



With friendship, trust and kindness, we fly!

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April 2026 Newsletter

Message from the Executive Head

Dear families

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back after the Easter holidays. It sounds like they all had a wonderful time.

In the schools we continue to be focusing on writing. A particular push for all pupils has been on presentation and handwriting. The children have been working really hard on this and it is evident in their work. They are showing great pride in what they are achieving and are able to better showcase their brilliant ideas.

You will have received various types of communication around fundraising for Macmillan, as a team of staff are taking on the 26-mile Mighty Hike in May. Hearing about this, the children have been inspired to join in the fundraising. Fundraising events include a EYFS/KS1 sports challenge, a KS2 Swallowtail Mini Hike and a 'Wicked' movie night. We hope that many children will be able to take part.

Kind Regards

Natalie Butcher

Executive Head, The Swallowtail Federation

Message from the Senior Teacher

Dear families,

Welcome to the summer term! The children are enjoying playing on the field in the sun. We have many things planned for this final term including some federation days and trips.

Yesterday you should have received a letter and a sponsor form regarding our EYFS and key stage 1 sports challenge day that we are holding at Hickling. If you have any difficulties getting your child to Hickling, please speak to each other to see if somebody could help out in the first instance, otherwise speak to your class teacher.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to everyone who has supported us with our fundraising for Macmillan, we are all extremely grateful and blown away by your generosity. If there is anyone who would still like to sponsor us or donate please speak to either Mrs. Gilbert or myself.

Sabrina Holmes

Senior teacher and DSL; Sutton CE Infant Academy EYFS, R.E and D.T Lead Teacher

Message from the Governors

Dear Everyone

Welcome back after the Easter Break, I always think this is a great time of year as the evenings get longer and the days brighter and the warmth of the sun has been wonderful to enjoy. I wanted to take a moment to say hello to everyone and let you know that I welcome any feedback or do contact me if you have any questions. I do enjoy hearing about the wide range of activities at Swallowtail and it was great that some of our KS2 children were able to sing at the O2 in the Young Voices choir event and just as great to hear about Easter bonnet making, singing at a care home, visits to the Cathedral, the Synagogue, Gressenhall and everyone's efforts for World Book day. Such a wide range of different things happen at Swallowtail Federation.

As governors we meet once every term and in between those meetings go into school to support and review various aspects of school life and to meet with pupils, teachers and leaders. Whilst I work full time and am not able to get into school very often when I do I am always struck by the friendly welcoming environment. If anyone is interested in becoming a governor do let me know, it's so rewarding and interesting. If you are even a bit interested and not sure, let's have a chat.

I am looking forward to our Summer Fete on Sunday 7th June and the Arts Festival on 9th July so if you see me there just come and say hello and if you not sure who I am just ask someone to point me out.

Sheila Watts- Chair of Governors

News

- Don't forget our weekly cake raffle, entries can be made on Parent Mail. It costs £1.00 per entry.
- Wraparound Care- wraparound bookings (including breakfast club) must be booked at least a week in advance and the office must be informed directly of your booking. Once booked please email the school office on office@sutton.norfolk.sch.uk with your booking dates. If you need a last-minute booking, please ensure you call the school office directly, if children arrive at school without contacting the school first we may be unable to accept your children due to staffing.
- Can families please ensure their children come into school everyday with their reading book and guided reading records.
- A polite reminder that children must be supervised by an adult until the teacher comes to collect them each morning.

Safeguarding

Some links for e-safety:

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

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

Stay up to date...

Website: www.swallowtailfederation.co.uk

Facebook page – Search for Sutton CEVC Infant School

School attendance

Attendance to date for Sutton Infant Academy

Butterflies class: **89.12%**

Dragonflies class: **95.02%**

Attendance - Responsibilities of school staff and Attendance Leaders	
School staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Form positive relationships with pupils and parents.· Contribute to a whole school approach which reinforces good school attendance; with good teaching and learning experiences that encourage all pupils to attend and to achieve.· Comply with the regulations and other relevant legislation.· Implement systems to report, record and monitor the attendance of all pupils, including those who are educated off-site.· Ensure that registers are recorded accurately and in a timely manner.· Contribute to the evaluation of school strategies and interventions.· Work with other agencies to improve attendance and support pupils and their families.
Attendance Leader	<p>Monitoring and analysing pupil attendance data.</p> <p>Undertaking weekly attendance meetings with the Senior Attendance Champion, Designated Safeguarding Lead, SENCO, and other relevant staff members.</p> <p>Implementing the identified strategies for promoting excellent whole school attendance.</p> <p>Implementing the identified strategies for tackling unsatisfactory attendance.</p> <p>Managing individual pupil casework files.</p> <p>Ensuring first day calling procedures are adhered to if a child is absent from school without contact from parents.</p> <p>Taking an active lead in delivering whole school initiatives such as awards assemblies and reward schemes.</p> <p>Making referrals to appropriate external agencies. Actively promote the importance and value of good attendance to all pupils and their parents.</p>

Abby Blake

Assistant Head Teacher, Swallowtail Federation

Diary Dates (all subject to change):

Summer term

Friday 1st May- Non-uniform day, if families bring a bottle or raffle prize as donation to our

Summer Fete.

