



Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope that you enjoyed a lovely Christmas time with family and friends.

The end of term was delightful with the highlight being the Class 1 Nativity alongside carols at the Cathedral, Christingle, a pantomime visit and parties to name but a few events.

This term we are looking forward to engaging with new learning events and I look forward to welcoming you at one of the forthcoming evening in school.

Please could I also draw your attention to the 'Managing Children's digital Lives' section of this newsletter.

All my best wishes for 2026.

Kind regards,
Zoe Longstaff
Headteacher

Current School Opening Times



**ALL classes start at 08:45am
and end the day at 3:20pm**

Children who are late for school will be marked as such, which could be flagged up as a concern during our attendance monitoring. If your child is late on a regular basis, they then miss out on a vital routine, which helps them settle into the school day and be ready to start learning. If they are late, this disturbs the smooth start of the day for all.



Reporting Absence

If your child is absent from school you can either telephone the school on 01522 868287 or send an email to enquiries@swinderby.lincs.sch.uk before 9.15am to inform us that your child is ill. Our new phone lines mean you can leave a voicemail to report your child's absence by pressing option 2.

Absences must be reported each day your child is absent.

If your child is absent due to sickness or diarrhoea, they will need to be clear of all the symptoms for 48 hours before returning to school.



Attendance Every student. Every day.

It is vital that your children get the best possible education going forward so please send your children to school. Attendance is now **compulsory** and holidays in term time will NOT be authorised. Our normal attendance policy will now apply and Fixed Penalty Notices may be issued.

As a school, we need to meet the target of 95.9%, which is the national average. We can only do this if parents support us fully and if we all understand the importance of NOT taking term time, holidays or absences from school. Attendance will be monitored each half term. In line with the new Government policy, an even greater emphasis will be placed on attendance.

Holidays in Term Time *IMPORTANT*****

Following instruction from the Lincolnshire County Council Attendance Team, the Governors have approved a new school Attendance policy. The school will now be fining and issuing Fixed Penalty Notices for holidays taken in term time and will be rigorous in its pursuit of attendance. The school has previously tried to take an understanding approach towards holidays in term time; however, this will no longer be the case. This is now government policy that the school has to adhere to. Please take a moment to read the policy on the school website so that you are familiar with its contents:

https://www.swinderbyallsaints.co.uk/key_information/policies/policies.html

A new Leave Request form is available from the school office and this can be emailed across for completion.

Medical Appointments

For any medical appointments, please could these be made out of school time wherever possible. We appreciate this isn't possible but we ask that screenshots of appointments are sent into school (enquiries@Swinderby.lincs.sch.uk) for our records.

Uniform

The school is keen to ensure that our children look smart and wear their uniform with pride.
PE kits are part of the school uniform

NO patterned or logoed (except school logo) T-shirts. This includes PE kits

Uniform List



- Blue/white shirt/polo top
- Royal blue sweat top or cardigan
- Grey/black trousers or shorts
- Grey/black pinafore or skirt
- Blue/white gingham summer dress (optional)
- White/grey socks or grey tights
- Sensible school shoes that children can take on/off themselves (no heels)
- Blue school book bag
- School bag (optional)

The school promotes sustainability and reuse of uniform. Donations of outgrown uniform are welcomed and there is a free clothing rail readily available in school for parents to access uniform.



PE Kit

Long hair **MUST** be tied up for PE and NO earrings are to be worn.

PE KIT WORN MUST BE IN LINE WITH THE SCHOOL UNIFORM – PALE BLUE/WHITE plain or school logo t-shirt, plain black/navy jogging bottoms or shorts and school sweatshirt/ cardigan or plain royal blue sweatshirt. Trainers or plimsolls, as plain as possible.

We will be strict about this and if your child wears anything different to this, we will ask them to change. Please support us with this so that your child does not feel uncomfortable. WE WILL not accept the wearing of sports tops or football shirts.

*****Please ensure all school uniform and PE kit is named*****

Celebrations Assemblies – Fridays at 2:45pm

13th Feb, 27th March,
22nd May & 17th July



Online Safety

E-safety – electronic safety – is all about keeping ourselves safe, maintaining our privacy and protecting our rights in the digital world.

We all need to be aware of potential e-safety issues with all our digital devices and forms of digital communication not just computers and the internet. Computers, laptops, tablets (iPads, Kindles etc.), digital cameras, games consoles (Xbox, Wii, iPod touch, Nintendo DS etc.) smart televisions, mobile phones, texts and email are ALL part of the digital world.

