



**SNARESTONE CofE
PRIMARY SCHOOL**



Newsletter: June 2026

Summer Term in Full Swing

What a busy and exciting summer term we have ahead - there is certainly lots to look forward to across school!

I would like to begin by saying how incredibly proud we are of our Year 6 pupils for the way they approached SATs week. Their attitude was exemplary throughout; they showed resilience, maturity and determination, and conducted themselves brilliantly.

Our annual Maypole Festival marked the traditional start of our summer celebrations, and what a truly fabulous afternoon it was. The dancing was a joy to watch, with every child performing so confidently and looking wonderful in their special outfits, complete with May sticks. Our May King and Queen, Jack and Maisie, did an outstanding job overseeing the proceedings from their throne, ably supported by the Jack O' Greens, Imogen and Lennon. A huge thank you also to FOSS for providing refreshments and helping to make the afternoon such a success.



We were also delighted by the achievements of our debating team, who took part in the Year 5 Rise "Pupil Charter" event. Competing against St Simon and St Jude's Primary School, our team took the opposition side in the motion: "This House believes that everyone should always celebrate all holidays as a sign of respect, even if they are not from the same religion or culture." We are thrilled to say that Snarestone were victorious! Well done to Isaac, Ezra and Harry for their articulate and thoughtful arguments, and a special congratulations to Isaac, who received an award for his particularly impressive debating skills.

There has also been plenty of sporting success already this term. Our netball team performed brilliantly, winning every game without conceding a single goal on their way to the final. Although they were narrowly beaten 4-2 by Congerstone in a closely contested match, finishing as runners-up is a fantastic achievement and one they should be very proud of. We wish them luck in the NW Leicestershire competition on Thursday.

With so much already happening, we are looking forward to a fantastic final half term ahead!



Hub of Hope

There is a wonderful website called The Hub of Hope, which is the UK's leading mental health support database. It brings local, national, peer, community, charity, private and NHS mental health support and services together in one place for the first time and is well worth a look if you, your child, or someone you know, needs support. Go to <https://hubofhope.co.uk/>

Attendance Matters

Thank you to everyone who continues to support us in our efforts to improve our school attendance data. Currently, our attendance for the whole year is 95.6%, although last half term's attendance fell to 95.3%. Our target is 96%.

The winners of our Class Attendance Award so far this year have been:

- ✓ **January – Kingfishers (95.0%)**
- ✓ **February – Swans (96.8%)**
- ✓ **March – Swans (97.0%)**
- ✓ **April – Herons (97.0%)**

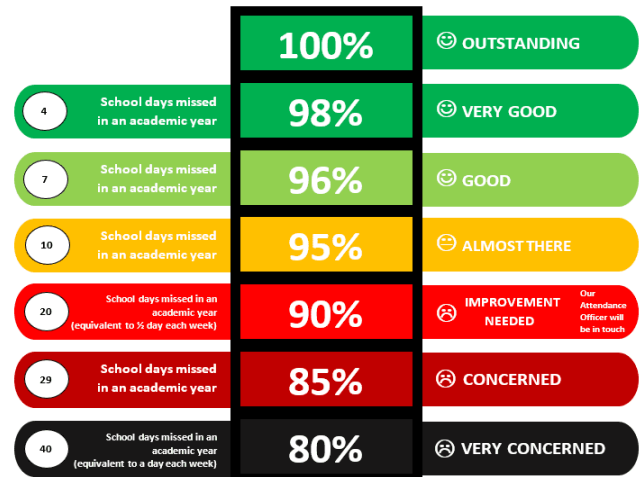
The winning class for May will be announced during Friday's VIP assembly.

Our attendance data for the Summer Term (to half term):

Swans	94.7%
Herons	96.2%
Kingfishers	95.4%
Whole School	95.3%

Our current overall attendance for 2025-26:

Swans	95.8%
Herons	95.6%
Kingfishers	95.3%
Whole School	95.6%



Why is good attendance and punctuality important?