Thursday 7th May- Wicked Film night being held at Catfield Primary Academy. Tickets are £7, with all proceeds going to Macmillan. If you would like to donate a little extra, it will be greatly received. Payment is by **cash only**. Money to be in a named envelope to be handed to the office stating 'Wicked Movie Night'. All payments must be received by 1st May 2026

Monday 11th May- EYFS/KS1 Sports Event at Hickling Infant Academy. Please drop off your children at Hickling between 8.45 - 9.15am. Children are to be collected from Hickling between 2.50pm - 3.20pm. Pre-school children's hours will stay the same. The kitchen won't be making hot dinners on the day, children can select the school packed lunch option. Can children please wear their school PE kits. Breakfast club will be held at Hickling, please drop your child off at Hickling for 8.00am.

Wednesday 20th May- EY Stay and play 9.30-10.30am.

Thursday 21st May- Forest school session at Hickling Infant Academy. Children to be taken by school minibus.

Friday 22nd May-Math's cafe 9.00-10.00am.

Monday 25th May- Friday 29th May- school half term

Tuesday 2nd June- KS1 trip to West Runton. Information on Parent Mail.

Thursday 4th June- EYFS Federation Day at Catfield. Can families please drop off their children off at Catfield Primary school at 9.00am and collect from Catfield at 3.00pm. Pre-school children's hours will stay the same. Breakfast club will be held at Catfield please drop your child off at Catfield for 8.00am

Thursday 4th June- KS1 consultations. Please book your place on ParentMail.

Sunday 7th June- Swallowtail Summer Fete at Hickling Barn 10.00-2.00pm.

Tuesday 9th June- Community afternoon event 2-3pm.

Friday 12th June- EYFS/KS1 Federation Day, Global awareness/around the world. Children will spend the day at Hickling Infant Academy. Please drop your children off at Hickling Infant Academy at 8.45am and collect at 3.20pm. We encourage families to car share where possible and park in respect of the neighbours. Pre-school children's hours will stay the same. Breakfast club will be held at Hickling, please drop your child off at Hickling for 8.00am.

Friday 12th June- Bingo night 6-8pm. £5.00 per person, tickets to be booked on ParentMail. All funds raised go towards supporting the school.

Friday 19th June- Father's Day scavenger hunt 8.50am.

Monday 22nd June- EY Stay and Play 9.30am-10.30am.

Friday 26th June- Sports day and picnic 12-3pm

Tuesday 30th June- Reception class trip to Wroxham Barns. Information on ParentMail.

Friday 3rd July- Reserve sports day and picnic. 12-3pm. If cancelled on 26th June due to weather.

Thursday 9th July- Forest school session at Hickling Infant Academy. Children to be taken by school minibus.

Thursday 9th July- Swallowtail arts festival. More information to follow.

Tuesday 14th July- YR2 Leavers trip to Bewilderwood.

Wednesday 15th July- Reserve Swallowtail Arts festival. If cancelled on 9th June due to weather.

Children break up for summer break on Friday 17th July.

This month's curriculum focus – DT

Our design technology CUSP curriculum is on a two-year rolling programme which enables our pupils to build on their prior learning and hone the techniques that they use.

In the early years our pupils are introduced to a variety of materials, tools and fixings, sculpting and evaluating, these are covered through the early years Expressive Arts and Design area of development. Key stage one and key stage two build upon these early foundations and upon each other.

While working as designers our pupils follow the design, make, evaluate and apply process. There are connections with architects, designers and structures etc, giving historical aspects to the units. All units have specific oracy and vocabulary learning along with the evaluation process.

