

PARENT BULLETIN - Friday 10th July 2020



Dear Parents/Carers,

This is our final bulletin of the term and therefore a great time to reflect on everything that we have achieved together this year. I am sure you will agree that our first year as a brand new school has been unpredictable (to say the least) but also hugely successful. We are immensely proud to see how our cygnets have grown this year and we know that they will be fantastic role models to our new year 7s when they start in September.

We cannot wait to welcome all of our students back to The Swan in September. We have spent this week carefully planning for our school to be as safe as possible for when our students return. We have shared our initial proposals with our staff and governors this week for feedback and plan to send out our finalised plans to parents and carers on Monday. We will be sending out a written letter and a video to explain the measures we are taking, and we will also be asking for you to send in any questions for us so that we can provide some useful FAQs. As we did so successfully when we went into lockdown, we hope we can once again work together constructively to ensure the very best possible experience for our children.

If we do not have any contact with you before the end of term, it only remains for me to remind you that the **start of the autumn term for year 8s is Thursday 10th September** (year 7 cygnets will start on Monday 7th). All students should come to our **new site in Marston and arrive before 9.10am**. We wish you a very restful break.

Ms Wood

End of Year Celebrations

Events in School - 13th to 16th July

We are looking forward to seeing lots of our cygnets next week for their end of term celebration. A reminder to please fill in the form below if you would like your child to attend. Children should arrive at school for 2pm.

- Monday 13th July - [7L - Register Form here](#)
- Tuesday 14th July - [7Y - Register Form here](#)
- Wednesday 15th July - [7H - Register Form here](#)
- Thursday 16th July - [7B - Register Form here](#)

Newsletter - Reminder

We have received some lovely messages from students, parents, and staff about their memories from this first year. If you would like to share something for our end of year newsletter, please could you (children and/or parents) write a few sentences to answer one of these questions?

- What has been your favourite/most memorable moment this year?
- What are you proudest of having achieved?
- What is the most important thing you have learned this year?

We will try to include as many as possible in the newsletter. Please send any responses to headteacher@theswanschool.org.uk. Children can also send their responses in via Google Classroom.

Return Of Resources

Chromebook Return - deadline Wednesday 22nd July

We will require all school chromebooks to be returned to us before the end of term. If your child has borrowed a Chromebook from school, this will need to be returned to school by Wednesday 22nd July, at the latest. There will be a member of staff onsite between 9am and 3.30pm, from Monday 20th July until Wednesday 22nd July. Can we please ask that you email office@theswanschool.org.uk in order to arrange a convenient time to return the Chromebooks. Chromebooks are a vital part of our resources, it's extremely important that these are returned. Any Chromebook unreturned before 22nd July will be disabled.

Library book returns - deadline Wednesday 15th July

Please ensure that all Swan library books are returned by 3.30pm on Wednesday 15th July. This is so that they can be packed up and transported to the new site. If your child is coming into school next week, this presents the ideal opportunity for return. If not, please drop off library books at the usual school site; there will be a book return box outside the gate on Monday 13th July -Wednesday 15th July.

Enrichment

The Swan (Audio)Book Club

Our final book of the year is *The Return of Sherlock Holmes* by Arthur Conan Doyle chosen by Freya Leech (7B). Please find the book freely available at [this](#) link. We will discuss this book via a virtual Google Meet on **Wednesday 15th July at 4pm**. Please make sure your child emails me to request an invitation to the Meet if they have not already joined Book Club. Mrs Hinze.

Boost your child's confidence in English!

An easy way to give your child confidence next year would be for them to listen to or watch the Year 8 English curriculum texts over the summer ahead of class teaching. Please follow these YouTube links to free audiobook or film versions of all of the texts we are studying next year: [Purple Hibiscus](#) by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, [The Tempest](#) by William Shakespeare (starring Helen Mirren, Felicity Jones and Djimon Hounsou) and [Of Mice and Men](#) by John Steinbeck. Mrs Hinze

Other

Free School Meals Vouchers

A note to remind families eligible for free school meals that these families will get food vouchers over the summer and subsidised uniforms. If you feel you are eligible please submit a request via the [website](#). We are pleased to confirm that vouchers will continue over the summer holiday.

School Uniform

A reminder that [Price & Buckland](#), our uniform provider will require all uniform orders to be placed by **9th August**, in order to guarantee delivery for September. All uniforms must be ordered to home delivery - we are unable to accept orders to school. If you think you may be eligible for financial support in purchasing a uniform, please submit a request using the [Apply for Bursary Support button](#) on our [website](#).

Well Being

I am pleased to offer our students these free relaxation sessions from Oxfordshire Nurses. They are short sessions where you will join a school nurse without your camera or mic and listen to techniques to calm and relax yourself. The poster is [here](#), and it explains how to join up. Any questions please email Ms Walton.

School Nurse

Even though your children may not be coming into school, you still have access to the School Nursing service and everything that it offers. If your child would like a confidential appointment via phone, video chat or a walk and talk, please email or text me at caroline.smith@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk 07717661485.

Key Dates:

- End of term - Friday 17th July, half day (1pm finish)
- Start of term - Thursday September 10th (our new year 7 cygnets will start their matriculation week on Monday 7th September) - remember, students will need to come to our new site!