Education lays the vital foundations of a child's life. Regular and punctual attendance at school is key to both academic and social development, which in turn will improve the life chances of children and young people.

What does 90% attendance mean?

- ✓ **90% attendance** = ½ school day missed every week!
- ✓ **One school year at 90% attendance** = 4 weeks of learning missed!
- ✓ **Over 5 school years of school** = ½ school year missed!
- ✓ All children and young people nationally whose school attendance is **90% or below** are considered to be **persistent absentees**.

Too ill to attend school?

Children can attend school with minor ailments such as toothache, headache, stomach-ache, cold, sore throat etc. Over the counter medicines can be given before school. School will contact you if they become too ill to remain in school.

Children should be off school for 48 hours if they have diarrhoea or a sickness bug. However, if your child has managed a day without being sick or having loose stools then speak to the school office as your child may be able to return to school before the 48-hour time frame.

If you are unsure how long your child should be absent with an illness, speak to the school, your doctor or a pharmacist for advice.



Term-Time Holidays

Pupils are not entitled to take holidays during term time. Family holidays should be scheduled during official school holiday periods.

If you need to request leave during term time due to exceptional circumstances, please contact the school office to obtain a Leave of Absence form.

Please note: A referral to the Local Authority and penalty notice may be issued if unauthorised leave is taken during term time.

Working together to improve attendance

Diary Dates: Summer Term 2025/26

Please find below diary dates that we currently have for the Summer Term: *New dates or changes are in red*

JUNE			
1 st – 12 th June	Year 4 Multiplication Check		Year 4
Tuesday 2 nd	Unity Swimming Gala – <i>swimming team</i>	9.30am-12pm	swimming team
Thursday 4 th	NWL Netball Competition – <i>netball team</i>	3.30pm	netball team
Friday 5 th	VIP Assembly – all parents invited	2:55pm	whole school
	Family Bingo Night for Air Ambulance – <i>letters went out before half term. Please see Miss Barbour or Fiona Bailey for further details.</i>	7pm start	families
8 th – 12 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check		Year 1
Wednesday 10 th	Sports Day – all are welcome to join us for our traditional school sports day. Refreshments will be available.	9:30am start	whole school
Friday 12 th	Celebration Assembly – children may celebrate something they have achieved out of school (sign-up sheet on Mr. Jewitt's door)	2:55pm	whole school
Tuesday 16th June	**NEW DATE** Unity Presentation Evening – <i>invite only</i> Ivanhoe School	6pm start	invite only
Wednesday 17 th	Area Sports Athletics at Saffron Lane – <i>details to follow</i>	tbc	KS2
Monday 22 nd	Deadline to hand in Thrive and Shine booklets, signed by parent/carer		whole school
Tuesday 23 rd	Parent meeting for new Reception starters	4:30pm	new starters
Friday 26 th	Rainbow Friday – children may come to school in a rainbow of colours to support diversity.		whole school
	NEW TIME VIP Assembly – all parents invited <i>Please note that this will be a 9:05am start</i>	9:05 start	whole school
Monday 29 th & Tuesday 30 th	Year 5/6 production to parents	6pm start	Year 5/6
JULY			
Thursday 2 nd	Transition day – children to spend the day in new classes. New reception children attend 8:45-11:45		whole school & new intake
Friday 3 rd	New Reception children attend 11:45-3:30		new intake
	Snarestone summer 'Festival on the Field' – <i>details to follow</i>	4:30-6:30	whole school
	End of year pupil reports sent to parents		whole school
Monday 6 th	Year 6 visit to Hunstanton – NB: children will return late	all day	Year 6
Tuesday 7 th	Year 6 SATs results day		Year 6
Wednesday 8 th	Year 6 Leavers' Evening – parents invited to join us for a celebration of our Year 6 pupils	evening – time TBC	Year 6
Thursday 9 th	Year 6 Leavers' Service – all are invited to join us at St. Bartholomew's Church. Full school uniform please. END OF TERM – SCHOOL CLOSES FOR SUMMER BREAK	9:30am start	whole school