Social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter, and video sharing sites such as YouTube are valuable in allowing use to maintain communication with family and friends worldwide. However, parents and children should abide by the age restrictions on such sites and carefully set their privacy settings.

Just as in the real world, we need children to be aware of stranger danger and bullying (cyber-bullying) in the digital world. We need our children to recognise when it is happening and where to seek help.

At school, we educate children about e-Safety in ICT lessons but it is important that parents know some key e-Safety tips too. Below are some links to resources to help support parents and children with all aspects of e-safety.

Our ICT Acceptable Use of Internet and Online Safety Policies are available on our school website:
https://www.swinderbyallsaints.co.uk/key_information/policies/policies.html



Managing Children's Digital Lives

The Children's Commissioner for England has produced a guide for parents and carers on managing children's digital lives, designed to demystify some of the issues such as the challenge of managing children's everyday online habits, what you should and shouldn't be doing, and the often complicated parental controls on individual social media platforms, to help make talking to your child about them easier.

An introductory blog on the guide from the Children's Commissioner can be viewed here:
<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/blog/what-i-wish-my-parents-or-carers-knew-childrens-commissioner-launches-guide-for-parents-and-carers-on-managing-childrens-digital-lives/>

The guide, along with an Activity Pack for children, can be accessed here:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/resource/what-i-wish-my-parents-or-carers-knew-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers-on-managing-childrens-digital-lives/>



Breakfast and After School Club

Please ensure all bookings are made at least a week in advance, where possible – ideally we'd like these termly. As the Cabin Club is becoming more popular, we cannot guarantee there will be places available on the day. It is essential that bookings are completed for **EVERY** session. Having these bookings will allow the team to plan specific activities and purchase the correct amount of food for each session.

If anyone would like to make a booking, please use the ParentMail App or see The Cabin Club team/the school office.



Clothing Bank

The Rag-Bag clothing bank is outside the school. If you have any unwanted clothing items, please bag them up and place them in the large green bin outside the black gates.

The 'Rag Bag' recycling scheme has been developed to provide regular fundraising for schools in the UK.

The scheme increases awareness about textile recycling and by increasing recycling rates we can help the environment by ensuring less material goes to landfill.

Music



Private music lessons are also still available in most instruments through the Lincolnshire Music Service. If anyone is interested, please do let us know and we can request the Music Service get in touch with you. Piano lessons will now be on a Monday afternoon. We are looking forward to having Mrs Benson from the Lincoln Music Service this year for our Wednesday music lessons.



Mobile Phones

Children should not be bringing mobile phones into school unless there are exceptional circumstances – going home on the bus for example. If a phone is brought into school, it needs to be handed to the Headteacher on arrival and it will be kept safe until the end of the day.

Parking



Please could all parents ensure that they are mindful of not parking in the school bus bay when dropping off in the morning or collecting in the afternoon. For the safety of all the children, getting on and off the bus it is important this area is kept clear. The bus bay is now clearly marked.

Also, could we remind parents to continue being courteous to our neighbours and ensure we're not blocking any access or driveways. Please, show you care, park elsewhere; we've got the ideal facility (Park & Stride) just five-minute walk away at the Village Hall.

SCHOOL BUS

Please could parents remind their children that good behaviour is required on the school bus and check that the mobiles being brought with them are having appropriate use – there should be no Snapchat, for example. This does have an age restriction of 13yrs and above. If children misbehave on their journey to and from school, this could result in their bus pass being revoked by LCC and an alternative method of getting to and from school will need to be sought.



Free School Meals

With effect from September 2018, a new system to process Free School Meals was introduced, whereby parents and guardians will need to apply online. We would encourage **ALL** parents & guardians to apply. Further information can be found on the following website: <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free-school-meals/>

Lunchboxes

According to NHS choices a balanced lunchbox should contain:

- Starchy foods like bread, rice, potatoes or pasta
- Protein foods like meat, fish, eggs or beans
- A dairy item, like cheese or yogurt
- Vegetables or salad and a portion of fruit

As a school we encourage the above suggestions but also allow a small chocolate bar (i.e. a Penguin/Kit Kat) or a small piece of cake.

