



Swifts Class

Spring Newsletter

Exploring, Discovering, Achieving

Hello and welcome to the spring term. We hope you all had a lovely Christmas! We have had a great first week back and are looking forward to seeing the children progress.

Changes to the Team

The lovely Georgia is now on maternity leave and we're very lucky that Iona is back from travelling and will be in Swifts class from Monday to Thursday. The teachers in Swifts Class are still Sam and Fay, joined by Celia (TA3) and Lily (TA1). As in autumn term, Sam will be leading in class from Monday to Wednesday and Fay will be leading on Thursdays and Fridays. Katie is still our Lunch Time Support Assistant.

Home/School Communication

We will endeavour to send a daily update and pictures via Class Dojo. We were really happy with the ongoing communication via Class Dojo in Autumn term and hope this continues.

Spring Topic

This term our topic is Winter into Spring and Growth. Our first sensory story of this half term is 'Wintertime Wintertime' and looks at different woodland creatures such as squirrels, rabbits and bears. Every week we will have focused Attention Autism sessions based around this topic and will continue with our Sensory Cooking, Sensory Art, Cognition and discreet Communication sessions during meal times and hygiene. The children have worked so hard on their targets in Autumn term and we will continue to monitor their progress and add any new targets where necessary.

Swimming and PE

This term we are fortunate to have our weekly swimming sessions in the Ashgate pool. These will take place on a Thursday afternoon and all children will require swim wear and a towel in school. Initially each child will be 1:1 in the pool while we assess their swimming ability. This means your child may not swim every week to begin with.

We also have PE with Elliot on a Wednesday morning for the entire Spring term. Elliot and our class team will be working on their physical targets in fun but appropriate ways to each child.



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Home/School Communication (cont.)

You can also speak to a member of the class team if you need to by calling the school on 0161 3595322 and asking to speak to Swifts class. Between 8.30 and 9am or from 15.00 to 16.00 are preferred times as we will be teaching and leading activities the rest of the day. You can also email Fay or Sam at these email addresses:

F.Mill@ashgate.manchester.sch.uk

S.Gore@ashgate.manchester.sch.uk

Things to Provide

A reminder of items that we require all children to have in school. As our children are all sensory learners and we will all definitely be getting messy at some point, it would be very helpful if you could provide the following:

- Waterproof outerwear/coveralls for outside play, as we do forest school in all weathers
- Wellies for wet play
- Spare clothes to change into when needed, including socks and tops (we will return soiled & wet/messy items to you bagged up and ready to wash)
- Pads and/or pullups for their changing needs

Class Fund

We ask for a voluntary contribution of £1 a week towards our class fund.

This money goes towards resources for all of Swifts class to use in sensory play and cookery activities.

Thanks for your support and understanding!

The Swifts Team

