

Our Christian Vision - *Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven* - **Matthew 5:16**



Friday 9th January 2026

With **HONESTY, RESPECT, FORGIVENESS**
and **LOVE**, we persevere, succeed and shine.

News from The Three Schools

Welcome back and Happy New Year!

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back—on behalf of all the staff across the Three Schools, we hope that you all managed to enjoy the Festive season with friends and family and are ready to face 2026 head on.

As ever, we've embraced the new term with gusto! It has been wonderful to see the children and staff throw themselves into some incredibly exciting topics across the Three Schools already in the first few days back in the classroom.

Please enjoy this week's newsletter.

David May (Executive Headteacher)



After School Clubs – Spring Term 2026

We would also like to remind parents that during the Spring term many clubs including; sports, football, multi-sports and running clubs, will be taking place outside across the Three Schools. We will endeavour to continue our clubs in rain or shine, so please can all children have appropriate clothing for whatever the British weather throws at us!

NSPCC Number Day – Friday 6th February 2026

We are delighted once again to be supporting the NSPCC by taking part in Number Day on **Friday 6th February 2026**. Everything the NSPCC does protects children today and prevents abuse tomorrow.



The NSPCC needs our support more than ever. By raising money, we can help to fund their vital services such as Childline – the helpline that's always there for children and young people whatever their problem or concern.

On average, a child contacts Childline every 25 seconds, Number Day is a great way to make Maths fun and bring about a positive, 'can-do' attitude towards it as well as helping to support such an amazing charity and the work they do.

We will be taking on a variety of challenges on **Friday 6th February** - pupils will work to solve exciting maths puzzles, against the clock with Buddy, the 'Speak out. Stay safe' mascot as well as competing in the exciting 'Who wants to be a Mathionaire?' challenge and much, much more!

(Mrs Martin and Mr Mitchell – Maths Leaders)

Year 2 pupils moving up to Junior School in September 2026

For parents of pupils currently in Year 2 at Drayton Parslow and Mursley please read the information leaflet and ensure you consider the following important information parents need to do:

- Apply online for a junior school place by **15th January 2026** - This is a national closing date.
- If you are the council tax payer you will need to inform Buckinghamshire Council your council tax account number for address evidence purposes.
- If you are not the council tax payer then you must send an electricity or gas bill no more than 3 months old.
- Parents who do not apply on time are less likely to get a place at their preferred school/s.



What should you be doing now?

- Visit the website for information about moving up to Junior school [buckinghamshire.gov.uk](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk)
- The 'Find my child a school place' service on the website has additional information about our junior schools [buckinghamshire.gov.uk](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk)
- Check the website of the schools you are interested in to see whether they can offer a virtual open event or other options to learn more about the school. Check to see which is your nearest or catchment junior school to see if they could meet your child's needs.
- Apply for a Year 3 school place using the link below by **15th January 2026**:
<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools-index/school-admissions/apply-for-a-primary-school-place/submit-your-school-preferences/>

Dates for your diary – INSET Days (2026)

The INSET Days for 2025-2026 are shown below:

- **Monday 13th April 2026**
- **Friday 22nd May 2026**
- **Friday 26th June 2026**



Swanbourne School Term Dates 2025/26 Academic Year

Pupil Days

School holidays

Bank holidays

Proposed inset days - 4 more inset days can be set by the schools

Transition Days

Students: 190 days

Teachers: 195 days



Sep-25							Oct-25							Nov-25							Dec-25						
Mon	1	8	15	22	29		Mon		6	13	20	27		Mon		3	10	17	24		Mon	1	8	15	22	29	
Tue	2	9	16	23	30		Tue		7	14	21	28		Tue	4	11	18	25		Tue	2	9	16	23	30		
Wed	3	10	17	24			Wed	1	8	15	22	29		Wed	5	12	19	26		Wed	3	10	17	24	31		
Thu	4	11	18	25			Thu	2	9	16	23	30		Thu	6	13	20	27		Thu	4	11	18	25			
Fri	5	12	19	26			Fri	3	10	17	24	31		Fri	7	14	21	28		Fri	5	12	19	26			
Sat	6	13	20	27			Sat	4	11	18	25			Sat	1	8	15	22	29	Sat	6	13	20	27			
Sun	7	14	21	28			Sun	5	12	19	26			Sun	2	9	16	23	30	Sun	7	14	21	28			