Please note that all these dates are subject to change and will be added to as the term progresses

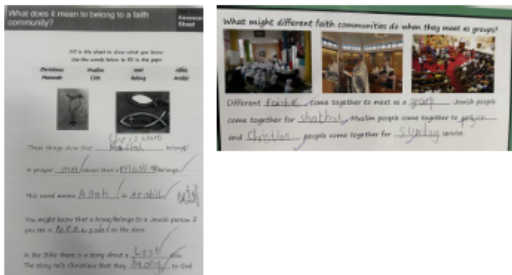
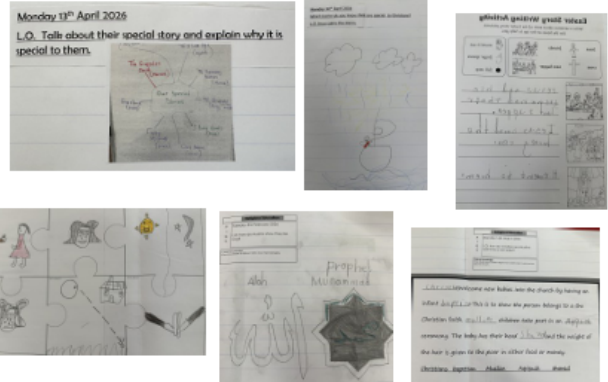
Coming soon . . . Kingfishers' summer production of 'Spring Chicken: The Musical!'



SnaREstone News

It has been a little busy at SnaREstone the last two terms and so my newsletter reaches you late and a mixture of work from Easter and last term. There has been some phenomenal writing produced by the reception children who were discussing all things Easter last term and learning about stories that are special to the Christian religion this term.

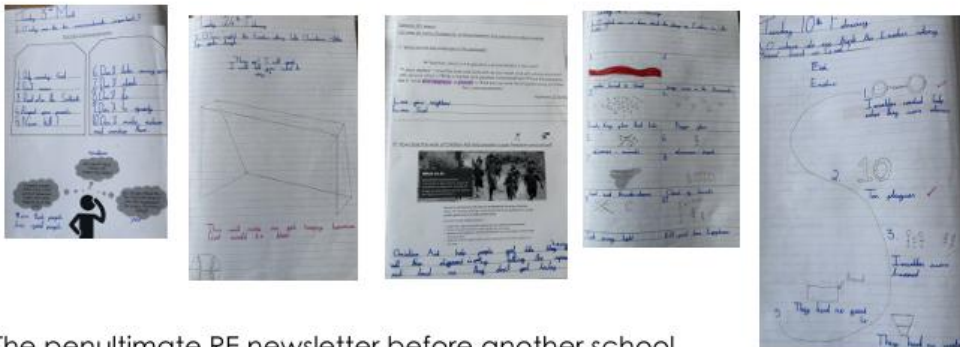
In Swans class we have been learning about what it is like to belong to a faith community and have moved onto what is a Muslim and how do they live? We have talked about how each one of us is special and belong to a group of some kind. We learnt how different religions belong to faith communities and what signs and symbols show they belong.



Hérons have been learning about the Pentecost and what the impact was when Jesus left. An important event that enabled the word to be spread about God and Jesus. Many disciples that received the Holy Spirit were baptised and their sins were washed away. After Pentecost the disciples followed the teachings of the Apostles to spread the word of forgiveness.



Last but not least Kingfishers and they have been discussing how following God can bring freedom and justice to our lives. The story of Exodus is a very important Biblical story and the Torah. In the story Jacob had taken his family to live in Egypt and after a while the 'Children of God' had been put into slavery as they were needed to work. God chose Moses to rescue them thus teaching freedom and bringing justice. A hugely important story to the Christian faith.



The penultimate RE newsletter before another school year is over.

