



Swan Lane First School Newsletter

January 2023



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Dates for your Diary:

Friday 3rd & 10th February - Forest School 3W

Friday 17th February - Last day of Spring 1

Monday 20th to Friday 24th February - half term

Monday 27th February - Children return to school for Spring 2

Thursday 2nd March - World Book Day

Friday 31st March - Last day of Spring 2

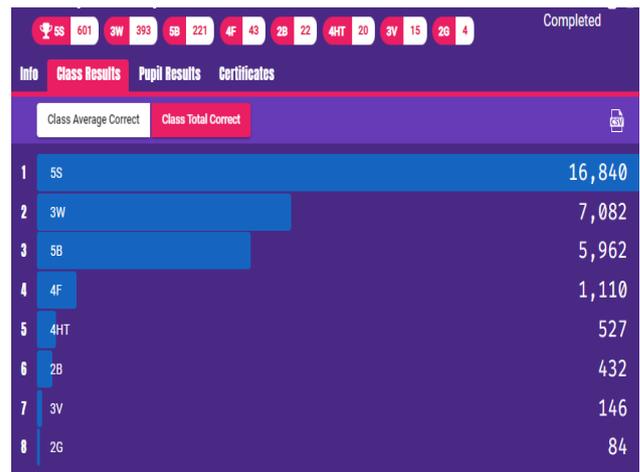
Bilingual Book Buddies

Our school community is very diverse: we welcome families from all over the world, and many of the pupils at Swan Lane First School are learning English as an Additional Language (EAL). We are very proud of our multicultural heritage and we love to celebrate the many different countries and cultures represented in our school. We have recently created a bilingual bookshelf in the school library, so that our EAL learners can share books in their home languages with their friends. Our Language Leaders – a group of multilingual KS2 pupils – will be helping to co-ordinate a lunchtime Bilingual Book Buddies group where these books can be enjoyed.



Times Tables Rockstars & NumBots

As a school we have access to two fantastic online learning platforms that will boost the children's recall of times tables and number facts while increasing their confidence. Times Tables Rockstars (TTRS) is for those in Year 2 onwards whilst NumBots is for Reception and Year 1. Please try to encourage your child to engage with this at home whenever possible – short bursts of 5/10 minutes would be most beneficial.

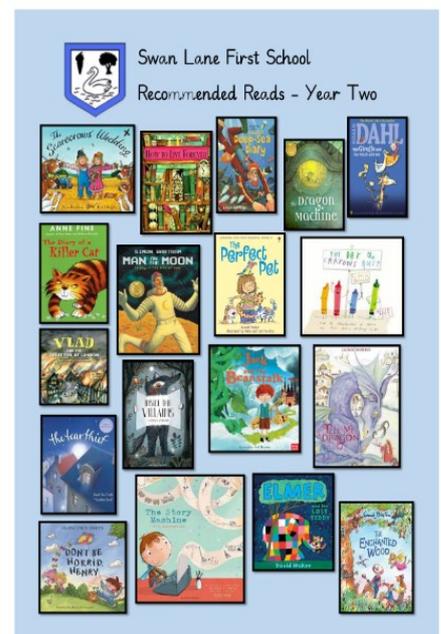
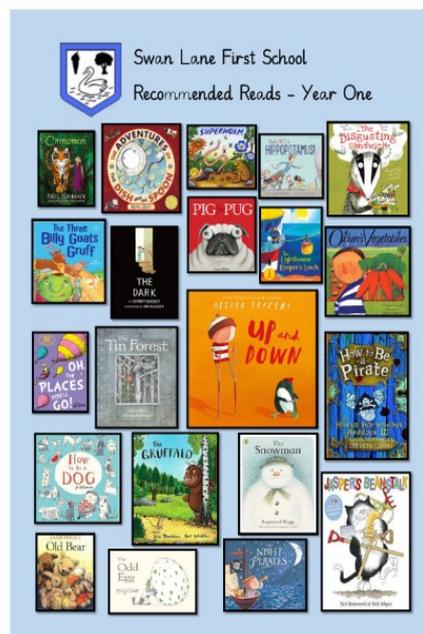
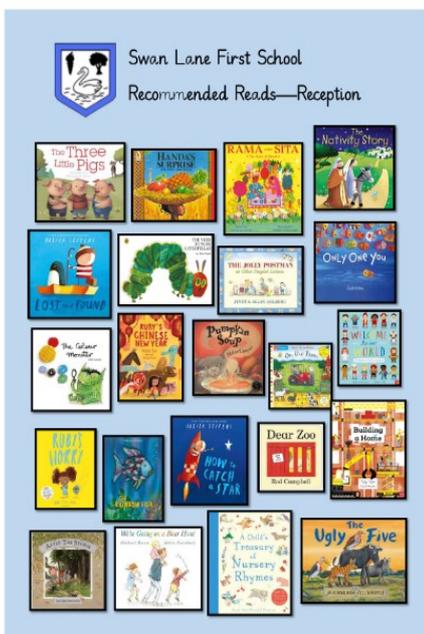


Each week we have a class competition, and so far 5S are the class to beat! If you are unsure of log in details, please ask your child's teacher as they can provide them.

Reading for Pleasure

The enjoyment of books is a huge part of life at Swan Lane First School. Children love visiting our school library, and many books are chosen, read, discussed and enjoyed in class. Each class teacher sets aside some time each day to allow the children to simply enjoy books - whether they are reading independently or listening to an adult read to them. This time is formally timetabled, so that reading for pleasure is an intrinsic part of each school day. Listening to a story is one of life's great pleasures, but research also shows that hearing an adult read to them, with expression and intonation, supports children's developing fluency and prosody in reading.

Each Year Group has a selection of Recommended Reads, which comprise their share of Swan Lane's '50 Books' and the wide range of high-quality texts that they will use throughout the year as the focus for their English lessons. There is a broad range of authors, writing styles, fiction and non-fiction on offer, so there really is something for everyone to enjoy!



Problem Solving in PE

This term a big focus for Years 3 and 4 is Problem Solving. Through these lessons we are learning how to work as a team, communicate effectively and think outside the box!



Eco Warriors

Our wonderful Eco Warriors have been incredibly busy recently! In an assembly before Christmas, they set the children a challenge to bring in any old crisp packets. The response was fantastic and the Eco Warriors had hundreds of crisp packets. This is where the hard work began. They tirelessly cleaned every packet so that they could be made into blankets. Once clean, the packets were spread out on plastic sheets and carefully ironed to fuse them together to form a blanket. We saw the final results in an assembly last week and were all really impressed! The blankets are going to be donated to a local charity, well done Eco Warriors and Mr. Smith!



Two local councilors visited to hear about our fabulous Eco Warriors