However, there are some items that are **NOT** allowed in school, these include:

- Bags of sweets (of any size)
- Large chocolate bars (Mars, Wispas etc.)
- Nuts or nut based products
- Eggs

NUT ALLERGY

We are a nut free school due to allergies within school. Please ensure that nuts or nut-based products are NOT included in your child's lunchbox. If your child is found to have these, we will have to remove from their lunchbox. Thank you for your understanding.



Letters Home

We send all letters that don't need printing out via email. If you are unable to view these letters via your email you can view these on the school website if you prefer <http://www.swinderbyallsaints.co.uk/letters-home/>

Letters that require you to send in a reply slip are sent home as a hard copy.

Permission Slips

We appreciate the children sometimes have a lot of letters to bring home, but we try to keep this to a minimum by emailing copies home where possible and putting notifications on our Facebook page. However for those letters that do have to go home and require a permission slip returning, could we ask that children are provided with a plastic folder to keep them safe and contained on the journey from class room to home and vice versa. That way it tries to limit any information that could potentially be lost in transit.

Communication

ALL emails should be sent to

enquiries@swinderby.lincs.sch.uk

Any that are specific to Class teachers will be forwarded on and responded to as soon as possible. If these emails are sent during the day, they may be replied to after school or the next working day.

We are collecting empty plastic tubs from chocolates, sweets, crackers, biscuits etc. for recycling and raising funds towards Macmillan Care. Please bring into school if you have any. Thank you

Term Dates



January

Mon 05	INSET DAY
Tues 06	FIRST DAY OF TERM
Thurs 08	YR & Y6 Heights & Weights
Fri 09	Stay and Play Session 09:45-10:30

Thurs 15

Tues 20
Fri 23
Fri 30
Fri 30

National closing date for YR 2026 applications

Phonics open morning – 9am
FOSS Film Night
Y4 Sporting Event – NK
Young Voices Concert Sheffield

February

Mon 09

Y6 SATS Information Evening – 3:45pm & 5pm
Celebrations Assembly – 2:45pm
LAST DAY OF TERM
FIRST DAY OF TERM

March

Mon 02

Thurs 05
Mon 09
Fri 13
Sat 14
Mon 16
Fri 20
Mon 23
Tues 24
Wed 25
Fri 27

Y7 Sept 2026 Offer Date

World Book Day
Assessment Week 1
Y3 Sporting Event – NK
Spring Clean of School Grounds
Assessment Week 2
Comic Relief
World Downs Syndrome Day
Parent's Evening – 4pm-6:30pm
Parent's Evening – 4pm-6:30pm
Celebration's Assembly – 2:45pm

April

Thurs 02
Thurs 02
Fri 03
Sun 05
Thurs 16
Mon 20
Tues 21
Thurs 23
Thurs 23
Fri 24
Mon 27

Easter Service – 2pm
LAST DAY OF TERM
GOOD FRIDAY
EASTER SUNDAY

YR Sept 2026 Offer Date

INSET DAY
FIRST DAY OF TERM
Y5 Bikeability
Stay and Play Session 09:45-10:30
Y5 Bikeability
Y6 Practice SATS Week

May

Mon 04
Fri 08
Mon 11
Fri 15
Sun 17
Fri 22
Fri 22

BANK HOLIDAY
Y2 Sporting Event – NK
Y6 SATS WEEK
Leave for PGL – 12pm
Collect from PGL – 12pm
Celebrations Assembly – 2:45pm
LAST DAY OF TERM

June

Mon 01
Mon 08
Mon 15
Fri 19
Mon 22
Wed 24

FIRST DAY OF TERM
Phonics Screening Check
Assessment Week 1
YR & Y1 Sporting Event – NK
Assessment Week 2
Whole School Sports Day

July

Wed 01
Wed 15
Wed 15

Reserve Whole School Sports Day
End of Year Music Concert – 2pm
Reports Out

Truth, Compassion, Respect, Forgiveness

Fri 17	Celebrations Assembly – 2:45pm
Wed 22	Y6 Bell Ringing – 8:30am
Wed 22	Y6 Leaver's Service – 1:30pm
Wed 22	LAST DAY OF TERM

**We will be adding more dates for the diary
as time goes on**

And finally

For those of you who have 'liked' the School's Facebook page. **Please can you make sure you like the posts. As the School is a business page if you don't like the post or interact with the page the updates/posts will stop coming up on your Newsfeed.** The school facebook page is used as an additional way of getting information out to our parents.

www.facebook.com/SwinderbyAllSaintsPrimarySchool



We like to keep in regular contact with you and all our latest news can be found on: Facebook, School website.