

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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February 2024 Newsletter

Message from the Executive Head

Dear families

Welcome to our February newsletter and what a soggy February it has been! Thankfully the hours of daylight are starting to extend which we know makes us all feel a bit brighter.

You will see in this newsletter that we have some exciting enrichment opportunities coming up including an Olympic Federation Day, World Book Day dance sessions and the Dance Showdown. We are so thrilled to be able to offer these to our children and know they will add to the many happy memories they have of their school days. More details to follow soon.

I hope all of you have a wonderful Half Term break and look forward to seeing you in the (very short) run up to Easter.

A quick reminder that following the Easter holidays, from the 15th April 2024, our school day will end at 3:20 p.m.

Kind Regards

Natalie Butcher

Executive Head, Swallowtail Federation of Church Schools

Message from the senior teacher

Dear families,

Ahead of schedule, our pond has been dug out and expanded. A new liner was fitted and a dipping platform carefully crafted to allow the children lots of safe space in front of the pond. The children will be able to begin using the pond soon. We plan to officially open and celebrate our new pond area in May/June time, once the grass and pond plants have had a chance to establish themselves. To help get a habitat established in our new pond, we would gratefully accept any 'cuttings' of pond plants or pond dipping critters such as frog spawn, diving beetles, snails... These could be brought in on a Monday or Tuesday and given to Mrs Pell. Many thanks if you have anything to share with us!

Pond work completed by J D Services, Norfolk.

<https://jdservicesnorfolk.co.uk/>

Miss Blake x

This month's curriculum focus:

The aim of our PSHE/RSE provision is to ensure all pupils have the knowledge and skills they need to be safe, happy and healthy in our ever evolving world.

Our PSHE curriculum at Swallowtail is organised into three concepts: Relationships, Living in the Wider World and Health and Wellbeing. For PSHE we use plans from the PSHE association to support planning sequences of learning across all key stages. A spiral curriculum has planned to allow pupils to revisit knowledge linked to the three concepts. Explicit teaching of vocabulary is a key feature of teaching at the Swallowtail Federation. Each unit introduces children to key vocabulary, which is then built on as they revisit the three concepts.

For RSE we use the RSE solutions scheme to support planning sequences of learning across all key stages. From April 2021 it became statutory that all primary age children (Reception to Year 6) are taught RSE. These subjects are designed to equip your child with knowledge to make informed decisions about their well-being, health and relationships as well as preparing them for successful adult life. The world for all young people looks very different from the way it did 20 years ago when this curriculum was last updated – these changes bring the content into the 21st century, so that it is relevant for your child. All units can be found on our web-site. Please see below a couple of examples of our RSE planning. The RSE curriculum begins in Reception and progresses all the way to year 6.

Our children record their PSHE/RSE work in class floor books and this can be viewed at our shared work sessions after school. *Dawn Steers—RSE and PSHE subject leader.*

Year group R

My feelings	My body	My relationships	My beliefs	My rights and responsibilities	Asking for help
How feelings are expressed, words to describe feelings and simple strategies for managing feelings.	Basic personal hygiene.	Celebrating similarities and differences.	Likes, dislikes and making choices.	Personal privacy. The right to keep some things private. Respecting other people's privacy.	Special people, what makes them special and how special people care for one another.

Year group two

My feelings	My body	My relationships	My beliefs	My rights and responsibilities	Asking for help
Recognising and celebrating strengths and achievements. Setting simple but challenging goals.	Growing and changing throughout life.	Understanding that bullying is wrong and unacceptable.	Different families. Understanding there has never been and will never be another them.	Judging what kind of physical contact is acceptable, comfortable and uncomfortable and how to respond.	The difference between secrets and surprises, and the importance of not keeping a secret that makes them feel uncomfortable, worried or afraid.

News

Clubs for Summer 1.

Tuesday's - 3.20pm until 4.20pm - Art Club

Thursday's - 3.20pm until 4.20pm - Archery Club

Due to there being less interest in yoga club over the last half term, we will require you to register your interest ahead of signing up and paying for this particular club. This will ensure that we only deliver clubs that are viable and that are of interest. A sign up sheet will be available to you on Monday 26th February, outside the school gate. Please register your interest here. We will be in touch on Wednesday 28th February to let you know whether yoga will or will not go ahead. Clubs that we are able to run will then go live on Wednesday 20th March at around 9am. All clubs must be booked by Wednesday 27th March and the whole half term paid for.

