

Swallowtail News



The Swallowtail Federation of Church Schools



Our Federation's mission is to work together to create successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens.

With friendship, trust and kindness we fly!

office@catfield.norfolk.sch.uk (01692 580568)

office@hickling.norfolk.sch.uk (01692 598355)

office@sutton.norfolk.sch.uk (01692 580608)

November 2023 Newsletter

Message from the Executive Head

Dear families

You will all be aware that this year we have introduced CUSP to the teaching of many subjects in our school. I know many of you have been into school to join in a CUSP lesson and have feedback how impressed you were with the children's engagement and the aspiration of the curriculum. Mrs Moore and myself have had the absolute pleasure of monitoring it being implemented in all of our classes since the beginning of the term and witnessed a real buzz from staff and children alike. A particular highlight was last week when we met with children from all classes and asked them to share with us their thoughts about their writing lessons. We couldn't have been prouder and our only regret was we didn't film the conversations to share with you all. Here are a few snippets:

(Y5/6) *"We used better vocabulary to make it more exciting. The reader would be intrigued and interested."*

(Y5/6) *"I have improved in my knowledge of how to do my writing well. It is important to go through things again as it helps you remember."*

(Y3/4) *"If we don't write in paragraphs you wouldn't know which part is which. The reader won't understand when to stop reading and the next bit is going to happen."*

(Y3/4) *"We learnt what reported speech is and how to use it. It is instead of speech marks. You use said or told."*

(Y1/2) *"I used adjectives to make it more exciting."*

(Y1/2) *"I can now write neatly on the page starting from the edge. I now need to make my letters clearer and use finger spaces."*

There is certainly a sense of excitement in the air as we move closer and closer to Christmas. Staff are busy finalising plans for all the festive activities and it promises to be a wonderful time for everyone. We are particularly looking forward to opening the doors to you all and welcoming you in to join the fun.

Kind Regards

Natalie Butcher

Executive Head, Swallowtail Federation of Church Schools

Message from the senior teacher

Dear families,

Thank you for coming and sharing such a special afternoon with us last Friday. The long awaited opening of our library space. May I take this opportunity again to thank you for all of your support towards the refurbishment of the library space. We undertook oodles of fundraising opportunities, all of which you have really supported us with. We look forward to watching the children develop their love for reading in this special place. If you haven't seen it yet, we are in the EDP, North Norfolk News and Great Yarmouth Mercury.

<https://www.norfolknews.co.uk/news/23925188.hickling-infant-school-refurbishes-library-donation/>

We are looking forward to fundraising for our next project, the pond!

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Blake

News

- Mrs. Moore our Federation Deputy is also our SENCO. To ensure both roles are given the time and commitment required, designated days are set aside. Days for SENCO are Monday and Tuesday.
- Children in year two need to ensure they have completed their transfer to Junior school, the closing date for applications is 15th January. For further advice and guidance please go to www.norfolk.gov.uk/admissions.
- Parking - When dropping off and collecting your children from school, please ensure you maintain respect for the neighbours around. Please try not to block the driveways of the houses close to the school. Thank you for your support with this.
- One of our children has lost a camouflage sun hat and a superhero plastic tub, can you please check at home to ensure you don't accidentally have it.
- Afterschool clubs next term are Tuesday Art club with Miss Turner and Thursday tennis with Premier Sports. These will go live for families to book on from 9.00am on Monday 4th December. Please ensure you book and pay for the whole of the half term. Art club only has 8 spaces available, on a first come first serve basis. We also hope to run a yoga club on Mondays, more information will follow soon on this.
- The children will be taking part in a Sponsored Readathon on Friday 5th January. We are busy planning a variety of engaging reading activities for the children. The reading activities will last the duration of the day and will promote reading for the whole of the 6 hours that the children are in school. The children will be reading a variety of genres as well as opportunities to read music and maps! The event will be planned in such a way that children will still be reading when they are travelling down the corridor, washing their hands and even when they are having a wee! We wish to invite you in at 2.30pm on this day where you will share the last 15 minutes of your child's readathon with them before we present them with their certificates!
- I am delighted to share with you that our chosen Nativity this year is Born in a Barn. There will be two showings of our nativity. The first on Tuesday 12th at 10am and the second on Wednesday 13th at 2pm. Both showings will take place at the church. Our nativity will be a ticketed event this year. Four complimentary tickets per family will be allocated to you and if any further tickets are required, these can be purchased at £3 each.
- Carol Singing in the village - On Tuesday 19th December we will be carol singing throughout the village. Please see the schedule of where we will be at what time, below. Please come out and support us at one (or all!) of our singing locations.
 - 9.30am - The Village Green
 - 10am - The Chapel car park
 - 10.50am - Broadlands Road
 - 11.30pm - The Community Garden

We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 19th December.

