

Key Stage 2



Parent Mini
Guides

The Three Schools

Transition KS1-KS2:

The large majority of children who join us in Year 3 come from Drayton Parslow and Mursley CE School. We have developed a transition programme aimed to ensure that all children can feel confident and secure when they arrive in September to join our Year 3 class.

During the final half term when the children are in Year 2 there are several things that we organise to help the children become more familiar with our school and staff, such as a treasure hunt, to help them develop their knowledge, understanding and confidence of the different parts of the school.

We also have county transfer day in July, where parents/carers are invited into Swanbourne on collection of their child(ren) to meet the teaching staff and to find out more about life in Swanbourne. This is a good opportunity to have a look around the school, in particular the Year 3 classroom and ask any questions you may have before your child moves on in September. There is also an opportunity to purchase school uniform.

The Year 2 and Year 3 staff meet in order to pass relevant information on about all the children ready for their start in September, in order to make their transition as smooth as possible. Children who may need some extra support with transition make a little booklet about the school during their transition visit including photographs of the site and teaching staff to help them gain confidence and reduce anxiety over the summer holidays.

Parents receive a welcome to Swanbourne booklet as part of their admission pack once their child's place at Swanbourne has been confirmed.

The School Day:

- The school gates open at 8.40am
- Morning break is at 11.00 – 11.15am
- Lunchtime is at 12.15 – 1.00pm
- School finishes at 3.15pm
- Wrap around care at Drayton Parslow is available

Communication:

- Each class has its own e- schools page where information is displayed for both children and parents.
- All letters are sent to parents via email.
- Please speak to staff member on gate duty to pass on any messages.
- Contact main office to make an appointment.
- Please report your child's absence to the office.

Curriculum:

In KS2 the children will cover the National Curriculum subjects, adapted to meet the children's needs and abilities.

- English
- maths
- science
- design and technology
- history
- geography
- art and design
- music
- physical education (PE), including swimming
- computing
- modern foreign languages
- Religious Education
- Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE)

We firmly believe that the children are the most important part of our school. We therefore aim to provide a child centred, stimulating environment in which they can follow their interests and develop skills and knowledge that will help them grow and mature to participate fully in their future lives. We aim to provide a sense of security through clearly stated expectations of work and behaviour; an environment that is organised, comfortable and structured and an atmosphere that is caring and considerate. Learning should be relevant to children's experiences and interests whilst broadening their knowledge and providing challenges.

Specialist Staff:

In Year 3 the children learn the violin and in Year 5 brass with a specialist music teacher.

The children also have Games and Dance with specialist PE staff once a week to develop children's skills in these areas.

We offer one term of swimming at our local swimming pool in Swanbourne House School.

Fab Friday:

Fab Friday is part of the schools enrichment programme we offer to children in KS2. The children choose a half termly activity from a range of activities on offer such as = e.g cooking, science, netball, chess, Pokemon.

School visits and visitors:

To support work in class the children make educational visits regularly out of the classroom.

In Year 3 the children visit the "Caldecotte "Xperience" where they take part in a range of outdoor adventurous activities which help develop self-esteem, improve communication skills and develop co-operation skills.

We also invite visitors into school to enhance our topics; these have included an artist, a publisher, author, deaf and blind man and visitors from different countries and cultures.

Worship:

The children take part in daily collective worship. Reverend Simon visits our schools and leads Worship on a fortnightly basis.

At Swanbourne we have a Worship Council who meet regularly in the reflection room to monitor collective worship and give feedback about things they have enjoyed or would like see more of. They also plan and have leading roles in worship, reading passages from the bible and reading prayers they have written or other children have written in their classroom at the reflection corner.

The Worship Council regularly check their classroom suggestions boxes to ensure they have an understanding of the thoughts, opinions and suggestions of their classmates and what they would like to see in terms of Collective Worship, RE lessons, visits to religious buildings and events and visitors to the school to share information about Christianity and other world religions.

Every Friday we end the week with celebration worship, where we recognise the student's achievements, efforts and successes. Please share your child's achievements with school so that they can be celebrated in class or during daily worship.

School links with the church:

At Swanbourne CE School, we endeavour to build upon children's existing knowledge and understanding both academically and spiritually. We place great emphasis on the community and family spirit, our children enjoy regularly celebrating in the local Church St Swithun's. .

School governors, parents and members of the school community are invited to share in our regular celebrations at significant times of the year including; Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Leavers' Worship services.

Through our links with the Church we aim to develop the children's Christian beliefs and values whilst showing empathy for other religion, races and ways of life.

Assessment:

Assessment is ongoing with staff recording children's progress throughout the year. Teachers use the information gained during handover to set next steps to ensure progress and challenge in all areas of the curriculum.

Children are also formally assessed at the beginning of the year and at the end of each half term in writing, reading and maths. This information is shared with you during parent information evenings.

What can I do at home?

The Autumn topic in Year 3 is 'Land of Hope and Glory', which is based around learning the Geography of Great Britain and links History and the Arts by finding out about "Great Britons".

Please send in anything you have found on the theme so your child can share this in school.

You can also ...

- Talk about school when you walk or drive past, showing them where they will be coming in September.
- Helping children to organise themselves, learning the independence that comes with moving up in the school.
- Reading regularly at home.
- Send a postcard to school over the Summer holidays sharing you summer fun to discuss when we return in September.
- Helping to complete homework tasks and talk homework.

Parking:

Please use the **drop off** zone outside the school and refrain from parking on the corner at the beginning of Station Road. Alternatively, you could park at the Betsey Wynne and walk to school.

What will my child need at bring to school?

- Please ensure your child brings a named water bottle to school each day.
- We encourage the children to bring a book bag to school.
- Please ensure your child's reading books are in school daily and that spelling books and talk homework are in school on the days agreed. (Homework timetables are displayed on the class e-schools page.)
- Children don't need to bring in a pencil case.
- Please ensure all clothing is clearly named.

How can I find out how my child is getting on?

We hold parents information evenings in the Autumn and Spring Term and a written report is sent out in the Summer.

We hold termly 'book looks' where you can come into school and share your child's work with them.