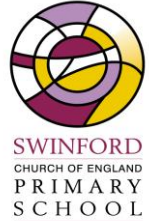




Turtles Class Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 2025



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to school after what I hope was a lovely and restful summer break! We are ready and raring to get stuck into the new school year, starting off with the topic of 'Real or Fantasy: Survival'.

This year, Turtles Class will be exploring the Christian Value of 'trust'.

Parent Session

We would like to welcome you to a parent session on **Friday 29th August 2025 at 2:45pm**. We will be discussing what Turtles Class will look like for this academic year as well as answering any questions you may have. We will also be highlighting any changes that have been made. We hope to see as many of you as possible 😊.

Extra

Year 3 parents – please could you make sure that your child brings in an old t-shirt or shirt that can be used during our Art lessons. Make sure that it is one that you don't mind getting a little bit mucky (maybe one of mum or dad's old ones!) 😊

Home-School Records

Please ensure that your child brings in their Home-School Record booklet to school every day. We will record spelling and Maths in here too.

Please remember to put a post-it note on the front of the Home-School Record if there are any messages you would like to send to us. If you forget, inform the office by phone or email and the message will get passed on to us.

PE kit & spare clothes

The children's PE session will always be on a WEDNESDAY morning this year. **Please make sure that your child comes to school in appropriate kit as PE may be outside, weather permitting.**

We will not be using the waterproofs for every outdoor play at break and lunch this year so please ensure your child has a waterproof coat in school each day. Please send in spare clothes for your child to keep on their peg that is named.

Reading

Please ensure you are reading with your child at home and using the VIPERS question ideas in your child's Home School Record to support their comprehension. **It's really important to check that your child understands what they are reading as well as understanding the vocabulary in the text.**

Children should record their reading progress in their Home-School Record. We will change books at least once a week but there will be opportunities throughout the week to change the books should your child need to. Please try to read the book more than once before changing it to build fluency and comprehension.

Spellings

Turtles first spelling test will be on Wednesday 3rd September 2025.

As usual, we will be giving each child spellings to learn at home for testing in school the following week- these can be found in the HSR and also on Spelling Shed. Please encourage your child to practice their spellings throughout the week. Spelling tests will be done every **WEDNESDAY** in school and will be recorded in their HSR.

Maths

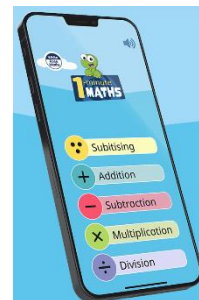
Big Maths - Mental Maths at Swinford



Building fluency recalling key facts in Maths is vital to enabling confident & efficient Mathematicians. In your child's Home School Record, you will find a new sheet for practice of mental Maths Skills at home, which we hope will be a fun & easy way for children to build their skills and share some learning with you at home. Each week or fortnight, your child will have a different focus for recall of facts, in line with the expected skills for their age. Children should be encouraged to beat their previous score for that focus on the

'White Rose Maths 1 Minute Maths' app which is available to download for free on most devices. The children will have a quiz each week in school where scores will be recorded on the HSR sheet. There is no target score, we would just like the children to improve on their score from previous tries to increase their fluency. We do not need you to record any scores in the HSR but children could record scores in their Homework book or a notebook if they wish to keep track. Please encourage your child to practice at home on WRM 1 Minute Maths App with the aim to improve their score each time they have a go.

You can also support your child in other ways if you wish by playing games/singing songs/calling facts to answer in the car etc. If your child does not have access to a device at home, they should contact school to support.



Turtles Class will do their Big Maths recall on a **Thursday**.

In Turtles, we have a big focus on times tables. Please practice times tables with your child as often as possible, even just recalling them verbally in the car or when out walking. Alternatively, you can use Times Tables Rock Stars if your child prefers a more digital approach.

Homework

Our homework grid has slightly changed this year. We will be focusing more on reading, spellings and Maths then a few options of more creative homework activities. Your child will receive this in the first week back at school.

We would like the children to complete the tasks by **Monday 13th October 2025**.

If you have any questions or concerns, place a post-it note on the front of your child's Home-School Record which we will look at and respond accordingly. You can also email the office and the message will get to us.

Many thanks,

Miss Kettle and Mrs Ellis