

# Rights Round Up

Spring 2026



# Allyship Week

At Swanmore College, Allyship Week gave pupils an important opportunity to reflect on how they can actively support others and help create a culture where everyone feels valued and respected. Through a dedicated PSHE lesson, students explored what it means to be an ally, discussing the importance of being an upstander rather than a bystander and considering how small everyday actions can have a powerful impact on others.

The week also celebrated difference and diversity across the school community. Pupils were encouraged to wear rainbow bands as a visible sign of support, and many embraced the opportunity to show solidarity with the LGBTQ+ community. For some students, that support has continued beyond the week itself, demonstrating how the message of allyship is becoming part of daily life at Swanmore College and reinforcing the right of every child to feel safe, included and respected.

## World Braille Day

In early January, pupils marked World Braille Day through a special Connect Session designed to deepen understanding of visual impairment and accessibility. The session encouraged students to consider some of the everyday challenges faced by people with sight-related difficulties and to reflect on how communication and learning can be adapted so that everyone can participate fully.

Students also learned about the origins of Braille, exploring how it was developed by Louis Braille and why it remains such an essential communication system today. By understanding the significance of Braille in modern society, pupils were able to appreciate the importance of accessibility, equality and the right of every young person to access education and information.



Celebrating  
Allyship Week

WORLD  
BRAILLE  
DAY

# Soccer Aid

This summer term, excitement is already building for the return of Soccer Aid at Swanmore College. Following the success of last year's event, which brought together pupils, staff and the wider school community in a fantastic celebration of football, preparations are underway for another memorable occasion.

As well as encouraging teamwork, participation and healthy competition, the event will once again support the

work of UNICEF, helping to raise money for children around the world. Last year's festival demonstrated how sport can unite a community while supporting a global cause, and pupils are encouraged to watch this space for announcements about the activities and opportunities available this year.



# Rights Trail

A group of Year 8 pupils recently took part in our Rights Trail, an engaging activity designed to help students explore the Articles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child in a practical and meaningful way.

By moving around the school and examining everyday routines, system

and spaces, pupils were able to identify how children's rights are embedded in daily school life. From the right to education and safety to opportunities for participation and expression, the trail helped pupils recognise that rights are not abstract ideas but lived experiences within the Swanmore College community.



# World Book Day

World Book Day brought creativity and enthusiasm to Swanmore College, with both staff and pupils embracing the occasion by dressing as favourite literary characters. Corridors were filled with recognisable figures from classic and contemporary stories, creating a lively atmosphere and celebrating the enjoyment that reading brings.

The day was a strong reflection of Article 31 of the UNCRC, which recognises every child's right to relax, play and participate in cultural life. Alongside the costumes, the event reminded pupils of the importance of reading for pleasure, imagination and personal development



SWANMORE  
COLLEGE  
Centre of Excellence

WORLD  
BOOK  
DAY

5 MARCH 2026

# Children's Mental Health Week

## Hello Yellow



SWANMORE  
COLLEGE  
Centre of Excellence

World Mental Health Day  
Friday, 10 October 2025

Children's Mental Health Week provided an important focus for discussion across the school, with pupils exploring what belonging means and why emotional wellbeing matters. Activities encouraged students to think about how school communities can ensure that every young person feels safe, included, listened to and respected.

The week reinforced that children's rights are not only about education and protection, but also about emotional security and being heard. Through discussion and reflection, pupils considered how they can contribute to a culture where mental health is openly talked about and support is available to all.

# Holocaust Memorial Day

Marking Holocaust Memorial Day was an important moment of reflection for pupils and staff. Through learning and discussion, the school community remembered the millions of victims of the Holocaust and other genocides, while considering the importance of standing against hatred and discrimination today.

The day also encouraged pupils to think about their role in shaping a more respectful and compassionate society. In remembering the past, students were challenged to consider how prejudice begins and why it is essential to confront antisemitism and all forms of hatred wherever they appear.



**HOLOCAUST  
MEMORIAL  
DAY TRUST**

# Visit from MP Paul Holmes

Swanmore College was pleased to welcome Paul Holmes for a visit focused on children's rights, democracy and the importance of young people having a voice.

Pupils engaged confidently in questioning and discussion, demonstrating thoughtful understanding of Articles 12 and 13 of the UNCRC, which emphasise the right of children to express their views and to receive and share information. The visit gave students a valuable opportunity to challenge, question and engage directly with a public representative, reinforcing that their opinions matter and deserve to be heard.

