



# Swan Lane First School Newsletter

Issue 8 May 2019



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**Dates for your Diary** – Don't forget you can sync our school calendar to your phones using our app on School Jotter.

Monday 3rd June – Teacher Education Day

Tuesday 4th June – Summer 2 starts for pupils

Wednesday 5th June – Y1 Trip to Warwick Castle

Thursday 13th June – Come Dine with 2J

Friday 14th June – 5KB Trip to Mary Arden's Farm

Tuesday 18th June – Reception Trip to Cotswold Farm Park

Wednesday 19th June – School photographer – class groups

Wednesday 19th June – 2J Trip to the Synagogue

Thursday 20th June – Come Dine With 2K

Friday 21st June – Y3 Trip to Nature in Art

Tuesday 25th June – 5AB Trip to Mary Arden's Farm

Wednesday 26th June – 2K trip to the Synagogue

Thursday 27th June – Y2 Trip to Batsford Arboretum

Tuesday 2nd July – Reports Published to Parents

Wednesday 3rd July – Transfer Day

Thursday 4th July – Discos

## Year 5 Visit to Worcester University

Last week, Year 5 took a trip to the University of Worcester to sample life as a student in Higher Education. We were accompanied by a current student teacher at the university, Miss Alici, who took great pride in showing the children the heart of the university.

We spent the morning in a very grand classroom (lecture theatre) with tiered seating and a huge display screen. We were told of the many, many things that could be studied at the university, from Maths and English to more practical subject such as Sports Science and Cookery. We thought about our own futures and the path of learning needed to achieve our own ambitions.

Then we had a guided tour of the campus, passing the Student Halls of Residence and the many excellent sports and leisure facilities there. We were shown around by the Student Ambassadors, people who are currently studying there, who take on a mentoring role for new and visiting students.



## Reminder

Could we please ask you to make sure that your children arrive at 8.50am for the start of the school day. Many children are arriving late at the moment and this can have an impact on their learning. The Education Welfare Officer, on her weekly visit to the school, monitors persistent late attendance as well as looking at attendance generally.

Thank you, Mrs Roberts.

## "Young Voices, New Visions" Art Exhibition at Worcester Cathedral

Mrs Manion has installed our entry into this year's Visual Arts Showcase.

We have entered our superb collection of artwork based around 'Remembrance' – a compilation of all the display boards from around the school, together with a life-size model of a soldier on guard in the trenches of the First World War.

The exhibition is held at Worcester Cathedral from 18th May 2019 to 16th June. Why not go along during half term and admire the other entries?



### Eco Council trip to Severn Waste

On a bright and sunny day in May, the Eco Warriors headed to Severn Waste Recycling Centre in Worcester to find out what happens to our rubbish in Worcestershire. The day started off with a very informative talk about recycling and what the centre does. The Eco Team learnt about 3 key factors when it comes to waste: reuse, recycle and reduce. Following the talk, the children were treated to a tour of the facilities and were shown all of the machinery involved in recycling the paper, plastic and metal products. After the tour, the children were set a number of tasks which tested them on what can be recycled and how each machine filters the different materials. In the afternoon, there was a chance for the children to become creative and design and make fashionable items of clothing and accessories from recycled materials. A great deal of thought and planning went into making a number of very stylish items. The day was a great success with plenty of opportunities for learning about recycling and how we can look after our planet. The Eco Warriors are keen to implement some of these ideas within school.

### Year 4's RE trip to Worcester Cathedral

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2019, Year 4 travelled to Worcester to visit its magnificent cathedral as part of their 'Places of Worship' topic. During the trip, the children found out about the



font, altar and lectern, as well as features that make it distinctive as a cathedral. In addition to this, the children were able to wander around the cathedral to take in its beauty and discover the rich history it has. For the second half of the day, Year 4 took part in activities linked to stories from the New Testament.

They listened to the story of the 'Prodigal Son' and participated in a variety of activities which were linked to the message of forgiveness in the story. Afterwards, both classes were split into groups of ten to retell the story of famous saints.

The children's behaviour and enthusiasm was commendable during the trip and they returned to school with a better appreciation of a local place of worship.



### Year Five Trip to 'The Valley'

On Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May some Year Five children visited The Valley Garden Centre to find out about how a garden centre works. They were given a very interesting tour by Adam



Mould, the Customer Services Manager, who kindly gave his time and shared his knowledge with them. We would like to thank Mr. Mould and The Valley Garden Centre for their very kind donation of plants and compost for our Swan Lane Planting Day. This was greatly appreciated. The children learnt a great deal from this enriching experience.

### Safeguarding

#### Early Help Statement

In the 'Policies and Documents' section of our website, there is now an 'Early Help Statement' detailing the people in the school and within the Local Authority responsible for safeguarding and pastoral support. It contains telephone numbers and information that may be helpful to you in certain situations. If you would like a paper copy please get in touch with Mr Bowkett via the office.

## Year 5 Poetry Morning

On Monday morning, six Year 5 children took part in a poetry morning, hosted by Bengeworth Academy.

We listened to 'The Hall of the Mountain King' by Grieg, an inspiring piece of classical music that starts very quietly and builds to a crescendo of orchestral sound.

We used this as our inspiration to write a poem. It could be about anything - it didn't even need to have punctuation!

Below are a few of examples of our fantastic achievements:

### The Wonder of Nature by Isla

Mountains in a cold grey sky,  
Almost happy that they look out of place,  
Standing still, natural beauty  
They've been there longer than the human race.

Mountains, rivers, flowing water,  
Stunning wonders of the world,  
But they start to shake and rumble  
And a lovely story starts to unfold.  
Volcanoes all around the Earth  
Unite and start to brew their lava  
Soon they will erupt and ruin,  
And it will be a huge palaver!  
  
Volcanoes, elements erupting  
Lava slyly hidden inside,  
Shouting, proving their point with gusto.  
When does it erupt? They decide.  
Rivers, gushing, meandering

Water-falls that twist and turn.  
All of this natural beauty,  
Year after year, will always return.

### The River by Matthew

It started as a trickle  
Creeping down the mountainside  
Ever so slightly moving

Passing through twists and turns  
Waterfalls and meanders  
Rapidly moving

Racing the fish  
Moonlight reflecting against the water  
Finally coming to a stop.



### The Cavern by Lena

A cave at the eerie mountain top  
Footsteps echoing through the space  
A gloomy but breathtaking place.  
  
Wind rushing through holes above  
Trolls apprehensively waiting to prance  
Fire glistening, twisting, ready to dance.

Now the rain comes crashing through  
As darkness floods the cave  
Who will enter? Only the brave.

And then enters a boy  
Watch out! Trolls will have fun  
Little boy, you'd better run.

But he did not. He held his ground  
The boy was never seen again  
The cave collapsed. The end?

