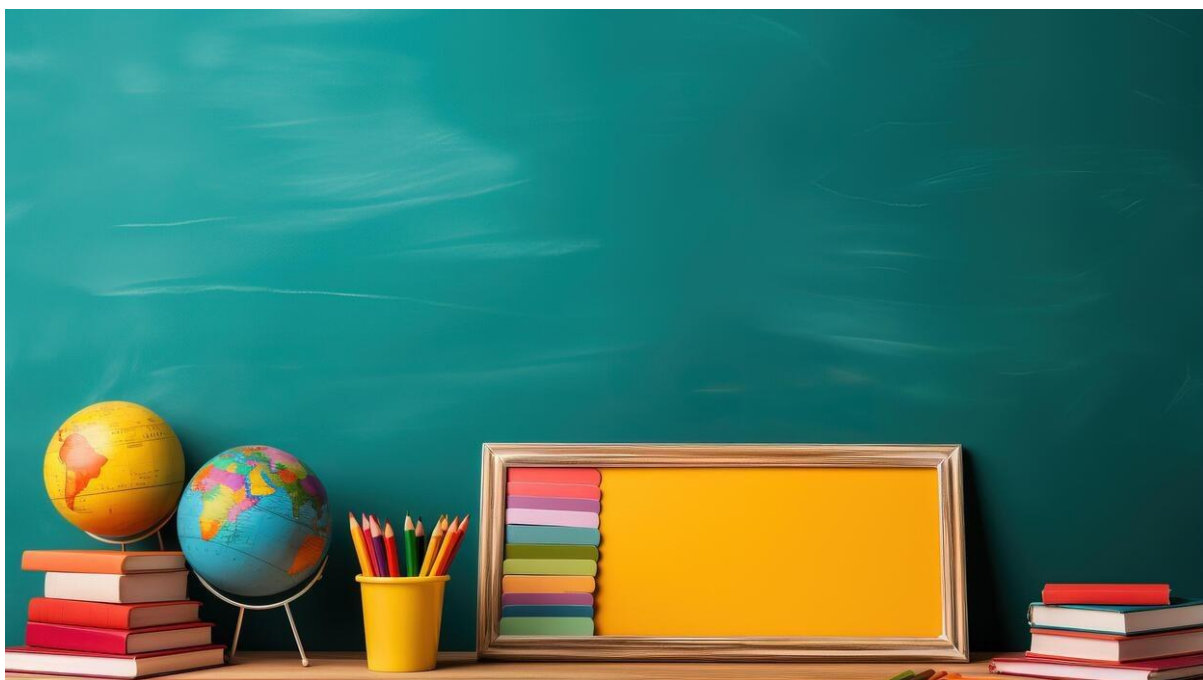




Swallow Dell Weekly Newsletter 25th September 2026

Autumn Term

Message from the Headteacher

Another great week has come to an end at Swallow Dell! It has been wonderful to see our children showcasing their learning across the school. From the youngest learners in Nursery to our oldest pupils, there have been many examples of excellent progress and positive attitudes to learning.

Over the next few weeks, there will be more information coming out about upcoming events run by our PTA. Please consider joining them to help lead and run events throughout our school community - they provide fantastic opportunities for our children through fundraising, as well as the events themselves.

This week we have also begun our regular review of pupil attendance. Improving attendance remains a key school improvement priority, as we know that regular attendance has a significant impact on both children's academic achievement and their social development.

Children who attend school consistently are more likely to make strong progress, build positive friendships, and fully benefit from the wide range of opportunities school provides. Please have a look at this link to understand more about the impact of attendance:

Spotlight on: Attendance

Over the coming weeks, we will be contacting families where we have concerns about attendance so that we can work together to support improvement. Thank you to all families who ensure their children attend school regularly and arrive on time each day.

Have a great weekend!

Mr J Berry, Headteacher

Dates for the Diary

September

Monday 28th - Year 2 Maths Workshop and Open Classroom

October

Friday 2nd - Occasional Day (School Closed)

Wednesday 7th - Reception Stay and Play

Wednesday 14th - Year 1 Phonics/Reading Workshop and Open Classroom

Wednesday 14th - Year 6 Trip to RAF Hendon

Thursday 15th - Year 2 Great Fire of London Day

Sunday 18th - Wednesday 21st - Year 5 PGL Trip Osmington Bay

Wednesday 21st - Reception to Year 6 Flu Vaccinations (Year 5 will be vaccinated on second session)

Thursday 22nd - Individual/sibling photos

Friday 23rd - End of Half Term (Normal finish time)

November

Monday 2nd - Pupils return to school

Friday 6th - Year 6 Selling Poppies

Monday 9th - Year 6 Selling Poppies

Wednesday 11th - Remembrance Day Assembly: Scouts/Guides can wear uniform

Wednesday 11th - Parent Teacher Consultations (3:30 - 7)

*Thursday 12th - **School Closes 1:15pm** Parent Teacher Consultations (1:30 - 5)*

Friday 13th - Children in Need

Monday 16th - Anti-bullying Week/Odd Socks Day

Wednesday 18th - Reception to Year 6 Flu Vaccination (2nd session)

Friday 20th - Prospective Parents Reception Open Morning

Saturday 21st - Prospective Parents Reception Open Morning

Wednesday 25th - Prospective Parents Reception Open Morning

Weekly Term Time Events:

Baby & Toddler Group (every Wednesday)

Other Term Time Events:

Family Support Worker Coffee Morning every other Friday

[Visit our website for the latest term dates](#)

Attendance

*Our whole school attendance target is **97%**, total attendance last week was **93.3%**.*

 **Top Classes for Attendance were:**

Maple - 100%

Sycamore - 97.4%

Ash - 95.4%

Well Done! 

