



Swarland Primary School
Newton on the Moor

Morpeth
Northumberland
NE65 9JP

Telephone/Fax (01670) 787346

Email: admin@swarland.northumberland.sch.uk



3rd February 2025

Dear Parents,

Careers talks for the children

Following the success of our Mystery Reader scheme (thanks to the generosity of parents), where parents liaised with class teachers to come and read their favourite book to the class, we would like to roll out a similar scheme regarding Careers. In the past, parents have come into school to talk to the children about their careers. The children loved it! We want to encourage our children to think about future jobs, whilst nurturing aspirations and challenging stereotypes and help to open up a world of possibilities. After February half term, we would like to invite you to come into school and talk to your child's class about your job. The talk should include your role, the qualities, skills and qualifications needed for the job and what you enjoy about the job. Props, pictures, uniforms etc are most welcome. If you are interested and could spare the time to come and talk to the children, please see Mrs Fletcher or your child's class teacher to arrange a mutually convenient slot or to discuss further.

Learning about British values

Our school is always striving to improve and enhance children's learning experiences. Following our most recent Ofsted inspection it was noted that to improve further - "The school should develop further opportunities for pupils to learn about all of the British values, to support pupils to develop their understanding of the world around them". Therefore, we will be providing further opportunities for the children to experience the wider world around them. Following on from our trip to the mosque there will be an opportunity each academic year to visit a different place of worship covering the diverse range of religions in Britain today. Guest speakers from different faiths and cultures will be invited in to talk to the children about their beliefs and cultures. Workshops to celebrate diversity with LGBT groups are also planned for the future. Our KS2 children have a planned trip to Morpeth County Hall to speak to councillors regarding the democratic processes. Our KS2 children will also be asking the Councillors questions about the issues that concern them right now for example climate change, environmental issues, deforestation, farming and homelessness. These are just some of the strategies that we are employing to address our next steps.





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Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday 11th February, children will be marking Safer Internet Day. This year's theme is 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online'. This is a great opportunity to discuss using the internet safely at home and at school. This website may provide valuable information regarding internet safety for parents <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

Parent Consultations

Parentmail bookings are being taken for appointments via telephone or face to face the week commencing Monday 10th February with a number of dates and times available for different teachers. Please complete the form to book a suitable time to discuss your child's progress with their class teacher. If there are any booking issues then please let us know.

Ford Castle

Next academic year our Year 3/4 class have the opportunity to go on a 2-night residential trip to Ford Castle. The trip will take place from Wednesday 29th April to Friday 1st May 2026. Everything is included in the cost of the camp at Ford Castle, with accommodation, activities, equipment, food and drinks all covered in the price per person. The cost of the trip will be £275.00 per child. The initial deposit is due in March and we will require a non-refundable payment of £50.00 per child paid to secure their place on the trip by Monday 3rd March 2025. A Parentmail consent form has been set-up for parents to complete.

Promoting Pleasure in Reading - World Book Day & Book Fair

On Thursday 6th March we will be celebrating World Book Day 2025. Children are invited to come to school dressed as a character from one of their favourite books and will engage in reading activities throughout the school day. To coincide with this, we have a Scholastic Book Fair in school from Tuesday 4th - Thursday 6th March. This will run before and after school each day and the children will have the chance to browse and buy books. World Book Day tokens will be handed out before half-term.





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Beamish trip

On Friday 14th February we will be taking our 1/2 class on a whole-day trip to Beamish Open Air Museum. Can we please ask for a voluntary donation of £21.60 per child to cover the costs of transport, entry and a workshop to be paid via Parentmail. Children will be provided with a packed lunch for the day. Can we please ask that bring children a water bottle. School uniform should be worn and all children should have a coat as we will be spending part of the day outside.

Regards,

Louise Fletcher
Headteacher





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Dates For Diaries

Monday 3 rd February	Mosque trip
Thursday 6 th February	Be You Mental Health workshops
Tuesday 11 th February	Safer Internet Day
Monday 10 th February (week commencing)	Parent Consultations
Friday 14 th February	Year 1/2 trip to Beamish Museum
Friday 14 th February	Final instalment for Year 6 London trip due
Friday 21 st February	Break up for half-term
Monday 3 rd March	Teacher training day
Monday 3 rd March	Deadline for Ford Castle trip deposit
Tuesday 4 th March	Children come back to school
Tuesday 4 th - Thursday 6 th March	Scholastic Book Fair
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day
Wednesday 19 th March	KS2 trip to County Hall (further details to follow)

