Swanton Abbott Primary School

01692 538246

office-swantonabbott@aimfederation.org

Youngman's Lane, Swanton Abbott, Norwich, NR10 5DZ

AIM Federation: Small schools, big opportunities

Wednesday 3rd September 2025

Dear Swanton Abbott families,

It has been such a joy to welcome all of our children back to school today and to see so many new faces joining us, both in our Reception class and across other year groups. A very special welcome to all of our new families. We're so pleased you're here.

The start of a new school year always brings a wonderful mix of excitement and nerves and today was no different. It was heartwarming to watch children arriving this morning; catching up with friends, meeting new classmates and stepping back into their learning routines with such confidence and positivity. We are already so proud of how they are settling in.

As ever, learning at our school continues to be rooted in rich, purposeful project work. These projects not only inspire curiosity and engagement but also give children the opportunity to make meaningful connections with the world around them. We're excited to share more about this term's projects with you in the weeks ahead.

This year, we are also introducing something new that we believe will make a big impact: our Core Connections. These are the values and capabilities that sit at the heart of everything we do:

- Advocacy, Wellbeing, Collaboration, Creativity, Independence, Citizenship

Our Core Connections Pathways will guide us in helping children grow not just academically, but as whole people, equipping them with the skills, values and mindsets they need to thrive in school and far beyond it.

To celebrate and recognise these qualities in our children, we will be linking our celebration certificates to the new Core Connections.

Permission slips

Sent home with your child today were updated permission slip for this academic year. Please fill this in, even if you have completed it recently, including all of the photo permissions. Please sign next to both Internal and External Photos if these are consented to. This now includes consent for emergency medical treatment, including the use of emergency inhalers if needed. Please note that this is the final year we will be refreshing permissions annually. In future, the permissions you give when your child joins the school will remain in place unless you let us know of any changes.

Roles and responsibilities

We are very excited to share that our annual School Council elections have taken place. A huge well done to all the children who put themselves forward and spoke with such confidence and enthusiasm. Our new School Council representatives will be meeting regularly with their classes and with Mrs Wilson to discuss school events, share opinions and give valuable feedback as part of our commitment to pupil voice.

This year, we are also pleased to introduce a new responsibility role: House Captains. Each of our three houses (names to be confirmed shortly) now has a House Captain who will help lead their house during key events across the year including our much-loved Crafternoons, Sports Day and more. These children will be working to build team spirit and support all pupils in their houses to get involved and have fun. This year, Dojo points will be collected in house groups, with weekly totals announced during our celebration assemblies. This is a great way to encourage teamwork, celebrate positive behaviour and build a strong sense of community across the school.

We're delighted to announce the following appointments:

- House Captains: Jaxon, Mawgan, Joel

- School Council Representatives: Lilly-May, Jacob, Tabitha, Lilly, Ivy O, Charlotte, Max, Daisie

- Head Pupils: Congratulations to Ola and Edward, who have been chosen as our Head Pupils for this year. We are confident they will do an excellent job and be fantastic role models for the whole school.

We look forward to seeing how all of these children grow in their leadership roles and contribute to the life of our school throughout the year.

A Polite Reminder About Equipment Use and Site Safety

We'd like to remind all families that children should not use any play equipment before or after school. This helps us ensure everyone's safety, as school staff are not available to supervise during these times.

For children in Bumblebee Class, please walk them to the small gate, where a member of staff will support a smooth and calm transition into the classroom. Grasshopper Class will also use this entrance in the morning but will exit through the larger gates at the end of the day.

We're aware that some children enjoy a quick football game after school — and while we love to see them being active, please note that any play after school is the full responsibility of the adult collecting the child. From 3:20pm, the school is officially closed, which means first aid, toileting and supervision are no longer provided by school staff.

If your child is staying to play, please ensure you check the school grounds yourself before any games begin. All families must leave the premises by 3:45pm, unless your child is attending an after-school club.

Thank you for helping us keep our site safe and respectful for everyone.

Wraparound, Enrichment, lunchtime clubs and After School clubs

We're thrilled to let you know that our Wraparound Care is returning. Children can attend the first session (until 5:00pm) or stay for both sessions (until 6:00pm). For those staying through the second session, a light meal will be provided. Enrichment sessions will be taking place on a Wednesday this term and we will continue to offer four lunchtime clubs that the children can opt in, if they wish.

We're also excited to be introducing staff-led clubs during the first half of each term. These will run on a variety of days and offer something for everyone, from creative activities to sports and more. We can't wait to hear what ideas the School Council will bring forward to help shape the clubs on offer!

Further details, including how to book wraparound sessions and clubs, will be shared with families over the next couple of weeks. Watch this space.

Nut-Free School Reminder

A reminder that we are a nut-free school and we kindly ask all families to check ingredients carefully when providing packed lunches and snacks. We have both children and staff with serious nut allergies, so it is vital that no nut products are brought onto the school site. Breaktime snacks should be fruit or vegetables only (Bumblebees have a snack provided).

Please be especially mindful of products such as:

- Pesto (often contains pine nuts)
- Chocolate hazelnut spreads (e.g., Nutella)
- Snack bars or baked goods that contain nut pieces.

Your support in helping us maintain a safe environment for everyone is greatly appreciated.

First Aid Notification

We wanted to let you know about our first aid communication. We inform families if a child has received first aid for an injury above the neck and on the head via phone call or text message. If your child receives any first aid at school which is for more than a minor graze or injury, you will also be informed.

All first aid incidents are logged and monitored in school. As you can imagine, we respond to a large number of minor grazes, bumps and scrapes each day and this system helps us keep you informed in a consistent and manageable way.

If you would like further details about any incident or have any concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us directly.

You're Invited – SAPTFA Coffee Morning

We'd love for you to join us for a SAPTFA Coffee Morning on Friday 5th September, straight after our Pop-In session. Come and enjoy a drink, a slice of cake and a friendly chat while the children are settling into their classes.

The coffee morning will run until approximately 9:30am and it's a great opportunity to meet other parents and families. We hope to see you there.

Thank you for your ongoing support and for being such an important part of our school community. We are truly excited about the year ahead and can't wait to see all that the children will achieve.

Kind regards,

Fiona Russell

Head of School