

Swanmore College of Technology

Newsletter

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WELCOME TO YEAR 7 PUPILS—2009/2010

Swanmore College is delighted to tell you how brilliantly Year 7 pupils have settled into college life. They are very happy and enthusiastic about their new surroundings and academic studies.

To date they have been working hard within their tutor groups on team building and friendship making activities – (see the VLE for pictures of the youngsters building towers). They have also participated in a PSHE Day which was focused on settling in, making new relationships and avoiding conflict.

We also were delighted by how many of our Year 7s took part in the ‘Welcome Year 7 Open Evening’; their energy and help was very much appreciated.

Please do check and sign your child’s planner to ensure correct use and recording of homework. Homework set can also be found on the VLE (Virtual Learning Environment) via our website.

Dates for your diary for the Autumn Term include;

22 October - meeting the Year 7 Team after college where individual appointments will be available.

3 November & 1 December - Pop in surgeries 3.10 – 4.00pm, staffed by Mrs Newcombe & Mrs Tye-Reeve.

NEW MEMBERS OF STAFF

We are delighted to welcome the following members of staff to Swanmore College of Technology:

Miss Alner	PE Maternity Cover
Mrs Avery	Head of Drama
Mrs Bridgman	Deputy Director of Science
Miss Brown	Teacher of Art
Miss Felton	Teacher of Science
Miss Guillemin	Teacher of MFL
Miss Leavers	Teacher of PE
Miss Lewis	Teacher of English
Mrs Murray	Science - GTP*
Mr Richards	Teacher of PE
Miss Wyatt	Teacher of English
Mrs Wilde	English - GTP*

*GTP – Graduate Teacher Programme

Mrs Allen	Welfare Assistant
Mrs Brothers	Parent Support Advisor
Mr Curtis	Site Assistant
Mr Mordecai	LSA
Mr Prince	Site Assistant
Miss Smith	LSA
Mr Rowswell	LSA

CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

Information about college clubs and activities can be found on the college website under the pupil Section.

ATTENDANCE

Good attendance is essential in supporting progress and continuity of learning. Therefore pupil absences need to be kept to the absolute minimum. Pupils should be absent only if:

- * there is a genuine illness;
- * there is an unavoidable medical appointment which has to take place during school hours;
- * there are exceptional family / personal circumstances which necessitate this.

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME SHOULD BE AVOIDED.

The college does not normally authorise holidays for pupils in Years 10 & 11 and will only authorise holidays for pupils in other year groups in response to exceptional circumstances. We are afraid that we cannot accept cost of a holiday as an exceptional circumstance.

ALL reasons for absence will be meticulously checked.

DIARY DATES FOR OCTOBER 2009

1st	Open Evening	5pm—8pm
8th	Y11 Careers & Fe Fair	7pm—9pm
22nd	Year 7 Parent Meetings with Tutors	
23rd	Non-Uniform Day (Air Ambulance)	
	Year 9 Reports Issued	
	Half Term Break	



2 November - Professional Day

YOUNG LEADERS IN SPORT

The following pupils have completed the Level 1 Leader in Sport Course and are now qualified young leaders in sport. They will be inducting the Year 7 leaders in due course.

Libby Ash-Cutler, Poppy Backhouse, Richard Baker, Shannon Biddiss, Bonnie Burns, Michael Bush, Zoe Cayford, Nick Conde, Georgie Creese, Dominic Crunden, Andy Crook, Amanda Deveney, Justin Dillow, Vicki Harding, Helen Harling, Trudi Hewetson, Beth Hickton, Katie Humphrey, Ellie Hyde, Philip Menjou, Arun Milton, Ashling Mulkerins, Ryan Overton, Robert Paterson, Laurence Pike, Lucy Platt, Zoe Roberts, Katiana Saleiko, Ginny Sanderson, Hannah Sinclair, Lauren Smither, Emily Souch, Matthew Summers, Joe Taylor, Amy Thomson, Daisy Walker, Daniel Wembridge, Emily Whitefield, Kate Williams and Matthew Williams.

Many congratulations to all concerned.



MACARTHUR HOUSE

Welcome back to all MacArthur House pupils—we hope this will be a successful and happy year for you all.

Congratulations to those pupils who were elected as MacArthur House Officials:

House Captain — Daniel Pool M10
Deputy House Captain — Daisy Chester M5
Sports Captain — Liam Hibberd M5
Deputy Sports Captain — Henry Boden M1

Well done to Samantha Loveless (M9) who was our winner of the “mini-saga” competition.



On a sunny summers day I took my dog to the beach. His eyes brightened; he leapt into the water like a fish. His long black hair shone in the sun like a crystal. He watched a flock of birds fly by and his eyes gleamed into the blue sky.

INNOVATION DAY IS COMING

On 14th October, Year 8 pupils will be involved in our exciting and challenging ‘Science and Technology Innovation Day’.

The pupils will be using their skills in problem solving and being creative; by working in teams, together they will be able to produce some very exciting and practical outcomes.

