

SSSC NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 1 2026

A very warm welcome to all our pupils and families, both those who are new to our school community and those who are returning. It has been wonderful to see everyone settle into the new academic year so positively.

We are incredibly proud of the progress our pupils have already made and of the enthusiasm, resilience and determination they continue to show each day. It has been a brilliant start to the academic year, with so much already achieved and plenty more to look forward to.

We hope you enjoy seeing some of the highlights from Autumn term 1 2026.

TERM DATES

Autumn 2 2026

2nd November - 18th December

Pupils finish at 1pm on Friday 18th
December 2026

Spring 1 2027

4th January - 12th February 2027

Inset Days 2026 - 2027

Friday 27th November 2026

Monday 28th June 2027

QUIZ EVENING

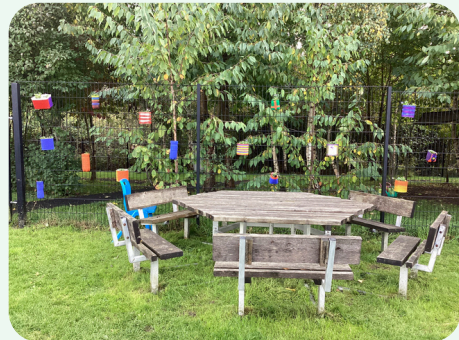
On Monday 19th October, The Friends of Swanwick hosted our annual Quiz Night! A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for a fantastic evening. We enjoyed chip cobs, delicious cakes, refreshments, a Boo Basket raffle, and of course, the brilliant quiz hosted by our very own Mr. Parry. We're so grateful to everyone who supported the event—whether by attending, making generous donations, buying raffle tickets, or contributing prizes.

Thanks to your amazing support, the evening was a huge success, raising an incredible £609.41!

We truly appreciate your continued support—thank you for helping make this event so special.

CREATIVE EXPLORERS

During this half term the school has been concentrating on improving our local environment with a focus on exploring wildlife in our Creative Explorers area, recycling and studying World Clean Up Day. All pupils participated in a school-wide upcycling project, turning waste from the school kitchen into winter planters, which has added a splash of colour to our Creative Explorers area.



SILVER ARTSMARK AWARD

Pupils and staff at Swanwick School and Sports College are celebrating after receiving a prestigious Silver Artsmark Award.

Artsmark is the only creative quality standard for schools, accredited by Arts Council England. It transforms teaching through creativity, empowering teachers with the skills they need to embed arts, culture and creativity across the whole curriculum, and is proven to support pupil outcomes and wellbeing.



Over two years, Swanwick School and Sports College received professional support through an immersive learning programme from Artsmark's delivery partner, Goldsmiths, University of London, who are world-renowned leaders in creative pedagogy and cultural placemaking.

The Artsmark Assessor commended Swanwick School and Sports College on how they have used the Artsmark journey to develop the infrastructure of the arts within the school: "You have increased the ways you use the Arts to deliver positive outcomes for your students. Pupils have opportunities to perform and showcase their skills through your Theme and Nurture theatre performances and SSSC's Got Talent. You have introduced a Creativity interhouse challenge and invested in a new Creative Explorers outdoor space which includes arts activities."

The full article can be found on the school website.



EASYFUNDRAISING

Thank you to everyone that has signed up to easyfundraising, we have already raised over £1500!

If you shop online and would like to help raise extra funds for the school, at no cost to you, scan the QR code to download the app and select Swanwick School and Sports College as your preferred cause.

SCARECROW COMPETITION

A massive thank you to everybody who entered the Spooky Scarecrow Competition. The pupils were so creative, and we were blown away by the effort that went into making the scarecrows. They were all spook-tacular! Well done to everyone who took part.



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NURTURE GREEN'S ROAD SAFETY VISIT

Nurture Green children welcomed Police Officers into their classroom to learn about Road Safety. Children listened well and effectively contributed to the session whilst learning lots of helpful facts about being responsible pedestrians, awareness of other road users, as well as deepening their knowledge of how to use public transport sensibly.



TWYXCROSS ZOO



10 pupils enjoyed a well-earned trip to Twycross Zoo after choosing it as their reward activity. Throughout the day, pupils explored the zoo and encountered an incredible variety of animals, including capybaras, giraffes, rhinos, reptiles and many colourful bird species. One of the highlights was the fantastic Gruffalo Discovery Land walk. Despite a few rain showers threatening to interrupt the day, they managed to stay dry, cover thousands of steps and created plenty of wonderful memories. By the end of the visit, there were lots of tired legs and big smiles!

WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL

What a fantastic afternoon for Year 7! During their Life Skills lesson, pupils had the opportunity to try wheelchair basketball with support from Amber Valley Sports Partnership. They had a brilliant time learning new skills and embracing a new sporting challenge.



SHERWOOD OBSERVATORY

Nurture pupils enjoyed exploring space and astronomy through immersive shows, telescopes and exhibitions at the Sherwood Observatory and Science Centre. Linking to this term's topic: Our World and Beyond, children enthusiastically took part in a range of practical activities to develop their learning of different planets in our solar system. They were brilliantly behaved and warmly welcomed by the staff and volunteers on site



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LEARNING HEROES

On Thursday 18th October, the whole of SSSC enjoyed a morning of being Learning Heroes. A variety of challenges took place including: Stop motion animation, British Sign Language, Bike Challenge, Fact Files, Art Challenges, Internet safety, Music, Teamwork skills and Personal care. A great morning was had by all.



GREEN DOOR PRINT MAKING

The GCSE Art group had a really successful trip to Green Door Printmaking Studio in Derby. The pupils looked round a local artists space, learning about the different techniques and equipment. They took part in a Tetrapak printing workshop using recycled materials to create new stunning pieces of art. Inspired by the artist Jenny McCabe .



WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

On Friday 9th October the school supported World Mental Health Day where we joined other schools across the UK by taking part in 'Hello Yellow' in support of YoungMinds. For this we invited all staff and pupils to come into school wearing something yellow. At SSSC this is an important topic to us and we wanted to show all pupils that everyone deserves to be supported. It was a great turn out by staff and pupils wearing an array of yellow brightening up the school.



AND FINALLY...

Finally, I would like to thank all our families for your continued support and partnership. We hope you have a wonderful half-term break, and we look forward to seeing everyone back refreshed and ready for another busy and exciting half term on Monday 2nd November 2026.

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