This month's curriculum focus: Art

Our CUSP Art curriculum is organised into blocks with each block covering a particular set of artistic disciplines, including drawing, painting, printmaking, textiles, 3D and collage. Each of these disciplines are revisited throughout their journey through the year groups.

Our Art curriculum outlines key aspects of artistic development through 'Working Artistically' (explained in the table below). Each module that is taught will focus on developing different aspects of these competencies.

Working Artistically						
Shape	Line	Colour	Value	Form	Texture	Space
Shape is a flat (2D) area surrounded by an outline or edge.	Lines are used to show movement and mood.	Colour is used to convey atmosphere and mood.	Value is the intensity of colour and depends on the amount of white added.	Artists use form when they create sculptures. These are 3D shapes.	Texture is the look and feel of a surface.	Space in artwork makes a flat image look like it has form.

Within the first Art lesson of block of 3, children will revisit prior learning related to skills and knowledge learnt in their previous year. This supports the sequence of learning and the building of children's skills and knowledge as they progress through school.

New technical vocabulary is introduced within each block of lessons. Children will be encouraged to use this new vocabulary when talking about their own work or work of artists they are studying. Children are also encouraged to make links to other known words and how words relate to each other, supporting their understanding.

Our children record their Art learning in their sketchbooks. These are books where children can feel free to explore new ways of making marks, colours, shapes and lines and also where they can experiment with using old and new media, for example, pencils, charcoal, paint and print. Their sketchbooks stay with them as they move through the school years, meaning they are able to look back on previous learning and use this to support their new learning.

Our wonderful library opening



Diary dates

Friday 24th November - Sugar and Sparkle day - In exchange for dressing up in something sparkly, please bring in a bag of sugar. We are doing this to support shelters in East Anglia for the homeless and families in crisis. For those in need, sugar is an instant and vital energy in food and hot drinks.

Saturday 25th November - Christmas Craft Fayre at the chapel (Please come and support us, we will be having a stall)

Thursday 30th November - Christmas craft morning - 9.00 - 10.30am. Families are welcome to attend.

Tuesday 5th December - Carol Singing at Hickling Lunch Club - 1.30pm

Tuesday 5th December - BINGO! 7pm. £10 a ticket, bookable via the school office. Ticket to include festive nibbles. Bring your own drink.

Thursday 7th December - Christmas Jumper Day - Children to wear a Christmas Jumper in exchange for a £1 donation.

Friday 8th December - Nativity Dress Rehearsal (church) - 9.30am

Friday 8th December - Christmas Disco - 3.30pm - 5pm - Tickets are £3.00 and places can be booked on pupil

Friday 8th December - Carol singing at Hickling House

Tuesday 12th December - Nativity at 10.00am.

Tuesday 12th December - Christmas Movie night 3-4.30pm. Tickets are £3.00 and places can be booked on pupil asset.

Wednesday 13th December - Nativity at 2pm. Children to go home from the church afterwards.

Thursday 14th December - Reception class and KS1 attending Snow White Pantomime at Sheringham Little Theatre. As per the letter, please drop your child off at Catfield at 8am but collect them from Hickling as normal.

Thursday 14th December - Pre-school Children attending a Federation Day at Sutton.

Monday 18th December - Christingle at 2pm at the Church - Children to go home afterwards.

Tuesday 19th December - Carol Singing in the village

Wednesday 20th December- Christmas Church Service at 2pm. Children to go home afterwards.

Wednesday 20th December- Christmas dinner at school.

Thursday 21st December - 3rd January - Christmas Holidays

Thursday 4th January - Start of the Spring term

Friday 5th January- Sponsored Readathon at school. Parents invited to attend from 2.30pm.

Saturday 16th March - Easter Fayre

Safeguarding Some links for e-safety:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/digital/5-a-day/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Stay up to date...

Website: www.swallowtailfederation.co.uk

[Follow us on twitter at](#)
[@HicklingInfants](#)

[Follow us on Facebook at](#)
[Hickling Infant School](#)