Jan-26							Feb-26							Mar-26							Apr-26						
Mon		5	12	19	26		Mon		2	9	16	23		Mon		2	9	16	23	30	Mon		6	13	20	27	
Tue		6	13	20	27		Tue		3	10	17	24		Tue		3	10	17	24	31	Tue		7	14	21	28	
Wed		7	14	21	28		Wed		4	11	18	25		Wed		4	11	18	25		Wed	1	8	15	22	29	
Thu	1	8	15	22	29		Thu		5	12	19	26		Thu		5	12	19	26		Thu	2	9	16	23	30	
Fri	2	9	16	23	30		Fri		6	13	20	27		Fri		6	13	20	27		Fri	3	10	17	24		
Sat	3	10	17	24	31		Sat		7	14	21	28		Sat		7	14	21	28		Sat	4	11	18	25		
Sun	4	11	18	25			Sun	1	8	15	22	29		Sun	1	8	15	22	29	Sun	5	12	19	26			

May-26							Jun-26							Jul-26							Aug-26						
Mon		4	11	18	25		Mon	1	8	15	22	29		Mon		6	13	20	27		Mon		3	10	17	24	
Tue		5	12	19	26		Tue	2	9	16	23	30		Tue		7	14	21	28		Tue		4	11	18	25	
Wed		6	13	20	27		Wed	3	10	17	24			Wed	1	8	15	22	29	Wed		5	12	19	26		
Thu		7	14	21	28		Thu	4	11	18	25			Thu		9	16	23	30	Thu		6	13	20	27		
Fri	1	8	15	22	29		Fri	5	12	19	26			Fri	3	10	17	24	31	Fri		7	14	21	28		
Sat	2	9	16	23	30		Sat	6	13	20	27			Sat	4	11	18	25		Sat	1	8	15	22	29		
Sun	3	10	17	24	31		Sun	7	14	21	28			Sun	5	12	19	26		Sun	2	9	16	23	30		

Oracy Meeting for Parents – Wednesday 4th February 2026 (5.00pm)

We would like to invite all parents across The Three Schools and Kingfishers Pre-School to attend a meeting to share information on Oracy and our approach on **Wednesday 4th February 2026 at 5.00pm at Swanbourne CE School.**

What Is Oracy?

'Oracy is the ability to articulate ideas, develop understanding and engage with others through spoken language. Oracy develops students' confidence, articulacy and capacity to learn.' – Voice 21.

At The Three Schools, we want every child to find their voice.

Oracy is...

- Engaging with others' ideas
- Reasoning together
- Listening to understand
- Changing people's minds
- Telling compelling stories
- Developing arguments
- Expressing yourself
- Speaking up for what you believe in

