



January 2023



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the new term and happy New Year. I hope that you had a good Christmas.

The exciting news to share in school is that Miss Loom (C4) got engaged at New Year and we would like to wish her and her fiancé, Jack, every happiness. This is even more special to us as Jack is a former pupil of Swinderby School.



As I am sure you're all now aware, Mrs Caroline Harrison has been successful in becoming the new Class 1 teacher from when we return after the February half term, following a rigorous interview process. Mrs Harrison has many years' experience in the school as a Teaching Assistant and has recently qualified as a Teacher. It was felt Mrs Harrison will provide stability and knowledge of the children of Class 1, ensuring that their education is not disrupted during the period and so that the children complete their Reception and Y1 years successfully. I am sure you will join me in congratulating Mrs Harrison, who is already a huge asset to the school, and will continue to be in her new role with us.



I would like to welcome the new children and their families that have joined us of late and hope that they have a happy and successful time with us.

As you are aware, Friends of Swinderby School (FOSS) have been very active raising funds for new play equipment. FOSS and school are now in the final stages of selecting equipment. If you have considered joining FOSS and offering to help, even for a few hours, can I urge you to think about it? FOSS meet approx. once a half term for about 30mins via Zoom/Teams. I attend every meeting and am fully involved. I would be delighted if even more parents joined. FOSS welcomed some new members last term who have already made a difference. If you are interested, please let me know personally.

Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to seeing what the school can achieve this coming year.

My very best wishes,
Zoe Longstaff



Current School Opening Times

Class 4: 8:45am – 3:20pm
Class 3: 8:45am – 3:20pm
Class 2: 8:50am – 3:25pm
Class 1: 8:50am – 3:25pm

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.

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.

Attendance Letters

Attendance letters will be issued shortly for last term. These letters are for attendance between 06.09.22 to 16.12.22. Letters will be issued within the first week or two after returning from a break in line with our Attendance Policy.

Holidays in Term Time

We want all our pupils to achieve success, so it is important that parents do their best to support pupils in attending school for the full 190 days in an academic year – as per Section 7 of the Education Act 1996, which places upon parents a duty to ensure their child receives suitable and efficient full time education.

To support our drive to increase pupil attendance, no absences due to holidays during term time will be authorised. This means absences due to pupils being taken on holiday during term time will be recorded unauthorised.

If you do have any holidays planned during term time, please notify school as soon as possible – leave of absence forms (available from the school office) should be completed in plenty of time ahead of any leave.

We hope that our parents will support us and arrange holidays around the existing 175 days the school is closed, through weekends and school holidays, and help us support your child achieving success in school.

Please note, if holidays are still taken during term time this will be reported to Lincolnshire County Council and a fine may be issued.

Cold Weather

With the cold weather, please ensure your child comes to school with a coat (and hat and gloves in the winter months). We do still like to get outside wherever possible and would appreciate if the

children were prepared. Wellies are ideal in rainy/snowy weather.

Warm Rail

If you have any coats that your child has outgrown and you'd like to donate them to school, we're going to create a 'warm rail' in school. The warm rail will be there to act as a hand of friendship and kindness to those who are struggling. The concept is simple; if you need a coat, take one; if you want to help, donate one.

IMPORTANT DATES

Practice SATS week for Y6 – 24.04.23 to 27.04.23

KS2 Y6 SATS week – 09.05.23 to 11.05.23

Whole of May – Y2 SATS Assessments

Y4 Multiplication Screening Check – w/c 05.06.23

Y1 Phonics Screening – w/c 12.06.23

There will be assessments during the rest of the year.

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



PE Kit

PE KIT WORN MUST BE INLINE 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, black/white and 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*****

Truth, Compassion, Respect, Forgiveness

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's 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.

A Quick Chat About Parent Controls on Games Consoles and Internet Usage.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=s9C7AgX3YGU

A Quick Chat About Game Ratings

www.youtube.com/watch?v=sHLXfn-LTio

These short films are from Lincolnshire's Safeguarding Team and have sound advice for safer internet use.



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

KS2 will have music delivered by Ms Karen Jones from the Lincolnshire Music Service every Wednesday afternoon.

We are lucky to now have additional music teachers from the Lincolnshire Music Service coming into to school to assist with the private lessons as they have proved so popular. From Mon 09 Jan, guitar lessons will be taken by Mr James Bourne, Piano lessons are with Karen Jones on a Tuesday afternoon until after the Easter holidays when Mr Ewan East will then take over.

Mrs Jones will also be starting a violin group on a Wednesday lunchtime. Should you wish for your child to take part, please contact Karen directly (Karen.Jones@lincolnshire.gov.uk) and she will advise how bookings and payment can be made via the Lincolnshire Music Service's online system.

