



The Swinton High School

a specialist college for the performing arts

news from the school



The Swinton High School : Sefton Road : Swinton : Manchester : M27 6JU : Tel 0161 794 6215 : www.swintonhigh.co.uk

Message From The Headteacher



Improving Attendance!

As we move into our final term this year I am happy to draw your attention to the substantial improvements we have made in our attendance. Not only is this our best every year of attendance but it also represents a phenomenal 3% improvement in the last three years.

Teamwork

We all share the credit for this progress in our attendance: students, parents and carers; school staff (especially our attendance team) and last but by no means least, local authority staff. Congratulation to all on your highly effective team work which benefits our students and substantially improves their future prospects.

Next Year

Needless to say, no matter how good our rate of progress, it is my pledge to everyone connected with our school that we will do everything possible to ensure further improvements to our attendance.

School Uniform

I should like to draw your attention to the summary on page 3 of our new school uniform which we will introduce on 5th September. Thanks are due to the high number of parents, carers, governors, students and staff who took the time to complete the questionnaire which has informed our revisions and alterations. I hope you will agree that our changes will help us to project an image of a forward thinking specialist college for the performing arts which is sensitive to the cost implications that any uniform change has for all parents and carers.

I shall be writing to you all in May to explain in precise detail what our new uniform will be. Finally, all school uniform (including PE kit) for The Swinton High School must be bought from Wilkinson's and all school shoes must be exclusively black.

With every best wish for our continued partnership

John Biddlestone
(Headteacher)

Teachers Entertain Pupils for Comic Relief.



On Thursday 15th March, The Swinton High School held a talent show with a difference. With all proceeds going towards Comic Relief, pupils each paid £1 for a ticket to watch their teachers take part in the first ever Talent Show for staff.



Two pupils from each year group were selected to be part of the judging panel, giving marks out of 10 for their favourite performer.



The show started strongly with student teacher Miss Hickman singing Don't Speak, followed by deputy Headteacher Miss Timms on the guitar.



Assistant Headteacher Miss Withers then gave a foot stomping performance of the Tina Turner hit Simply the Best, complete with mad outfit and wig.



The loudest performance of the night went to the Three Misses, Miss Pashley, Miss Dawson and Miss White, who entertained with a dance routine and fire eating programme.



Mr Kerns came next, with a song written by himself. He sang perfectly, with the pupils cheering and commenting "We had no idea that he was so talented, we enjoyed it a lot."

Lastly came our very own Paul Daniels, maths teacher Mr Fisher, who gave a somewhat bizarre, but nevertheless brilliant magic show.



Once all the judges' scores had been totted up, there was only ever one clear winner: with maximum marks it was the Three Misses.

The evening was a resounding success with over £140 eventually being raised for Comic Relief.



Talent Showcase Final 2007

All throughout March, the pupils at The Swinton High School took part in heats to qualify for the final of our second Talent Showcase. Nearly 60 pupils entered, and the pupils who gained the highest marks were invited to perform in The Swinton Globe on Wednesday 28th March for the chance to be crowned Winner of their particular category.

There were four categories to compete for: Junior Music and Junior Dance, & Senior Music and Senior Dance.

The judges for the night comprised existing member of staff, deputy headteacher Miss Timms, ex-member of staff Ms Charlton, as well as record producer David Gowenlock. It was a closely fought competition, there really was nothing between the acts, but eventually the judges decided on their winners:



Junior Music Finalists

Abbey Dunbill - Jack Willis, Travis Dixon, Callum Seddon - Charlotte Evans - Daniel Canning

Winner: Daniel Canning

Junior Dance Finalists

Sophie Robinson, Rebecca Fairhurst
- Suzanna Harris - Nicola Payton,
Charlotte Molloy

Winner: Suzanna Harris



Senior Dance Finalists

Sam Lathwood, Edem M'Brou,
Kayleigh Price, Siobhan Smith
- Kayleigh Price - Sam Lathwood,
Kate Vasilyeva

Winner: Kayleigh Price

Senior Music Finalists

Anthony Evans, Layla Mottaghi
- Kevin Holt, Jenny Small,
Edem M'Brou, Stacey Wynne
Reece Storey - Rory Wheeler

Winner: Rory Wheeler



"Hi Everyone! Barney here.

Just wanted to introduce myself properly and to thank you all for making me so welcome.



I was a bit nervous, as you can imagine, starting my new school so I was really pleased when Mrs Robb and Mrs Howarth said I could spend a bit of time in their office until I settled in.

I've been to three assemblies now and noticed how smart the year eights look. I certainly joined the right year group!

I also can't believe how good the attendance is. The Week before last, my first full week, it was 95.5%. That's the best ever. I hope I can live up to the high standards in this year group, but I've always had good attendance and I'm never late.

This week again, although the attendance wasn't quite so high, it was still the best in the school. This week I'm going to be in form 80 because they have the highest in the year.