Talk Tactics – KS2

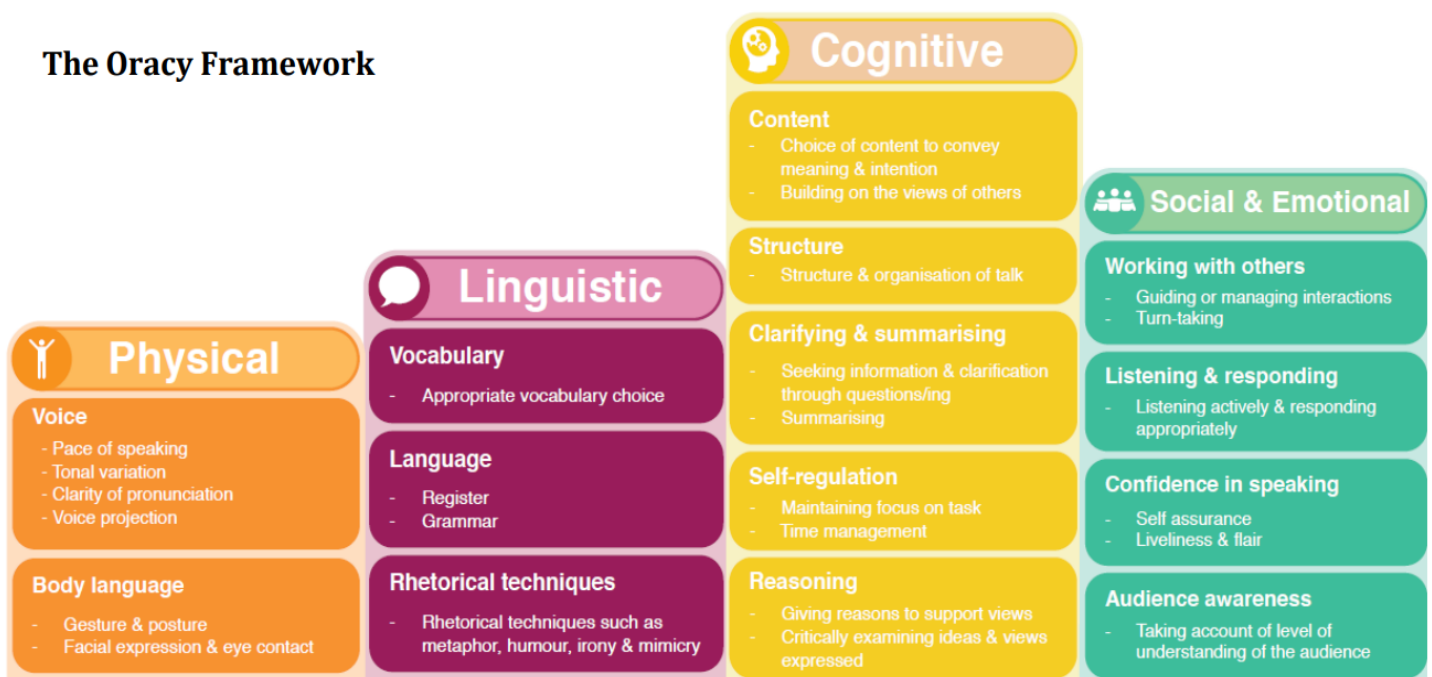
Here are some sentence stems for you to use when instigating a discussion, building on someone's point or challenging their thoughts and ideas:

Instigate	Build	Challenge
Present an idea or open up a new line of enquiry	Develop, add to or elaborate on an idea	Disagree or present an alternative argument
"To instigate the discussion ____"	"To expand upon X's idea ____"	"To present an alternative viewpoint, ____"
"My viewpoint is ____"	"I'd like to elaborate upon ____"	"In order to challenge your thinking, have you thought about ____?"
"We have omitted to discuss ____"	"Another thought comes to mind ____"	"I respect and understand your opinion, but have you thought about ____?"

At The Three Schools, we want every child to find their voice. Our aim is to remove communication barriers and enable students to be confident and effective communicators. Teaching children Oracy skills will not only enable pupils to increase confidence in talk, but equip them for their future.

We use The Oracy Framework, which is made up of four strands

(**Physical, Linguistic, Cognitive, Social and Emotional**– Taken from The Oracy Framework, Voice 21).



At The Three Schools we are working hard to provide a high-quality Oracy education. With Oracy at the heart of our curriculum, we are committed to building and embedding a culture of Oracy.

Purposeful talk is used to drive forward learning, through talk in the classroom, which has been planned, designed, modelled, scaffolded and structured to enable all learners to develop the skills needed to talk effectively and with confidence.

The deliberate, explicit and systematic teaching of Oracy across phases and throughout the curriculum will support children to make progress in the four strands of Oracy (Physical, Linguistic, Cognitive, Social and Emotional- Taken from The Oracy Framework, Voice 21).

