



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the new spring term. I hope that you and your families managed to enjoy some time together over Christmas and New Year. The days off seemed to pass by in a whirl though!

The school has hit the ground running since it's return beginning with the staff updating their first aid training on the Tuesday. Currently, 19 children are busy rehearsing for their performance on Tues 09 Jan at the Utilita Arena in Sheffield with Young Voices and Class 4 are perfecting their sharing of the interpretation of The Nutcracker taking place at the Terry O'Toole Theatre on Friday 12 Jan. The other classes have begun their new topics and are excited by their learning.

It was a delight to welcome so many of you into school and church at the end of last term and, hopefully, we will see you all at one of our forthcoming events in the not too distant future.

In the meantime, I'd like to wish you and your families a Happy New Year and the school looks forward to working with you all in 2024.

My very best wishes,
Zoe Longstaff

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

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

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, for any absence over 4.5 days.

Phone Lines

We have had a new phone system installed - this was done to replace our analogue phones which will no longer be supported come 2025.

There have been some changes with the upgrade; when calling the usual 01522868287 number you will be given 2 options, 1 for the Office and 2 for reporting a child's absence. If you press 2 this will take you to an automated service where you will leave a message. This will then come to the school office.

The phones will automatically take you to an answering machine during the hours of 5pm and 07:30am when the school is closed.

During the day, the phone will only take you to answering machine (if you've pressed 1 for the office) if no-one is available to take your call.

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

IMPORTANT DATES

YR (Sept '24) – admissions applications open
Wednesday 15 November and close Monday 15
January 2024 – do you know anyone looking for a
Reception place. Please point them in our direction.

ADVANCED NOTICE OF 2024 DATES

KS2 SATS – w/c 13 May 2024

Y5 & Y6 PGL Trip – Friday 17 to Sunday 19 May 2024

Y4 Multiplication Screening Check – w/c 03 June 2024

Y1 Phonics Screening Test – w/c 10 June 2024

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 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*****

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

PE Days

Class 1, 2 and 4 will be on Wednesday and Friday

Class 3 will be on Monday and Wednesday

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 were 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.

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



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 class teacher on arrival and it will be kept safe until the end of the day.



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

Individual Instrumental Lessons will start again next week (w/c 11.09.23) for existing pupils. The teachers will be contacting parents directly from tomorrow. Mr Bourne will be teaching Guitar and Mrs Jones will be teaching Violin and Ukulele. Fiona is our new Piano teacher and lessons have been progressing well.

We are keen to start a Brass and Violin group at the school. There will be a cost for these sessions but it is at a reduced price.

Mrs Jones will talk to the pupils in the class music lessons next week and if anyone is interested in finding out more about our limited places for private lessons, please contact Mrs Jones direct via the Lincolnshire Music Service: karen.jones@lincolnshire.gov.uk



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.

Please consider when you send these emails, to support the wellbeing of our staff.

As per our Parental Code of Conduct all correspondence should go through the enquiries email address (enquiries@swinderby.lincs.sch.uk) and not direct to personal emails.



FOSS

Extraordinary Meeting on **Tuesday 16 January 2024** at 7:30pm in the school hall.

The meeting will be an opportunity to discuss what happens with FOSS going forward. Following all the hard work that has been put in over the recent years, it would be a shame to see FOSS fold. Without new parents stepping in this will be an inevitable situation.

Please do come and join this meeting, even if you can't commit to a specific role, volunteers are very much appreciated.
We look forward to seeing you there.

School Communication

Our communication is now sent via our MIS system – Integris. Please ensure you do not block this sender otherwise you won't be able to receive the information we're sending out.



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



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. We appreciate the yellow hatched lines are not entirely visible at the moment due to resurfacing works.

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.

Secondary School

If your child is currently in Y4 and Y5 and you'd like a conversation regarding secondary schools, please contact Mrs Longstaff.



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.

Celebration Assemblies resume on Friday
12 January 2024

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 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

We are looking for volunteer readers. If you have some free time and would like to join us, please contact the school office:
enquiries@swinderby.lincs.sch.uk

Term Dates



January

Tues 02 INSET DAY
Wed 03 FIRST DAY OF TERM

Truth, Compassion, Respect, Forgiveness

Tues 09	Y5/6 Young Voices - Sheffield
Fri 12	Y5/6 performance of The Nutcracker – Terry O'Toole Theatre
Fri 12	Y4 Sporting Event – NK Sports Centre
Fri 12	Celebration Assemblies resume
Mon 15	Y6 SATS Information Evening 3:45pm & 5pm
Mon 15	YR Admissions Applications Close
Fri 19	Y5 & 6 perform Nutcracker in Celebrations assembly – 2:50pm
Mon 22	Class 2 trip to the Cathedral – more info to follow

February

Thurs 08	FOSS Chocolate Bingo – 3:30pm
Fri 09	Pancake Races – 2pm
Fri 09	LAST DAY OF TERM
Mon 19	FIRST DAY OF TERM
Tues 20	Y3 & Y5 Swimming starts

March

Fri 01	Y3 Sporting Event – NK Sports Centre
Thurs 07	World Book Day – Dressing up
Sat 09	Spring Clean of School Grounds – volunteers needed.
Tues 26	Parent's Evening 4pm-6pm
Wed 27	Parent's Evening 4pm-6pm
Wed 27	FOSS Sponsored Easter Bunny Run
Thurs 28	Easter Service – led by Y3 & 4 – 1:30pm
Thurs 28	FOSS Easter Egg Hunt
Thurs 28	LAST DAY OF TERM

April

Tues 02	Y6 Easter School AM (TBC)
Wed 03	Y6 Easter School AM (TBC)
Mon 15	INSET DAY
Tues 16	FIRST DAY OF TERM
Tues 16	Y5 Bikeability
Wed 17	Y5 Bikeability
Thurs 18	Y5 Bikeability
Thurs 18	Stay & Play Open Morning 09:45-10:45
Fri 19	Y5 Bikeability
Mon 22	Y6 Practice SATS week
Fri 26	Y5 Sporting Event – NK Sports Centre

May

Mon 13	Y6 SATS week
Thurs 16	End of Y6 SATS week
Fri 17	Y5 & Y6 Leave for PGL- 2pm
Sun 19	Y5 & Y6 Return from PGL
Thurs 23	FOSS Film Night
Fri 24	LAST DAY OF TERM

June

Mon 03	FIRST DAY OF TERM
Mon 03	Y4 Multiplication Test open
Tues 04	FOSS Summer Disco
Mon 10	Y1 Phonics Screening Tests
Thurs 13	Y5 & Y6 Positive Health Workshop - AM
Fri 21	Y6 Sporting Event – NK Sports Centre
Thurs 27	Sports Day – whole school

July

Mon 01	Reserve Sports Day – whole school
Thurs 04	All Priory Secondary Schools Y7 Induction Day
Fri 05	All Secondary Priory Schools Y7 Induction Day
Wed 10	Y5/6 Production – 1:30pm & 6pm
Fri 12	Reports Issued
Mon 15	Move Up afternoon
Fri 19	Leaver's Service 1:30pm
Fri 19	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.

Truth, Compassion, Respect, Forgiveness