Across this academic year key stage one and two pupils have covered and are covering the following areas:

Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term
Key stage 1		
<p>Textiles: <i>How can you repurpose an item of clothing?</i></p> <p>Learning how to use a template to create a simple patchwork. Repurposing clothing to create something practical and useful. Developing skills using a needle and thread to create small, even stitches.</p> <p>Connections: Frank Havrah 'Kaffe' Fassett. An American-born, British-based artist.</p> <p>Food and Nutrition (linked with the science unit Living things): <i>What does healthy mean?</i></p> <p>Learning what healthy means and that eating a variety of vegetables provides the body with the nutrients it needs. Making products that use a range of vegetables and minimally processed foods.</p> <p>Techniques: claw, ribboning, bridge.</p>	<p>Mechanisms: <i>Are bigger wheels always better?</i></p> <p>Learning how wheels and axles work together. Building simple wheel mechanisms and exploring how the size of the wheel and position of the axles affects the movement of simple vehicles.</p> <p>Connections: Karl Friedrich Benz. A German mechanical engineer</p> <p>Understanding materials (linked with the science unit Use of everyday materials): <i>How can you waterproof a hat?</i></p> <p>Investigating materials to discover whether they absorb or resist water. Creating a 3D object by creasing and folding paper. Using wax or oil crayons to create a waterproof coating for a paper hat.</p> <p>Connections: Arthur Wellesley. First Duke of Wellington, soldier, political statesman and designer of the Wellington boot.</p>	<p>Food and Nutrition: <i>How healthy is your food?</i></p> <p>Learning how foods that are pre-made and processed are often less healthy. Practising skills to make food that will help improve energy, mood and future health.</p> <p>Techniques: grating, claw, bridge.</p> <p>Structures: <i>How strong is a piece of paper?</i></p> <p>To know the strength and stability of paper can be increased by folding. Testing and recording paper structures. Designing a paper tower that is at least 50cm tall and can bear a 1kg weight.</p> <p>Connections: Dame Zaha Mohammad Hadid.</p>
Lower key stage 2		
<p>Food and Nutrition: <i>What's really in your food?</i></p> <p>Exploring the difference between freshly made food and mass-produced food. Learning how to make food that is commonly shop bought. Exploring the nutritional benefits of homemade food.</p> <p>Techniques: shaping, rolling, sautéing.</p> <p>Mechanisms: <i>How many ways are there to open a door?</i></p> <p>Investigating how hinges work. Selecting a range of modelling materials and tools. Making and evaluating hinged products.</p> <p>Connections: London's Tower Bridge uses huge hinges to lift up the road to allow boats to pass on the Thames.</p>	<p>Textiles: <i>How do you keep a tea towel from slipping off a hook?</i></p> <p>Identifying the different functions for fastenings and learning how to sew a button onto fabric. Creating a solution to the problem of a towel slipping off a hook.</p> <p>Connections: George de Mestral. Swiss electrical engineer and inventor of Velcro®.</p> <p>Structures: <i>Which shapes will give a structure stability?</i></p> <p>Exploring which shapes can be used to ensure stability in structures. Using a range of materials to investigate 3D shapes and collaborating on a class geodesic dome structure.</p> <p>Connections: Roma Agrawal. Indian-British-American structural engineer.</p>	<p>Electrical systems (linked with the science unit electricity): <i>How useful are switches?</i></p> <p>Learning how different types of switches work within electrical circuits. Learning how switches can be used to perform a function in a product.</p> <p>Connections: Samuel Bagno. American inventor.</p> <p>Food and Nutrition (linked with the science unit animals including humans): <i>Is cheap food always worse for you?</i></p> <p>Learning how to make healthy food from low-cost ingredients. Considering how cheap processed foods will affect health in later life.</p> <p>Connections: rubbing in, rolling and shaping, slicing.</p>
Upper key stage 2		
<p>Food and Nutrition: <i>Can street foods save us?</i></p> <p>Studying and making street foods from different cultures. Considering their own diet and snacks and how they might be improved.</p> <p>Techniques: finely dicing, kneading, folding and shaping.</p> <p>Mechanisms: <i>How do pulleys and gears let you see the world?</i></p> <p>Investigating how pulleys and gears work. Designing and making a gears product. Selecting and using a variety of modelling materials.</p> <p>Connections: The London Eye.</p>	<p>Food and Nutrition: <i>Does food affect the way you feel?</i></p> <p>Learning how to cook foods that are often pre-made and processed. Learning and applying techniques to make dishes designed to help improve energy levels, mood and future health.</p> <p>Techniques: dicing, ribboning, sautéing.</p> <p>Structures: <i>How strong is a piece of spaghetti?</i></p> <p>Testing the strength of spaghetti and constructing a tower that is at least three levels tall.</p> <p>Connections: Blackpool Tower by architects James Maxwell and William Charles Tuke.</p>	<p>Electrical systems (linked to the science unit electricity): <i>Can switches perform more than one function?</i></p> <p>Learning how switches can be combined with electrical components in different ways to change the functionality of a product.</p> <p>Connections: Albert Sadacca. American inventor of Christmas tree lights.</p> <p>Textiles: <i>How can we reduce, recycle and repurpose?</i></p> <p>Learning how to reduce waste by recycling and repurposing snack packets and plastic bags into useful items.</p> <p>Connections: Isatou Ceesay. Gambian activist and social entrepreneur.</p>

Mrs Holmes- DT lead