Brass lessons, with Malcolm Duckett (also from the Lincolnshire Music Service) continue to be on offer. If your child is interested in private brass lessons, please contact enquiries@swinderby.lincs.sch.uk and we can put you in touch directly with Mr Duckett.



Communication with Staff

Following discussions at a Governor meeting last November, it has been decided that any emails sent to staff outside of the hours 8am-4:30pm will be looked at and responded to the next working day – unless the recipient chooses otherwise. This is entirely at their own discretion.

Part-time workers will respond between these hours on their working days unless they choose to work outside of those hours.

Emails sent at weekends will not be read/replied to unless the recipient chooses to do so.

Parking



Please could all parents ensure that they're 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.

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.

Foodbank Fridays

Shocking figures have revealed that food banks in the Trussell Trust's network provided more than 2.1 million parcels to people facing financial hardship across the UK. This is the first time food banks in the network have provided more than 2 million parcels. The aim of Foodbank Friday is to encourage children and their families to bring one item of non-perishable food into school. The food donated will be collected by Lincoln Foodbank and distributed to those who are struggling.

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/>

Hot Meals

The site closed on Tuesday 03 January to order meals for the next cycle. This new cycle will run as follows

WK1 – 16.01.23
WK2 – 23.01.23
WK3 – 30.01.23
WK4 – 06.02.23

Please ensure that you 'check out' your selections, without doing this the order doesn't go through.

<https://schoolmeals.ginga.catering/parentLogin.asp>

If you have missed the cut off, please do not hesitate to contact Anna at Ginga Catering.

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



Letters Home

We send all letters that don't need printing out via email - Txtround. 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.

Communication

All emails regarding illness/appointments/general enquiries are to be sent to
enquiries@swinderby.lincs.sch.uk

Specific emails can be sent to class teachers. However, please note, class teachers are unable to check emails during the day. They will reply as soon as they can but it may not be until the next

PGL Payments

For those children attending PGL, the final balance is now due. If you're unsure how much is owed, please contact the school office.

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.

Term Dates



January

Tues 03	INSET DAY
Wed 04	FIRST DAY OF TERM
Sun 15	Closing Date for Sept '23 Reception applications
Mon 16	Y6 SATS Parent's Information Evening – 3:45pm or 5:30pm
Mon 23	C1 drop in session – from 3:30pm

February

Fri 10	LAST DAY OF TERM
Mon 20	FIRST DAY OF TERM
Tues 21	Swimming starts for Y3 & Y5
Tues 21	Pancake Races – 2:30pm

March

Wed 01	Y7 Secondary places issued to parents
Thurs 02	World Book Day
Sat 11	Spring Clean of school grounds
Mon 13	Y5 Bikeability
Tues 14	Y5 Bikeability
Wed 15	Y5 Bikeability
Thurs 16	Y5 Bikeability
Wed 22	Parent's Evening
Thurs 23	Parent's Evening
Fri 31	Easter Service – C2 Focus
Fri 31	LAST DAY OF TERM

April

Mon 03	Y6 Easter School 9am-12pm
Tues 04	Y6 Easter School 9am-12pm
Mon 17	Sept '23 Reception places issued to parents
Mon 17	INSET DAY
Tues 18	FIRST DAY OF TERM
Thurs 20	Stay & Play Open Morning 09:45-10:25
Mon 24	Y6 Practice SATS weeks

May

Mon 01	BANK HOLIDAY
Mon 08	Additional Bank Holiday for King's Coronation
Mon 08	Y6 KS2 SATS WEEK
Fri 12	Y5 & Y6 Leave for PGL
Sun 14	Y5 & Y6 Return from PGL

Fri 26 LAST DAY OF TERM

June

Mon 05	FIRST DAY OF TERM
Tues 06	Swimming starts for Y4 and Y6
Fri 09	Y5 & Y6 Positive Health Session
Wed 21	Lincolnshire Show
Thurs 22	Lincolnshire Show
Fri 23	Y6 Substance Awareness Session (PM)

July

Tues 04	Sports Day – 1pm
Thurs 06	LSST Induction Day (New Y7)
Fri 07	LSST Induction Day (New Y7)
Fri 07	Reserve Sports Day – 1pm
Wed 12	C4 Play
Mon 17	Move up afternoon
Tues 18	Reports Issued
Fri 21	Leaver's Assembly – 2pm
Fri 21	LAST DAY OF TERM

We will be adding more dates for the diary as time goes on and will be looking at resuming whole school events as much as possible.

Complaints

For any complaints – our policy is located on the school website:

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

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 and via Txtround.

Truth, Compassion, Respect, Forgiveness