



STEPHENSON WAY ACADEMY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

-Headteacher: Mrs T Dodds

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'At SWANS, we **WILL READ**'

Wellbeing. Independence. Language & communication. Love of reading. Resilience.
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Autumn 1 Newsletter (Week Ending 8.9.2023)

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to a brand new- and unseasonably sunny- school year!

I hope you have had a wonderful summer, despite the mainly soggy weather. The children have settled back into the school routine very well and there has been a calm and settled atmosphere across school. Our new Nursery and Reception children have settled in incredibly well, we are very proud of how grown up they are! Thanks to all parents and carers who have ensured the children are wearing school uniform: everyone looks incredibly smart!

Staffing update:

There have been a few changes this year, with some staff swapping between Key Stage 1 and 2 classes. Just to update you, I have been requested by Mr Smith, CEO of Tudhoe Learning Trust, to take on the role of Executive Headteacher. I will be supporting Victoria Lane Academy, another school within our Trust, whilst their Headteacher is absent. This means that initially I will be based in VLA for the majority of the week, but still coming to SWANS with Fraser for some of the time. School will continue to run as normal with Mr Jones, Deputy Head, being available in my absence and Mrs Alton and Miss Kelly as Assistant Headteachers also available as Senior Leaders in school.

Start/Finish times

Just to remind everyone, our start time at school is 8:45am and children can start to come into school from 8:40am. There is no supervision on the yards before 8:40am so please could parents and children not arrive at school until then. Our school finish time is 3:15pm. All children on lower site (early years, year 1 and year 2) must be collected by an adult, and children on upper site (year 3,4,5 and 6) may leave school by themselves if parents have given their consent (there is a form for this in the data packs recently sent home). If you wish to change the status of your child's home time arrangements, please call the office or pop in to update our systems. Also, please could nobody walk up the upper site driveway when arriving/leaving school, to help keep everyone safe.

School Attendance

If your child is unable to attend school for any reason, parents must contact the school office by 9:00am on the first day of absence. For holiday requests or other leave of absences (for example: a significant family occasion), parents will need to collect a form from the office.

School Meals

If you would like to swap your child from packed lunches to school meals, or vice versa, please could you collect a form from the office. We do ask that you give a week's notice so that systems can be updated.



Trim Trail

Please could children not play on our trim trails before and after school because staff are not available to supervise them during these times. Children get plenty of opportunities to use the trim trails during playtimes when the weather is fine.

Data collection packs

Please ensure that all your contact information is up to date and returned on the new data packs by the beginning of next week, as this is a mammoth task for Mrs Defty to update our system. It is crucial that we are able to contact parents / carers in the event of an emergency and that we have a full list of alternative emergency contacts on the forms, please.

Water bottles:

Please ensure you provide your child with a water bottle every day, especially during the unseasonably hot weather. It is very important that the children are able to stay hydrated throughout the day in class.

Wellbeing Wednesday!

We will be offering a free family cookery after school club for run by Jules from Wellbeing for Life commencing on Wednesday 13th September or 6 weeks in KS2 Hall. Information will be sent via Dojo and a paper flier. Please contact Mrs Hunter if you are interested.

Mrs Dodds
Headteacher

SWANS Term Dates for 2023-2024

	School opens	School closes
AUTUMN TERM 2023		
School will be closed on Monday 4th September 2023 for staff training		
	Tuesday 5 th September 2023	Thursday 26 th October 2023
School will be closed on Friday 27th October 2023 for staff training		
	Monday 6 th November 2023	Tuesday 19 th December 2023
School will be closed on Friday 1st December 2023 for staff training		
SPRING TERM 2024		
	Wednesday 3 rd January 2024	Friday 16 th February 2024
	Monday 26 th February 2024	Thursday 28 th March 2024
SUMMER TERM 2024		
	Monday 15 th April 2024	Friday 24 th May 2024
	Monday 3 rd June 2024	Friday 19 th July 2024
School will be closed on May Day, Monday 6th May 2024		
School will be closed on Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd July 2024 for staff training		