AIR AMBULANCE SERVICES CHARITY EVENT

You may recall that last year the college needed to call upon the services of the Air Ambulance, when a pupil was injured in a fall.

At that time we promised we would coordinate an event to raise money in support of the Air Ambulance Service as it is dependent solely on charitable donations.

On Friday 23 October we are holding a special charity non-uniform day and all proceeds will go to the Air Ambulance Service. The senior prefects will be communicating more on this event shortly.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

HOMEWORK CLUB

An after college Homework Club will be operating every Tuesday at 3.10 pm. The Club, run by Mr Leighton, is for those pupils who wish to complete their homework or other work, in a quiet and supported environment.

The Club will take place in M04 and is open to all pupils.

Mr Leighton’s area of expertise is science, but all subjects are welcome. In addition, any pupil who is struggling with any aspect of science is welcome to attend for one-to-one help during this time, although some notification in advance from pupils of what is needed would help with this.

If your son/daughter would like to attend the Club, please write a signed note in the pupil planner giving permission for their attendance on each Tuesday they wish to attend.

Mr Leighton will be available up to 4.15 pm, but pupils will be free to leave once they have done what they came for.

NO MOBILE PHONES

Mobile phones **MUST** be switched off at all times and are **NEVER** to be used in lessons or around the college site.



There is an increasing trend for pupils, who are feeling unwell, to contact parents via their mobile phones to ask to be picked up from reception. If pupils are unwell they should report to the medical room so that the welfare officer can assess them and decide whether or not to contact home.

We would appreciate your support with this.

HOME2SCHOOL!

Have you heard about Swanmore’s Home2School connection? By downloading the link onto your desktop at home it allows your child to access the school network at home. To access Home2School your child needs to log on to the school Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). They then need to click on the Home2School button and follow the instructions.

EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

On 25 September we celebrated the European Day of Languages with a variety of activities going on including:

- * Ice creams for sale. Pupils asked for their ice creams in French, German and Spanish!
- * A special menu offered different foods from Spain, Italy, France and Germany
- * Lots of Year 7s were involved in a 'Chasse aux signatures' (signature hunt). They needed 10 signatures to get a prize
- * Special language lessons were taught and many lessons included a European fact or starter activity

The day was a great success and pupils really got involved in learning a bit more about European languages and culture.



Congratulations to everyone who took part and to all staff who made it such an excellent day!

HAWKING HOUSE

Welcome back to all pupils - we hope that this year will prove to be a very successful one for you all. This is the time to look forward to the year ahead and to gain success in all that you do. For those pupils in Year 11-let's make this the best one yet! Enjoy your year ahead.

HAWKING HOUSE OFFICIAL POSTS

Congratulations to the following people who were elected into their new positions.

House Captain - Lyndon Rickwood (H4)
Deputy House Captain - William Short (H2)
Sports Captain - Robert Paterson (H2)
Female Sports Captain - Jessica Myers (H6)
Deputy Sports Captain - Lauren Steers (H1)

Congratulations to Kenny Lowe (H10) who took part in the Nijmegen marches (over 100 miles) during the summer holidays. His team won for the 2nd year running against teams from all around the world.



Well done to Benjamin Gurman (H4) for his recent winning entry for the "mini-saga" competition .

The man crept out of the alley, strolling around the streets suspiciously. A small boy peered out of his window and the man looked up and stared he quickly closed the curtains, the man carried on walking. He tripped on a curb and a gun fell out of his coat.

Samaritans Purse Shoe Box Appeal

In September, Mrs John and Mrs Straughan launched the Samaritans Purse Shoe Box appeal. Could pupils please save as many shoe boxes as possible and bring them to N Block.

Well done to all Hawking House pupils for their continued hard work and support.

WHITTLE HOUSE

We look forward to working with Whittle House to make this academic year as meaningful, and enjoyable as possible!

Whittle House Officials:

House Captain: Charlotte Jenkins W8
Deputy House Captain: Verity Lee W4
Sports Captain: Amy Thomson W8
Deputy Sports Captain: Jake Bennett W3



Whittle Committee representatives:

W1 Amanda Deveney and Lucie Jones
W2 Tim Hollins and Andy Gilchrist
W3 Jake Muskett and Will Harris
W4 Leah Hartnell and Kayleigh Gregory
W5 Ashleigh Adams and Claire Dillon
W6 Jack Stilwell-Bond and Jacob Broadbridge
W7 Poppy Backhouse and Caroline Gamblin
W8 Will Bowditch and Jade Agnew
W9 Matthew Eaton and Jim Tyson
W10 Chantelle Gamblin and Shannon Saunders

It also gives us great pleasure to announce the Whittle House 'mini - saga' winning entry - well done to Caroline and Rachel...

Stranger in the Dark

by Caroline Gamblin and Rachel Neill W7

Paris! What can I say? Eiffel tower, the Louvre! NOT INTERESTED! I visited Disneyland, that's Paris. Suddenly from the shadows lumbered a big, dark fearsome monster... I turned, ran, but something stopped me. What big ears you have! With one eyebrow raised in scepticism Mickey mouse stepped into the light.

