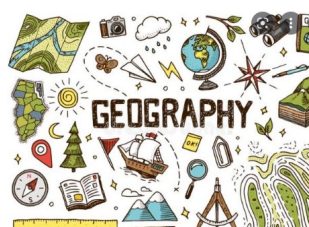


WELCOME BACK! We are looking forward to a full and action-packed term with a combination of SATs, celebrations, Science Week, school trips (the seaside trip is booked again!), performances etc! One of the highlights of last term was being able to welcome parents in to our Class Cafés. It was a great opportunity to share the children's learning with parents and for everyone to socialise in school. We will be sending out dates for the next Class Cafés very soon. The values we will be focusing on this half term in collective worship and all aspects of school life are:



As part of our broad and balanced curriculum, we have reviewed our Geography teaching to ensure that learning is knowledge-rich. As part of our curriculum, children from Early Years onwards learn about the physical and human features of their own community as well as the rest of the world. This is a sample of the topics last term. We were really impressed with how children made links, their general knowledge and enthusiasm. Children in Early Years drew maps of the village, while children in Key Stage

1 learnt about the life and voyages of Christopher Columbus. They learnt the names and locations of the five oceans and seven continents and explored the geographical diversity of the world.

In Year 3 & 4, the learning theme for the spring term was focused on The Fens. Children learnt about land use and the impact of farming, as well as tourism in The Fens. After studying the work of Fred Ingrams, they painted Fen landscapes that demonstrated their understanding of perspective and foreshortening. Their visit to Ely was very successful and really cemented their understanding of the historical and geographical contexts.

Year 5 & 6 studied Trade and the concept of Fair Trade and how it impacts communities at both ends of the supply chain.

Have a look at the Knowledge Organisers on the school website which show what the children will be learning this term.



Attendance

We hope that, now we are moving into the summer months, there will be fewer barriers to children attending school from illness. Application forms for any other leave must be collected from the school office. All holidays are considered unauthorised and should be taken during school holidays (term dates are on the school website). There is lots of evidence which demonstrates the impact even short term absences have long term on attainment. We are happy to work with families to improve attendance

Punctuality

Please can we remind parents/carers that school gates are open 8.40 to 8.45am. After this time, the gate will be closed and children will need to be signed in by parents/carers and will be marked as late in the register. We appreciate there is significant works in the area, please allow extra time for your journey. Where possible, please consider walking to school as the weather improves.

Key Dates

- 2.5.22: Bank Holiday
- 9—12.4.22 Y6 SATs Week
- 25.5.22: 3.30pm or 6.45pm Resus training for pool use
- 27.5.22: Jubilee Celebrations at school
- 30.5.22—3.6.22 HALF TERM
- 6.6.22 Pool opens
- 10.6.22: Y5/6 Visit to the Houses of Parliament
- 15—17.6.22: Y5/6 Residential to Grafham Water
- 27.6.22: Science Week

Office Admin

Lunches

Please remember to book your child's school dinners on Parent Pay by midnight each Tuesday for the following week. You can also book ahead for subsequent weeks.

This is to enable our kitchen staff to order and cook the right amount of food so they can reduce wastage.

Change of Contact Details

If you have changed phone numbers, email addresses or even home address, please inform the office.

Medical Updates

It is vitally important that staff have any new information. Please inform office staff asap.

Absences

Again, please inform the office directly of any absences as early as possible on each day your child is absent.

Covid Guidance (see flowchart below)

Nationally, we have now moved to the 'Living with Covid' stage and therefore while we recognise that it is still in our community, new guidance has just been issued. From the 1st April 2022, Covid-19 will be managed in a similar way to any other respiratory illness. The similarities between the profile of Covid-19 and other respiratory viruses means that individuals will be unable to distinguish one virus from another based on symptoms alone. The NHS have updated their 'COVID-19 symptoms in adults and symptoms in children' guidance.

Children and young people who are unwell with these symptoms and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can go back to school, or childcare and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend. Most children who are unwell will recover in a few days with rest and plenty of fluids. If your child has mild symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat or mild cough, and they feel well enough, they can go to school, college or childcare.

If you are able to access a Covid-19 test (either left-over free testing kits or test kits from pharmacies), **children with a positive test should stay at home and avoid contact with others for 3 days. They can return to education after 3 days provided they have no high temperature and feel well enough to do so.**



Living with COVID-19: advice for those aged 18 and under

Has your child or young person aged 18 or under tested positive, or do they feel unwell with COVID-19 or flu-like symptoms? If so, there are a few simple steps they can take to protect their family and community – especially those at highest risk of severe illness.



If they feel unwell and have a high temperature, with COVID-19 or flu-like symptoms, they should:



Try to stay at home, avoid contact with others and follow the guidance on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)



Try to avoid going to school, college or childcare until they no longer have a high temperature and are well enough to return



Carry on attending as normal if they only have mild symptoms like a runny nose, sore throat or slight cough and otherwise feel well



If they have had a positive test for COVID-19, they should:



Try to stay at home, avoid contact with others for 3 days and follow the guidance on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)



Try to avoid going to school, college or childcare during this time, where they can



Go back after 3 days, but only if they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to do so

Healthy Snacks

Children in Early Years and Key Stage 1 are provided with daily fruit and vegetables for snack time. If your child is in Key Stage 2, we encourage them to bring a healthy snack of fruit or vegetables to have at break time. All children also need a bottle in school filled with water.



Summer Term Uniform

As the warm weather approaches (hopefully!), we want to remind parents/carers of our summer uniform.

Red polo shirts, grey shorts/skirts/trousers, red summer dresses, red jumpers/cardigans, black school shoes. Uniform with the school logo can be purchased from: <https://www.mapac.com/education/parents/uniform/swaffhampriorprimaryschool>

VOLUNTEER



The PTA is an absolutely vital part of our school and Swaffham Prior would certainly be a less vibrant place without the funding for the little extras and the fun events. We are incredibly grateful for all the support parents give to this organisation. However, additional volunteers are always needed. Please sign up for a slot at the Reach Fair stall. All ideas on how we can raise additional funding are very welcome.

Nursery Spaces Available

Nursery children can attend daily for 15 funded hours. It is a great opportunity for them to make a smooth transition from a nursery setting to school as well as to make new friends. There are a few spaces available. Contact the school office to arrange taster sessions.



We all know how important learning times tables is. Please encourage your child to access TT Rockstars to practice this fundamental skill.

What Parents Need to Know about WhatsApp

[A free online safety guide on WhatsApp.](#)

WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service, with around two billion users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls. Its end-to-end encryption means messages can only be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp can read them. Updates to its privacy policy in 2021 (involving sharing data with parent company Facebook) caused millions to leave the app, but the new policy was widely misinterpreted – it only related to WhatsApp's business features, not to personal messages. In the guide, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as scams, strangers and location sharing.