We would like to use the meeting to share with parents our approach to Oracy in school and how we are going to develop our pupils' Oracy skills through **Oracy at Home tasks** and by providing some simple ideas to help your child articulate ideas, develop understanding and engage with others through spoken language.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

There will be coffee and biscuits available for all who attend!

(Mr May and Mrs Smuts – Oracy Leads)

SEN Coffee Morning – Tuesday 20th January 2026

Paige Latham the **Bucks Educational Psychologist** will be coming into **Swanbourne CE School** on **Tuesday 20th January** at **9.00am** to run a flexible discussion with parents around Emotional Regulation.

We would like to invite all parents across The Three Schools and Kingfishers Pre-School to attend the session.

There will be coffee and cake available for all who attend!

(Mrs Chapman-Hill – SENCo)

Year 3 and Year 4 Swimming – Spring Term 2026

In **January 2025**, **Year 3** and **Year 4** will be attending swimming lessons on a **Monday morning** — Due to the INSET day in Week 1, we will be starting swimming sessions on **Monday 12th January 2026**.

(Mrs Hill – Swimming Leader)



Young Carers



I would like to raise awareness about **Young Carers** and the important role schools play in supporting them. A **Young Carer** is a child or young person who helps care for a family member with a physical or mental illness, disability, or substance misuse. This may involve carrying out practical tasks, providing emotional support or both. Every caring situation can be different.

National research shows that many **Young Carers** are not being identified in schools, meaning many children may be caring without access to vital support. By informing the school about your child's caring role, we can ensure they receive the right support which can result in a significant difference to their wellbeing, education and future opportunities.

If you believe your child/ children has a caring role at home (even if you are unsure) we encourage you to let us know. You can speak to a member of staff confidentially or email your school office, and together we can explore what support may be beneficial.

Please remember that identifying your child as a **Young Carer** is not about labelling; but about ensuring they are recognised, understood and given the best chance to belong, achieve and thrive at our school.

For external support; we would also recommend registering any carers within your household with Carers Bucks, the local carers support service. Once a **Young Carer** is identified, they may benefit from:

- Peer support groups and activities
- Targeted wellbeing interventions
- One-to-one support sessions
- Advice, information and guidance

You can complete a self-referral via their website - carersbucks.org Alternatively, we understand that this can be daunting and would be happy to do this on your behalf after we have spoken.

Thank you for working with us to support the wellbeing and success of all our pupils.

(Mr May – Executive Headteacher)

Kingfishers Pre-School Update

We have had a great first week back at Kingfishers, all of the children were excited to return and our five new children have settled in incredibly well.

This week we have really loved exploring the snow and ice, it was great fun filling up the diggers with snow and melting or cracking the ice that had formed in buckets and our tractor trailer.

We have started our new topic 'We love stories' with The Gingerbread Man. We have been recreating the story outside running and hiding as we called out 'run, run as fast as you can, you can't catch me, I'm the Gingerbread Man'. We have also been decorating our own gingerbread men, creating our own pattern with lots of different colours.

Here is our updated Amazon wish list as requested by a few [Amazon.co.uk](https://www.amazon.co.uk)

(Kelly Hall – Pre-School Leader)



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ESSENTIAL ONLINE SAFETY

Children and young people use the internet every day to learn, play, and connect, but the online world is not always safe. For adults, it can be hard to keep up with the risks, including harmful content, cyberbullying and scams. These 10 tips provide clear and practical advice to support safer and healthier digital habits, helping young people to make informed, secure choices when using technology.

1 START EARLY CONVERSATIONS

Begin talking about online behaviour from the moment children start using devices. Use age-appropriate language and revisit topics regularly, making it clear they can speak to you about anything that upsets or confuses them. Keeping these chats open helps build trust, so children are more likely to come to you when needed.

2 PROMOTE SAFER SHARING

Children can overshare without understanding the risks. Remind them that photos, locations, or messages can be copied or shared beyond their intended audience. Explain how even private messages or group chats can be saved and/or misused. Talk about what is appropriate to post, message, and who it's safe to share with.