Best wishes from Mrs Frost, Mrs Franklin and the Whittle House Tutors.

SAMARITANS PURSE APPEAL

Last week groups of pupils from all year groups volunteered to design and make healthy muffins. The cakes were sold to staff and pupils to raise money for the charity. A great time was had by both pupils and staff and almost £300 was raised.

Our thanks to everyone who participated.

FOSC

Please join us for the FOSC (Friends of Swanmore College)AGM will take place on **Tuesday 20 October** from 7.00 pm-7.30 pm.

We are inviting comment from parents on a suggestion that the name be changed to SPA [Swanmore Parents' Association] with the name change being formerly considered on the evening of the AGM.



We would appreciate any suggestions for spending money raised for the benefit of the pupils.

We look forward to seeing you then.

BUPA GREAT NORTH RUN

On Saturday 19 September, 20 athletes from Swanmore College took to the streets of Newcastle for the Junior Great North Run. The skies cleared as the squad walked around the imposing Angel of the North and spirits were high as the young people enjoyed the challenge of their race in the company of thousands of fellow competitors from all over Britain.



Congratulations to: Milli Boyes, Pat Curran, Justin Dillow, Amanda Deveney, Sophie Golding, Kate Humphrey, Harry Jenkins, Ellie Martin, Tom Mills, Bryony Parsons, April Palmer, Robert Paterson, Laurence Pike, Lucy Platt, Toby Roberts, Lydia Rowswell, Will Short, Finlay Taylor, Joe Taylor and Dan Wembridge.

PE EQUIPMENT

Can we draw your attention to the correct uniform for Physical Education. All pupils **without exception** require the following equipment.

1. A White Polo shirt.
2. A Blue Rugby shirt.
3. Black shorts.
4. White sports socks and Blue football socks.
5. A pair of trainers, not lace up plimsolls.
6. A pair of football boots, (boys & girls).
7. Safety equipment eg gum shield/shin guards

This kit is very important and will allow all pupils to compete as equals in smart uniform.

PARENT SURVEY FINDINGS

The parent survey findings can be found under the college information section in the Parent area of the VLE.

ATTENBOROUGH HOUSE

It is great to welcome back all the tutors and pupils in Attenborough House. Last year was a super year for us and this year we will continue to build our links with Nigeria and Age Concern.

Congratulations to our newly appointed officials:
House Captain—Marcus Howard
Deputy House Captain—Nick Pearce
Sports Captain—Lydia Galloway
Deputy Sports Captain—Victoria Muddle

Well done to Miriam Miller who is our winner of the "mini-saga".

When the clock struck three at the end of July, Swanmore pupils piled out of the College in their hundreds.



*The sun was shimmering its vibrant rays on the black tarmac; it was steaming as if the sun had set its concrete heart alight.
The summer – a mystery to me*

STEMNET LAUNCH EVENING A GREAT SUCCESS

To celebrate the success of the After College Science and Engineering Club we recently held an open evening to relaunch the club and to celebrate the first year of operation.

There was a fantastic turnout of both parents and pupils, who came along to see some of our projects in action, and with activities such as bath bomb making and Trebuchet skittles alongside the Voltage Vegetables and Custard Science, there was also a good chance to get some hands-on experience.

There was a brief review of our first year and a look ahead by Mr Foster and Mr Hedicker, while Dr Sharman, from STEMNET (the organisation that gave the club its grant), outlined the importance of getting pupils involved in clubs like ours, in order to bring forward a new generation of British Scientists and Engineers.

The stars of the evening had to be the LEGO Mindstorms Robots and the massive robotics arena, which is the main focus of our club this term. We have entered 3 teams into a national competition, with the regional finals at INTECH in December. This project, which links robotics and LEGO to a local transportation issue, is a high profile event and also allows our members to earn a British Science Association CREST Award.

The college was chosen as one of only 500 schools in the country to receive a substantial grant from STEMNET (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths Network) to set up and run a Science and Engineering Club and we have now been running it, on Thursdays, for a year.

This week over 40 pupils attended the club!



If you are a KS3 pupil or parent interested in joining or helping out – please contact Mr Foster or Mr Hedicker!

DESIGNER IN RESIDENCE

Pupils from Year 11 GCSE D&T Textiles & Graphics had the opportunity to work with Swanmore College's "Designer in Residence", Mandy Nash. Ms Nash is an experienced designer, with her own business, in the areas of jewellery design and textiles, specialising in felt manufacture,

Pupils took part in 'hands on' workshops on 24 & 25 September. D&T textiles pupils experienced how to manufacture felt and they each produced a felt flower which will be incorporated in their GCSE coursework.



Pupils taking GCSE D&T Graphic Products were able to develop their coursework by learning skills in anodising aluminium which they can now use to produce an item for their coursework.