



## DIARY DATES

### July 2022

#### **Wed 20<sup>th</sup>**

Last day of term –  
early finish at 13:30

#### **HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

### September 2022

#### **Thurs 1<sup>st</sup>**

INSET Day - teacher  
training, closed to  
children

#### **Fri 2<sup>nd</sup>**

INSET day – teacher  
training, closed to  
children

#### **Mon 5<sup>th</sup>**

First Day of autumn  
term 1 (gates open  
between 08:30 -  
08:35)

#### **Mon 5<sup>th</sup> – Thurs 8<sup>th</sup>**

Nursery Home Visits

#### **Tues 6<sup>th</sup> & Thurs 8<sup>th</sup>**

Meet the teacher  
sessions YR, Y1 & Y2

#### **Fri 9<sup>th</sup> & Mon 12<sup>th</sup>**

Nursery first days  
(families had their  
child's start date  
confirmed in July)

#### **Thurs 8<sup>th</sup>**

Nursery visit pm and  
parent meeting

#### **Friday 9<sup>th</sup>**

Little Deers Nursery  
children - stay and  
play session

## 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Welcome to  
the final  
newsletter of  
the academic  
year. It's  
certainly been  
a whirlwind of  
a year, ending  
with a  
scorcher of a

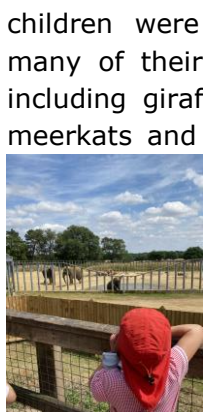
final few days. Staff took time to  
cool off in the sprinklers in the  
playground set up to help the  
children manage the heat.



## Reception and Year 2 Zoo Trips



On Wednesday  
and Friday last  
week there were  
lots of excited  
(and slightly  
nervous) faces  
boarding the  
coach for the Reception and Year  
2 day trips to  
Whipsnade Zoo.  
For many, this was  
the first time they  
had ever been on a  
coach with their  
classmates. The



children were delighted to see  
many of their favourite animals  
including giraffes, tigers, a lion,  
meerkats and more! One of the  
highlights of the  
Reception trip  
was seeing the  
baby elephant  
splashing around  
in the water  
trying to keep  
cool. And not forgetting seeing a



life size model of elephant poo  
which the children found both  
fascinating and funny!

We were so proud of the  
children's behaviour, their  
enthusiasm to learn more about  
the animals and how they coped  
with their first day trip away from  
school.

Thank you to those parents who  
volunteered and helped on the  
trips, it was very much  
appreciated.

## School Learning

Volves children made a  
nature museum  
gathering interesting  
items to display on  
the shelves.



They also explored  
different techniques  
for bursting the  
balloon pinatas.

## Fond Farewells

We said goodbye to our Year 2  
children at the leaves assembly  
today.

Ms Bailey and Mrs Rockell will also  
be leaving us. The Year 2 choir  
sung sweetly to them and they  
were presented with handmade  
cards by the children. We are very  
sad to see them go and would  
like to thank them for all their  
hard work over the years.

We also want to thank Miss Long  
and Mrs Newman who will no  
longer be in class but still at  
Swing Gate.



## Pause for thought

*"If you're brave enough to say goodbye,  
life will reward you with a new hello."*

Paulo Coelho, author

## Uniform Orders

Following the move to online uniform ordering, we are happy to have received your first deliveries at school. For anyone wanting new uniform for September, please visit the Essential Schoolwear online shop [here](#).

## Friends of Swing Gate School

Thank you to everyone for joining us for the preloved uniform sale, items will be available again at the beginning of term.

## Berkhamsted Medieval Festival

Berkhamsted and District Chamber of Commerce (BDCC) is organising a two-day Medieval Festival on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> and Monday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2022 for the benefit of the community and local businesses. Please see flyer attached.

The event will run from 12:00-17:00 each day at Berkhamsted Cricket Club field and the adjacent Kitchener's Field.

