthusiasm and excitement in school. Staff have been busy planning for the new school year over the holidays and are looking forward to putting those plans into action. We pride ourselves on being an open and approachable school so if you have any questions or concerns, please do let us know.

Staff update

We are very pleased to welcome Mrs Warren who joins us as the new Kingfishers class teacher. She has set up the classroom differently and it feels much more spacious. Every child in the class has a fabric cover on the back of their chair which holds their pens, pencils and white boards.

You have probably already noticed that Mr Lee has come back to school with a cast on his leg for an achilles tendon injury. He is likely to need to wear it until half term. We wish him a speedy recovery!

New school library

We held a formal opening for the new school library just before the start of term, and the children have participated in their own library celebrations too. Many thanks to Reverend Alan for cutting the ribbon and blessing the space. Apparently he has never been asked to open a library before!

Very many thanks to Andy Brown for the design and to Andy and Dan Briggs for giving up their summer to paint the amazing murals on the walls (one wall for each season). Our PTA did a fabulous job of fundraising for the redesign of the library and for a new set of Chromebooks for the children to replace our aging desktop PCs. They also purchased many new books and the school was able to do a thorough review and sorting of the old books to ensure that everything is in good condition and easy to find.



Please turn over for some reminders...

Dates for the Diary

EYFS parent workshop (library)
Tuesday 24th September 6-7pm

Aspire sports event (for Kingfishers)
Thursday 26th September (am)

Harvest festival service (Church)
Thursday 3rd October 9.30am-10.30am
Tea/coffee in the Church from 9am

Football competition (for Owls)
Thursday 10th October

Parent consultations
Monday 14th October 2pm-4pm (Robins)
Tuesday 15th October 3pm-7pm (all)
Wed. 16th October 1pm-3pm (Doves)
Friday 18th October 1pm-3.30pm (Owls)

Last day of school before half term
Friday 18th October

Children back to school
Monday 28th October

Wrens open morning (school hall)
Mon 11th November 9.15am-10.15am

Flu immunisations
Wednesday 13th November

Cross-country (for Kingfishers & Owls)
Friday 29th November (am)

Early Years / KS1 Christmas play
Wednesday 11th December 9.30am
Thursday 12th December 5.30pm

KS2 Christmas Carols
Wednesday 11th December 5.30pm

New Wrens visit
Friday 13th December 9.15am-10.30am

School Christmas parties
Monday 16th December

School Christmas service (Church)
Wed. 18th December 9.30am-10.30am
Tea/coffee in the Church from 9am

Last day of school before Christmas
Wednesday 18th December

Village candlelit carol service (Church)
Sunday 22nd December

Children back to school
Tuesday 7th January 2020

Our school motto “**Shine Brightly**” and school values have been turned into a fabulous lighthouse painting by local artist and school parent Jamie Sugg, with the help of a gift from the Towers & Hill Trust. The mural also shows our school’s key biblical quote which links to the motto and values, which is: *“Let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good works, and give glory to your Father who is in Heaven”* (Matthew 5:16)



The mural will be proudly displayed on the library wall. Jamie says of the work that, “The lighthouse is a place of safety and security, built on firm foundations, independent yet able to benefit all who see its light. Certainly one of my favourite commissions!”

Some reminders:

Pupil Asset

Please can all parents and carers make sure that they login to Pupil Asset – there is a website www.pupilasset.com and also an app for iPhone and Android. School meals and trips are paid via PupilAsset, and school meals (meal option 1 or 2 or jacket potato) need to be booked in advance so that we can minimise food waste and make sure we have the right meals available. You can also use Pupil Asset to keep your contact details up-to-date.

School Clubs

Gardening club will run on Thursdays after school until half term, starting on September 19th. Many thanks to Mrs Sugg and Mrs Thompson for running this very popular club which also helps keep the school grounds looking beautiful. Gardening club can be booked via the school office and confirmation letters will go out on Tuesday.



Before-school club “Start Active” is available from 8am on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, and after school there is Target Sports on Wednesdays, Gymnastics on Thursdays and Football on Fridays, all ending at 4.30pm. These all start this week and places need to be booked directly with Premier who run the clubs. Their website is www.premier-education.com

Parking

More families are driving to school in the mornings and afternoons than in previous years. For the safety of the children and the village residents, please make sure you park safely and considerately, even if this means parking further away from the school down one of the village side streets. Please do not park in front of any driveways or the church gate, or near road junctions. We also ask that you do not wait in your car with the engine running. As a school we gain a huge benefit from our village community so it is important that we are good neighbours.

Governor vacancies

We currently have two governor vacancies and are asking for interested people to get in contact.

If you want to know more about the work of a school governor, please speak to one of us in the playground or contact our Chair, Amy Weatherup chair@swaffhambulbeck.cambs.sch.uk

Parents and carers who are governors are:

Katharine Cantell
Steve Graham
Jo Latchford
Romain Poujardieu
Laurinda Vale
Amy Weatherup

Governors play an important role in the school, providing support to Mr Buddle and the staff, and setting the school’s strategy and vision, as well as helping to ensure that our children receive the best possible education.