Please follow the link below for further information about attendance:

[Spotlight on Attendance](#)

PTA News and Events

The PTA are working hard behind the scenes to prepare some fantastic events for the whole school.

In order for these events to take place, many more volunteers are needed to help organise and run these events. Please support them where possible by emailing pta@swallowdell.herts.sch.uk to express your interest in helping out!

As a school, we are very grateful for the hard work of the PTA and the benefits it brings our children and school community.

Announcements, Notifications and School Events



Census Day

Thursday 1st October is Census Day!

We kindly ask all KS1 parents and carers to remember to order a school lunch for their child on this day.

The number of lunches ordered helps determine the amount of funding our school receives, so every school lunch makes a difference.

Thank you very much for your support.

Mrs C Joyce's Book Review



Agent Llama by Angela Woolfe and Duncan Beedie

Aged 3+

Meet super spy Charlie Palmer: super spy and super-fluffy llama. Charlie is one of the best agents in the world. In this book, she is on a top-secret mission to rescue a pair of underpants. Equipped with gadgets that James Bond would love, no villain is a match for this awesome llama.

If you like action-packed, gadget filled, funny books, then give this book a go.

It is perfect for fans of action-packed adventures like Supertato, Secret Agent Elephant and There's a Superhero in your Book.

Mrs C Joyce, Assistant Headteacher

Swallow Dell Champions

*Celebrating the achievements of our children who have shown examples of our values:
Kindness, Respect and Ambition. Well done!*

Last Week's Swallow Dell Way Class Champions

Rec Pine - Eliza

Rec Chestnut - Lily-Rose

Y1 Beech - Toby

Y1 Cherry - Immy G

Y2 Oak - Noah

Y2 Maple - Ella

Y3 Silver Birch - Agnes

Y3 Apple - Emmy

Y4 Ash - Lennox

Y4 Willow - Delilah

Y5 Sycamore - Emmy

Y5 Elm - Evie B

Y6 Cedar - Maddie

Y6 Poplar - Niamh

Rowan Class - Dolly

WISH - Albie

PE Champions 

Rec Pine - Alexander

Rec Chestnut - Hollie

Y1 Beech - Marco

Y1 Cherry - Hallie

Y2 Oak - Aleksandr

Y2 Maple - Jamie

Y3 Silver Birch - Penelope

Y3 Apple - Imogen

Y4 Ash - Toby

Y4 Willow - Rogan

Y5 Sycamore - Arthur

Y5 Elm - Elsie

Y6 Cedar - Reggie-Joe

Y6 Poplar - Hedley

External Notices

October Half Term - Tech Camp

Looking for exciting, fun-filled childcare this October half term? **Next Thing Education Ltd** are hosting their **Tech & STEM Camp** here at **Swallow Dell Primary School, AL7 3JP** from **26th – 30th October!** 

Perfect for children aged **5–12**, our October camps are packed with hands-on technology, creativity, STEM challenges and plenty of spooky fun!

What can they expect?

 Robotics & Coding

 Science & Circuits

 Digital Creativity & Media

Plus lots more hands-on activities!

 **26th – 30th October**

 **9am–4pm**

 **£45 per day**

 **Book 5 days & save 10%**

 **Want to see exactly what's happening at your camp?**

Check the **full camp schedule online** to see the activities available at your chosen venue!

Spaces are filling fast — book now!

 <https://pbbl.uk/4d7Gw7Y>



Welwyn Garden City Station Centenary

WELWYN GARDEN CITY STATION CENTENARY

On 5th October, Welwyn Garden City celebrates 100 years since the opening of its main line station. Opened by Neville Chamberlain MP, it was a significant boost to the creation of the town.

Join us for a display that tells the story of our station – from its creation, to its growth and its importance as a feature of the Howard Centre today.

There will also be books and items for sale, as well as a competition.

**SATURDAY 3 OCTOBER 2026,
09:30 – 17:00**

SOUTH MALL, HOWARD CENTRE

(Ground floor, to the right of the
escalators)



Created by the Heritage Group for
Together for Welwyn Garden City

togetherforwgc.org.uk
email: hello@togetherforwgc.org.uk
Charity number: 1117081



MHFA Training Parent-Carers 26-27

Youth Mental Health First Aid Training

1 day Champion course designed specifically for Hertfordshire Parent/Carers of 8 to 18 year olds.



You will learn:

- An understanding of common mental health issues and how they can affect young people
- The ability to spot the signs of mental ill health in young people, and guide them to a place of support
- Knowledge and confidence to advocate for mental health awareness
- Skills to support positive wellbeing

Friday 13 Nov 2026 9.30 am to 4pm	Peartree Spring Primary School, Stevenage, SG2 9GG	Parents/Carers	Parking available on roads near venue
Friday 12 Mar 2027 9.30 am to 4pm	Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 8ER	Parents/Carers	Parking available on site

To book your place please email schoolsmh@hertfordshire.gov.uk
Places are limited to two representatives per education setting

[School Nursing Newsletter](#)

Parent and Carer ASD/ADHD Workshops

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Parents and Carer Support Courses

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Bitesize Workshops

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