3 ENCOURAGE DIGITAL BALANCE

Many apps and games are designed to keep users engaged through rewards, likes, or constant updates. These features can make it hard for children to switch off. Talk openly about how these systems work and help children recognise when it's time to take a break. Building in tech-free routines supports a healthier balance and awareness of their screen time.

4 CREATE A SAFE SPACE FOR CONCERNS

When children come to you with a concern, respond with interest and care, rather than with alarm. Keeping your reaction measured helps them feel safe and supported. This doesn't mean ignoring serious issues; it means showing that you're there to help. When children trust that they can speak openly, they're more likely to feel supported through unpleasant online experiences, and to ask for help in future.

5 STAY INFORMED AND CURRENT

With emerging technologies like AI moving and changing so quickly, it's important to stay updated on how children are using new platforms, apps and games. Ask them to show you what they use and let them take the lead as you explore together. This opens up valuable conversations and helps you stay ahead of emerging risks and trends.

6 TEACH CRITICAL THINKING

Talk to children about how to recognise unreliable information or scams online. With AI-generated videos, photos, and stories becoming harder to spot, help children question what they see and encourage them to look for evidence, check sources, and ask questions. These skills will help them avoid risks, make smart choices, and develop healthy habits for the future.

7 SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES

Involve children in conversations about device usage so they feel included. Agree on digital rules such as screen-time limits, age-appropriate apps, and no devices in bedrooms overnight. Use parental controls to block or filter harmful content and explain that rules are there to protect and support them, not to spoil their fun.

8 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Children often copy the behaviour of adults around them. Show them what balanced, respectful, and mindful use of technology looks like, such as avoiding scrolling during family time and speaking kindly in messages. If you expect certain behaviour from them online, make sure your own habits reflect the same standards.

9 EXPLORE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Show children how to use privacy tools on apps, games, and websites. Teach them to use strong passwords, block or report others in response to problems, and avoid sharing personal details. Explore settings together so they feel confident and in control, and explain that these features are there to help them stay safe online.

10 KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP

Familiarise yourself with tools and organisations that support online safety. The National College offers online safety guides and webinars which provide tips on staying safe. Websites like Report Harmful Content and CEOP can be used to report when something goes wrong. Show children how to report or block users, and where to go if they feel unsafe. Make sure they know that asking for help is always the right thing to do, and be prepared to support them.

Meet Our Expert

Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

See full reference list on our website

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®



Mental Health
Support Team
Buckinghamshire



FREE

**FOR PARENTS
AND CARERS**

LIVE WEBINARS

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH



**DATES:
JAN – APRIL
2026**



**TIME:
6PM – 7.30PM**

To register, scan the QR codes on the next page!



01865 901566



bucksmhst@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

*PLEASE NOTE: YOUR CHILD MUST ATTEND AN MHST SCHOOL FOR ACCESS TO THE WEBINARS. IF YOU ARE UNSURE, PLEASE CONTACT US.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SECURE YOUR PLACE:

Topic	Date	Link	QR code
Exam Stress	Monday 12th of January 2026	<u>Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams</u>	
Awareness and understanding of eating disorders	Monday the 26th of January 2026	<u>Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams</u>	
Understanding childhood development and behaviour	Tuesday the 10th of February 2026	<u>Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams</u>	
Understanding Low mood	Monday the 9th of March 2026	<u>Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams</u>	
Understanding adolescent development and behaviour	Monday the 9th of March 2026	<u>Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams</u>	



Rotary YOUNG MUSICIAN COMPETITION

Calling all budding musicians: vocalists or solo instrumentalists.