Acts/attractions will include re-enacted battles and tournaments, spear and axe throwing and encampment activities (by an established, historical re-enactment group); ferret-racing and ferret cuddles; falconry, jesters, magicians, face-painting, tug of war, dancing, singing, activities for children, craft stalls, and a range of food and drink.

The Early-Bird ticket offer can be accessed on these links - [Sunday 28th August](#) and [Monday 29th August](#).

## School Felt Tapestries

During the Medieval Festival, the wonderful, individual, felt tapestries that were made by Swing Gate School children and funded by BDCC will be on display. There will also be a formal hand-over of these amazing works of art in the presence of the Mayor - exact time to be confirmed and will be shown on event marketing. The tapestries will initially be displayed in Berkhamsted Town Hall.

## New French Club for older siblings

[Papillon Language Tuition](#) is starting an online French After-School Club for 7-11 year olds from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September at 16:15-17:00. Giving children the chance to learn French in the comfort of their own home, become confident in their language skills and have fun communicating in French outside the classroom. Taught by Estelle a qualified language teacher with 19 years' experience, using exciting teaching methods. She offers a free 10 minute consultation to get to know your child's learning style. She also offers fun group summer revision sessions for French GCSE preparation and September sessions for 5-7 years old, [contact Estelle](#) for more details or look at the [website](#).

## Sunnyside Parenting Course

Sunnyside Church will be running a Parenting Course for six weeks in the autumn term. To register your interest and receive more detailed information nearer the time, please email [Sharon Fowler](#).

## Wellbeing in Action

### Healthy Eating A Quick Picnic Snack

#### Ingredients

- ½ wholemeal pitta bread
- 25g cooked skinless chicken breast
- ¼ cucumber, cut into chunks
- 4 cherry tomatoes, halved





## Method

Fill the pitta half with the chicken breast, cucumber and cherry tomatoes.

## Mindfulness

Make a morning smile part of your daily routine, it is a great habit to have. In the morning, when you open your eyes, the first thing to do is to smile. Tell yourself that it would be a wonderful day. Try it and see how it brings you so much positive energy. When you meet someone, give them a smile too. See this dog giving it a go!

## And finally...

There are so many thank yous:

- thank you to all the families, you have helped make Swing Gate such an excellent place to be
- thank you to my wonderful teaching staff (including TAs, LSAs & MSAs) it is with their care and expertise that has enabled the children to do so well both academically and socially
- thank you to my support staff, that have helped create a well-oiled machine; they are like swans graceful on the outside but pedalling frantically under the water
- but most of all thank you to the children, with their thirst for learning and their happy faces

From the staff and I, we really appreciate your generous gifts, kind wishes and warm smiles in the last few days. It has made sure our summer starts in the best possible way.

I wanted to share a poem that one of our Y2 parents wrote...

## A Ode to Swing Gate Infant School



*With teary eyes and a heavy heart, this poem has been written  
For it's not only our 3 children who are 'Swing Gate School smitten'  
Since 2018 back and forth to this warm and nurturing place*

*Always greeted with open arms and a smiling, cheerful face*

*But alas, it's time to say goodbye as this era draws to a close*

*It's not just 4 walls we're leaving behind, it's all the amazing souls*

*Each and every one of you brings a quality unique*

*That together forms this special place, of which we highly speak*

*There is nowhere that can rival the environment you have built*

*Safe, playful, caring – we leave our children free of guilt!*

*Providing not just an education, but a stream of happy days*

*For our adored and cherished children who you teach, love and amaze*

*So farewell to all at Swing Gate! May you continue to prosper and thrive*

*We'll forever miss and remember you.*

*All our love*

*The Prince Five xxxxx*

Farewell to the Year 2 children and parents it has been a pleasure to have you at Swing Gate School. I look forward to welcoming everyone else back in September.

Have a good summer, and stay safe!

*Francesca Gallagher (Mrs)*

*Headteacher*