Mrs Turner

National Online Safety Guides

The National College 'Wake Up Wednesday' guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and well-being. This online safety guide focuses on how not to become a 'screen zombie'. It examines how to tackle a range of potential risks involving mental wellbeing, screen addiction and potential grooming.

A GUIDE ON HOW NOT TO BE A SCREEN ZOMBIE

It's not always easy to tell if you've been spending too much time on your device. Mobiles phones, tablets, games consoles, TVs; the list of devices you might have access to seems never-ending and switching between them can be seamless. However, too much time on your device could lead to certain problems and could be an indicator of an addictive habit. It's important therefore that you try and manage your screen time as much as possible and avoid becoming a 'screen zombie'.




TAKE CARE OF YOUR BRAIN

Spending too much time on social media, watching YouTube or playing games online can result in you becoming a screen zombie. This can affect your mood, how much sleep you get, how you perform at school and how you behave around others. Limiting your screen time will keep you alert, keep your mind focused and help to look after your own mental health and wellbeing.



BE PRESENT, NOT A ZOMBIE

Screen zombies often find that they spend a lot of time alone in front of their tablet or their mobile phone and reduce the time they spend with their friends or talk with their family. Zombies often lack communication skills. Always try to limit your screen time as much as possible – there's so much fun you can have with others!



SCREEN-FREE BEDROOMS

Keeping your phone in your bedroom means that it can be tempting to check every notification you get. Your phone could be the last thing you see at night and the first thing you see in the morning. This can contribute towards poor sleep and a lack of focus the next day. Try to keep your phone out of your bedroom or turn off all notifications before bedtime. This will mean you'll get a good night's rest and be ready for the next day.



DON'T GET TRAPPED INSIDE

Screen zombies usually find that they spend a lot of time inside as they lose interest in other things that don't include their device. It might seem obvious, but meeting your friends outside or doing outdoor activities like playing sports, trampolining, camping or just going for a walk are all healthy replacements for screen time and can help keep your mind fresh and active.



ZOMBIE-FREE MEALTIMES

Mealtimes can be seen as a good time to sit down, relax and switch on your tablet or phone as you eat your food. But it can also mean that you're not interacting with others, sharing jokes at the dinner table or just talking about your day. Keep mealtimes for family time. Eating your food and staring at a screen means you're turning into a zombie.



BEWARE OF OTHER DANGERS

Spending too much time on your device and online can increase your chances of potentially encountering other online dangers. This could range from viewing inappropriate or harmful content to online bullying, grooming or fake news. Controlling how much time you spend online will reduce your risk of exposure. If you do see anything that makes you upset or if you're concerned about contact with others, always report it to a trusted adult.




BEWARE OF SNEAKY TRICKS

A lot of apps and games use certain ways of keeping you online and using their platform for long periods of time. This can include simple things like unlimited scrolling on a newsfeed, 'streaks' or uncovering hidden levels. Be mindful of how much time you're online and try to remember you're in control. You decide when you've had enough, not your device.




SAVE YOUR PARENTS!

Even though your parents will often be the ones telling you to limit your screen time, turn off your tablet or switch off your phone, sometimes they will forget to take their own advice. So it's up to you to make sure you remind them of the dangers of becoming a screen zombie!



UN-ZOMBIFY YOURSELF

If you think that you've already become a screen zombie, then don't worry, it's never too late to get help and support from your friends and family. Talk to your parents if you feel you've become addicted to your device, try to understand why and work with them to help you limit your screen time so that you can leave your zombie character behind.



Meet our expert

Pete Bath is content specialist with over 10+ years in research and analysis. He has written various expert pieces around online safety for children and parents and previously worked in a specialist role for the police, contributing work which was pivotal in successfully winning high profile court cases and writing as a subject matter expert for industry handbooks.



National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

For further advice on gaming, and online safety generally, visit the UK Safer Internet Centre at <https://saferinternet.org.uk/>