**Any age up to 17 yrs
Any musical genre**

**For more information
and application form go to:
www.rotarymk.org**



**Milton Keynes
music academy**

AND

Rotary
Milton Keynes



All entrants receive a personalised certificate and medal, with the winners awarded a trophy

The Three Schools Calendar and Important Dates (2025-2026)

Wednesday 14 th January 2026	Mursley & Drayton Parslow (Year 1)	ZSL Tring Museum Trip
Tuesday 20 th January 2026	Swanbourne (Year 6)	Natural History Museum Trip
Friday 23 rd January 2026	Swanbourne (Year 6)	Rock Climbing Session
Tuesday 3 rd February 2026	Swanbourne (Year 5 & Year 6)	Young Voices Concert
Wednesday 4 th February 2026	Swanbourne (KS2)	Author Workshop (11.15am)
Wednesday 4 th February 2026	All Three Schools	Oracy Meeting (5.00pm) at Swanbourne CE School
Thursday 5 th February 2026	Swanbourne (16 Year 3 & 4 pupils)	Swanbourne Mini Trail Cross Country Event
Friday 6 th February 2026	All Three Schools	NSPCC Number Day 2026
Friday 6 th February 2026	Swanbourne (12 KS2 Girls)	Thornton Trail Cross Country Event
Wednesday 11 th February 2026	All Three Schools	Popcorn Night
Friday 13 th February 2026	All Three Schools	Dare to be different day
Friday 13 th February 2026	All Three Schools	Break up for February Half Term
Monday 23 rd February 2026	All Three Schools	Spring Term 2 Starts
Thursday 5 th March 2026	Swanbourne (Year 3)	Egyptian Day
Saturday 14 th March 2026	Swanbourne (KS2)	Cross Country Event (Ascott House)
Friday 27 th March 2026	Swanbourne (KS2)	Easter Services (9.30am & 2.00pm)
Friday 27 th March 2026	All Three Schools	Break up for Easter Holidays
Monday 13 th April 2026	All Three Schools	INSET DAY
Tuesday 14 th April 2026	All Three Schools	Summer Term 1 Starts
Wednesday 15 th April 2026	All Three Schools	Parents Evenings (3.30pm – 8.00pm)
Thursday 16 th April 2026	Swanbourne (KS2)	Parents Evenings (3.30pm – 6.30pm)
Friday 24 th April 2026	Mursley & Drayton Parslow (Year 1)	Windsor Castle Trip
Monday 4 th May 2026	All Three Schools	Early May Bank Holiday
Saturday 16 th May 2026	All Three Schools	Colour Run
Thursday 21 st May	All Three Schools	Break up for May Half Term
Friday 22 nd May 2026	All Three Schools	INSET DAY

Monday 25 th May 2026	All Three Schools	May Bank Holiday
Monday 1 st June 2026	All Three Schools	Summer Term 2 Starts
Monday 8 th June – Friday 12 th June 2026	Swanbourne (Year 6)	Skern Lodge Residential Trip
Wednesday 17 th June 2026	All Three Schools	Book Look
Friday 19 th June 2026	All Three Schools	Summer Disco
Friday 26 th June 2026	All Three Schools	INSET DAY
Wednesday 1 st July 2026	All Three Schools	Transition Day
Thursday 2 nd July 2026	Swanbourne (Year 6)	Transition Day 2 (Year 6 only)
Friday 10 th July 2026	All Three Schools	Speech Cup Final
Monday 13 th July 2026	Swanbourne (Year 6)	Year 6 Production (7.00pm)
Tuesday 21 st July 2026	Mursley & Drayton Parslow (Year 2)	Year 2 Leavers' Services (2.30pm)
Wednesday 22 nd July 2026	Swanbourne (Year 6)	Year 6 Leavers' Services (9.30am)
Wednesday 22 nd July 2026	All Three Schools	Break up for Summer Holidays

SAT 24TH JAN 2026
BURNS NIGHT
MURSLEY VILLAGE HALL

Neeps, tatties, plenty of haggis and a dessert



PIPING IN THE HAGGIS
DANCING TO PICKLED TINK
CEILIDH BAND - LICENSED BAR
£25 PER TICKET
VEGGIE ALTERNATIVE - PRE ORDER
7PM - 11.30PM

WHISKY TOT

ANDREW 07990 534940
SANDRA 07711 823198
MAGGIE 07758 232872

PROCEEDS TO MURSLEY CHURCH, VILLAGE HALL & MURSLEY SPORTS ASSOCIATION

