



# MARY SWANWICK PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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Week  
Commencing  
30<sup>th</sup> October

MON  
New Parkour Club

TUES  
Halloween Disco

WEDS  
New Lego Club  
New Football Club KS1

THURS

FRI  
Cross Country  
event KS2  
Mount St. Mary's

## News

What a fantastic first term back!

It has certainly been a busy one with our newest pupils in Nursery and Reception, and children throughout the school settling into their new classes, year groups and even key stages! Our team has continued to strive hard to facilitate excellent and engaging learning opportunities from camp fires to birthday parties, Chinese banquets to a visit to Victor Hugo's lab. It is a pleasure to see that so many of our pupils are already making great strides in their learning, grasping new concepts and becoming confident young learners. We are delighted to have triumphed in many sporting activities, having already been awarded 'Spirit of the Games' on several occasions. Our musical education has also continued to be enhanced through 1:1 lessons and Y4's drumming tuition.

Teachers enjoyed talking to parents and carers at our consultation evenings last week, sharing the progress that children have made so far and discussing the next steps in their learning. We would like to remind parents that we operate an open-door policy, so if you are concerned about anything at school, please speak to a member of staff.

This term we have also elected School Councillors, who are already busy collecting evidence towards achieving the Food for Life bronze award for our school.

Next term promises to be a busy one, particularly for our Mini Techies as we start to roll out iPads to support children's learning, we will keep you posted on how this goes!

Year 5 have been extremely busy this week, first of all visiting our good friends at Whittington Green School for a 'British Values Day' based on democracy, and then heading down to Chesterfield Football Club for a for a day listening to, and questioning, a range of speakers related to their theme 'Inspire Me'.

We take this opportunity to wish all parents, carers and children a fantastic half term holiday and look forward to seeing you all on the 30<sup>th</sup> October.

## Parent Feedback – lucky raffle ticket 878

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that kindly returned their parent questionnaires. We are always seeking to improve what we do at Mary Swanwick and value any feedback given. We are currently in the process of compiling the findings and we will report these to you, and our subsequent actions in due course.

There were a couple of questionnaires collected on which parents said that they disagreed with the statements, but no comment was recorded. We kindly ask that if you do have a concern, that you provide more information so that we can swiftly take action and make the school an even better place for all stakeholders. This may be in the form of a face-to-face conversation with Mrs Parr, or a note passed to the team in the office.

A number of parents suggested the introduction of an on-line or electronic reporting system so that information about children's progress can be accessed by parents at the tap of a button; this is something that we are looking to launch later in the year; watch this space!

Throughout this week, and during the first week after half term, we have & will be collecting suggestions from children about how we could improve our school. Please take time to discuss some ideas with your child - though we are afraid that building a fairground on the field is just a spot out of our budget!

## Photography

The school photographer will be in school from 9:00am – 10:00am on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November. If you would like your child photographing again and haven't sent in the slip please let us know at the school office so we can add your child to the list, thank you.

## Conduct and Grounds

We are saddened to have received reports from a number of parents about the use of abusive language on the school grounds used by adults dropping and collecting children. We kindly ask that inappropriate language is not used in the vicinity of our pupils.

We also ask that adults remind children not to run or walk across the grass verges in the school ground. The children have been reminded about this in Assembly.

## Christmas

We're creeping ever closer to Christmas - here are a few dates for your diary:

Christmas Fair – 30<sup>th</sup> November

Reception - Y6 Christmas concert dress rehearsal  
Grandparents invited: 11<sup>th</sup> December 1:45pm

Reception - Y6 Christmas Concert – (2 dates) - 12<sup>th</sup> December 1:45pm and 13<sup>th</sup> December 5:30pm

Nursery Concert – TBC

Nursery theatre visit – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December: 10am

## Staffing Update

We are delighted to announce that in addition to being Year 4 class teacher and Curriculum Leader, Ms Littlechilds is now our Teaching & Learning Coach. In this role, she will offer support to the Mary Swanwick team regarding new initiatives and teaching and learning theory. We hope that you will join us in congratulating her on her new role.

We would also like to introduce Mrs Sands, our new midday supervisor. Mrs Sands has already made a great impression with many of our children by supporting them in the lunch hall at dinner time.

## Eco Club – KS2 children

We would like to invite your child to participate in ECO gardening club. It will begin on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November. ECO gardening club will be a chance for your child to explore nature, the environment and learn how to care for our world. Children will be working on projects, both indoors and outdoors. They will be getting muddy so will need appropriate clothing such as wellies and a waterproof. Places are limited, so please let us know as soon as possible via the slip below if your child would like to join us.

ECO club

I give permission for my child (name) \_\_\_\_\_ to attend ECO gardening club every Wednesday, 3:15pm – 4:15pm.

I will or I will arrange for my child to be collected by an adult.

Signed parent/carer \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_