

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!

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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

SENCO

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.

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



@ CatfieldPrimary



Catfield CE VC Primary School

Message from Miss Amis

I would just like to say a big thank you to everyone for being so supportive with the unforeseen changes that have had to happen in school due to the flooding. Our hall floor is still drying out and we are hoping this can be replaced before all of our Nativities and Christmas events begin. We are also hoping to be able to invite you all back in for our Friday Worships as soon as we possibly can.

We are quickly heading towards Christmas, which is always a super busy period in school. I would like to take this opportunity to fill you in with what is happening so you can put the dates in your diary.

Dates:

Wednesday 22nd November – Years 4 – 6 will be taking part in a Tag Rugby event. Miss Fiddeman/Mrs Smithson have sent out more information about this and what kit children will need.

Thursday 30th November – Christmas craft morning 9am – 10:30am. We would like to invite all parents in to create some Christmas crafts with the children. Please come round to the front office to be signed in after dropping your children on the playground.

Thursday 7th December – Christmas Jumper Day. Children are invited to come to school wearing their Christmas Jumper (and non-school leggings/trousers). We ask for a voluntary donation of £1 to go to the Save the Children charity.

Thursday 7th December – Movie Night 3:15pm-5:15pm. Please ensure all forms and money are given to the office in a named envelope.

Tuesday 12th December – Nativity Performance 2:30pm. Please ensure all EYFS/KS1 children have their costumes in school. More information about Nativity Tickets will be emailed to you soon. Children will be allowed to go home after the performance has finished.

Wednesday 13th December – Nativity Performance 9:15am.

Thursday 14th December – Trip to Sheringham Pantomime. Please ensure all forms and contributions are made ASAP. Children will need to be dropped off at 8:20am.

Thursday 14th December – Pre-School Christmas Federation Day. Our pre-school children will be spending the day at Sutton with our Federation pre-schoolers.

Thursday 14th December – KS2 Carol Concert 6pm. Please can we ask that you park at the school and walk up to the Church as this is safer for our children.

Monday 18th December – Christingle in Church 2pm. We would like to invite you all to our Christingle in the Church. Please can we ask that you park at school and walk up to the Church.

Wednesday 20th December – Christmas Dinner. More information about pre-ordering this will be emailed soon.

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.

This term our Year 1 and 2 children are working on their drawing skills, using music to evoke mood and represent movement through mark making. They will also explore line, colour and shape, make their own painting tools and develop colour mixing skills to include secondary colours.

Year 3 and 4 will create contour drawings using still life and natural forms as stimulus. They will also learn about abstract art and develop colour mixing skills to include tertiary colours, using paint.

Year 5 and 6 children will develop their drawing skills to combine techniques to create abstract images and learn about surrealism and portraiture. They will create still life compositions by combining different media and in response to cubist work as well as adapt and refine ideas and techniques and respond to different styles of artists and art movements.

2023–2024 Academic calendar



Norfolk County Council

2023-2024

Norfolk Model Calendar

This calendar applies to community schools, community special schools, VC schools and nursery schools and sets the days on which school transport will be provided. While most Foundation, VA, foundation special, free schools and academy trusts who are able to set their own dates, adopt the Norfolk Model, we advise you to check with your child's school before making holiday or other commitments.

September 2023	October 2023	November 2023	December 2023
M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S
4 5 6 7 8 9 10	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17	9 10 11 12 13 14 15	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 22 23 24	16 17 18 19 20 21 22	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	18 19 20 21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30	23 24 25 26 27 28 29	27 28 29 30	25 26 27 28 29 30 31
	30 31		
January 2024	February 2024	March 2024	April 2024
M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S
1 2 3 4 5 6 7			1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	4 5 6 7 8 9 10	8 9 10 11 12 13 14
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	11 12 13 14 15 16 17	15 16 17 18 19 20 21
22 23 24 25 26 27 28	19 20 21 22 23 24 25	18 19 20 21 22 23 24	22 23 24 25 26 27 28
29 30 31	26 27 28 29	25 26 27 28 29 30 31	29 30
May 2024	June 2024	July 2024	August 2024
M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S
6 7 8 9 10 11 12	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	5 6 7 8 9 10 11
13 14 15 16 17 18 19	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	8 9 10 11 12 13 14	12 13 14 15 16 17 18
20 21 22 23 24 25 26	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	15 16 17 18 19 20 21	19 20 21 22 23 24 25
27 28 29 30 31	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	22 23 24 25 26 27 28	26 27 28 29 30 31

Key : White dates - schools open to pupils
Yellow dates - pupil holiday
Red dates - bank holiday

Five staff training days will be selected from yellow dates, we suggest 4th & 5th September, 3 January, 28th March and 22 July. Some may choose to use twilight hours for staff training instead of some or all of these.

Diary dates

November

30th—Christmas craft morning

30th—Flu immunisations

December

7th—Christmas Jumper day

7th—Movie Night 3.15pm-5.15pm

11th—Nativity dress rehearsal

12th—Nativity performance 2.30pm

13th—Nativity performance 9.15am

14th—Pantomime—Sheringham Little Theatre trip (Reception to Year 6)

14th—Pre-School Federation day @ Sutton

14th—KS2 Carol Concert 6pm

18th—Christingle in church 2pm

20th—Christmas dinner & Last day of Term

4th January 2024 —Children return to school