Each year we raise money for a chosen charity throughout the period of lent. We ask the children who/what they would be interested in supporting. After gathering their ideas, we were able to signpost them to the relevant charities and the children were given a presentation about the two charities. Following the presentation, the children voted for their preferred charity. The charity that was collectively chosen was MacMillan. On Monday 25th March, we will make a coin trail. Please bring in any loose change on this day to help make our trail.

Easter Fayre - Donations of Easter eggs, bric-a-brac, teddies and tombola prizes are all welcome from today (Friday 16th February) Please do let Miss Blake know if you are available to help on the day too.

Unless an email dialogue instigated by Miss Blake is already open, please ensure that ALL emails are sent to the office email account. Mrs Barker is skilled in forwarding these emails on to the relevant person to get you a response.

Nuts - Children are welcome to have food items in their lunchboxes that contain traces of nuts, including peanut butter, however please avoid sending whole nuts and peanuts into school for your children due to choking. Please follow the link for further NHS guidance.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/weaning-and-feeding/foods-to-avoid-giving-babies-and-young-children/>

Kingfisher children - As part of their next block of DT learning, they will need a study box, a similar size to a shoe box. We would be exceptionally grateful for donations of study boxes on the first week back.

Earrings - Please ensure that on days that your child does PE and an afterschool sports club, that their earrings are removed before school or that they are able to take them out themselves and have somewhere safe to put them.



Diary dates

14th February - 28th March - Lent

Thursday 7th March - World Book Day Reading Cafe - To celebrate World Book Day this year, we would like to invite the children to dress up as their favourite BOOK character. We would also like to welcome you into school between 9am-10.30am for our Reading Cafe. Excitedly, Premier Sports, our Sports After School Club providers will be attending to facilitate one of our activities!

Friday 8th March - Mother's Day celebration - 8.50am

Saturday 2nd March - 10.30am-1.30pm, we will be at the Seed Swap event at Hickling Barn. May we encourage and invite you to bring your children along; with us they will be able to join in with some plants/growing related arts and crafts.

Friday 15th March - Comic Relief - The children are invited to wear red and bring a voluntary donation of £1 for Comic Relief.

Saturday 16th March - Easter Fayre

Tuesday 19th March - Work sharing

Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st - EYFS parent consultations

Thursday 21st March - Easter Story Cafe - Please join us for an Easter Story Cafe. 9am-10.30am. Reverend Coryn will be joining us for our Easter Cafe.

Tuesday 26th March - Easter Egg Hunt at the Care Home - As part of our visit at Easter, the Care Home would like to offer the children an opportunity to take part in an Easter Egg making and decorating competition. A recommendation would be to make a paper mache egg and then decorate it, however you are not restricted to making your egg this way. If you need any card, paper, glitter, glue etc, please speak to Miss Blake about borrowing these. Eggs must be brought into school by Tuesday 12th March. The ladies at the care home will announce the winners when we visit on Tuesday 26th for our Easter Egg Hunt.

Wednesday 27th March - Children's Easter Egg Hunt

Wednesday 27th March - Easter Church Service - St Mary's Church, Hickling - 2pm - Children will be free to go home after our Easter Church Service on Wednesday 27th March. If you are not attending the church, please arrange to collect your child from the church at around 2.30pm. If your child gets the taxi, please liaise with Steve about collecting your child.

Friday 26th April - Key Stage 1 reports out to families

Friday 10th May - Paula Hannant BINGO - Paula has kindly offered to donate the money raised at her Bingo evening, to the school. If you are able to come along, please do. Doors open at 6.30pm. Bingo starts at 7pm. At Hickling Barn.

Friday 14th June - Father's Day celebration - 8.50am

Friday 21st June - Reception, KS1 and KS2 Federation Day at Sutton, Pre-School Federation Day at Catfield - More information to follow

Tuesday 25th June - Work sharing

Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th June - Key Stage 1 parent consultations

Monday 1st July - EYFS reports out to families

Thursday 4th July - Premier Sports Dance Showdown. Opportunities for weekly Performing Arts lessons leading up to the showdown at The Pavilion Theatre, Gorleston. More information to follow.

Wednesday 10th July - Sports Day and picnic (11am)

Wednesday 17th July - Reserve Sports Day

Thursday 18th July - Year 2 leavers assembly in school (9am) - Year 2 families only.

Friday 19th July - End of term church service (1.30pm) - All welcome

Safeguarding

Some links for e-safety:

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

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