I went to my first lesson last Thursday. It was Mrs Robb's English class and all the pupils were very kind to me. They gave me a hug when I felt a bit nervous and they made me very welcome.

Well that's all for now.

I'm looking forward to being part of the best year group in the school and to going to more lessons when I feel a bit more confident.

I'll let you know how I get on, and I'll also tell you what I get up to at weekend when you're all at home.



To follow my adventures, be sure to check out my Barney-Blog on the school website - it isn't there yet because I haven't been anywhere - but hopefully I'll be away this weekend, so come back then."

Barney
xx

On Wednesday 28th March we had a trip out of school. Ms Begum said we'd worked hard and deserved a treat, so Mrs Heath organised for us to go to The Lowry.

When we got to the Lowry we met Katie from Walkden High and Megan from St Patrick's. We went to Subway and got some dinner and we went to get our picture taken by Manchester Evening News, (but it never got in the paper) Then we went to see the play and it was good. The play is called Kindertransport, it's all about a girl from Germany who went to England because of the war. She was Jewish and she would have been gassed in Germany. Some of the story was funny and some was sad. She thought her mum and dad had died, so she was adopted, but at the end her mum came back and she was angry with her for leaving her in England. Her real mum wanted her to go to America with her, but she wouldn't go. She stayed in England, but she never told people she was Jewish.

The play had Stage Text which is subtitles for hearing impaired people- that's a good idea for people with hearing aids.

By ADAM BATES and EMMA BROWN 9S



The Swinton High School's New Uniform

The Swinton High School is a uniformed school - all students are expected to comply. Please note our uniform will be changed this year for September 2007. The main changes are: new type of v-neck sweatshirt and new type of skirt and trousers for the girls.

For health and safety reasons, no jewellery is permitted. This includes all body piercing. A wrist watch may be worn.

No denim coats, jackets, or make up is allowed.

All School uniform should be purchased from Wilkinson's.

Girls

- **School Sweatshirt**, Navy blue V-neck with School Logo, available from Wilkinson's (from £13.00)
- **Shirt**, Light blue, plain (from £7.50)
- **Tie**, available from the school office or Wilkinson's (£2.50) / Prefect Ties (£3.00)
- **Skirt**, Trutex Navy blue stitch down pleat (other skirts will not be accepted as part of school uniform), available from Wilkinson's (from £16.00)
- **Trousers**, Black Tailored Trousers only, no cord or denim
- **Shoes**, plain with no additional colours, a suitable black, low heeled shoe (no trainers, boots or leisure shoes)
- **Socks**, white, black or blue ankle or knee length (plain, not patterned)
- **Tights**, Black or navy blue (plain, not patterned)
- **Craft Apron**, available from Wilkinson's (£4.50)

Boys

- **School Sweatshirt**, Navy blue V-neck with School Logo, available from Wilkinson's (from £13.00)
- **Shirt**, Light blue, plain (from £7.50)
- **Tie**, available from the school office or Wilkinson's (£2.50) / Prefect Ties (£3.00)
- **Trousers**, Black tailored, no cord or denim
- **Shoes**, plain black with no additional colours (no trainers, boots or leisure shoes)
- **Socks**, plain colour which blends in with uniform
- **Craft Apron**, available from Wilkinson's (£4.50)



Please make sure your child's name is on every item of clothing & footwear

Equipment

Students are expected to provide themselves with the basic equipment for lessons. These should include:

- a pen
- a ruler
- a sketch book
- a rubber
- a protractor
- an apron
- a pair of compasses
- a set square
- pencils, coloured and black lead
- a calculator -Casio FX83 M5-5B
- a PE kit
- **and just as important, your child must have a suitable bag for books and equipment and their cashless system card.**

The School Terms and Holiday Dates for the School Year 2007/2008

	Term Starts :	Wednesday 5th September 2007
Autumn Term	Half Term :	Monday 22nd October - Friday 26th October 2007
	Term Finishes:	Friday 21st December 2007

	Term Starts :	Tuesday 8th January 2008
Spring Term	Half Term :	Monday 18th February - Friday 22nd February 2008
	Term Finishes:	Friday 4th April 2008

	Term Starts :	Monday 21st April 2008
Summer Term	Half Term :	Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May 2008
	Term Finishes:	Wednesday 23rd July 2008

School Closed:

- Teacher Training : Friday 30th November 2007
- Easter Bank Holidays : Friday 21st & Monday 24th March 2008
- Teacher Training : Friday 25th April 2008
- May Day Bank Holiday : Monday 5th May 2008

School Office Hours

8:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday to Friday
(Also open during school holidays but not on Bank Holidays)

Important Dates For Your Diary

2007	
Friday 25th May	School Closes for Half Term
Monday 4th June Tuesday 5th June Monday 25th June Wednesday 27th June	Back to School Year 7 Parents' Evening Year 10 GCSE Science Modular Exams Year 10 Parents' Evening
Thursday 5th July Tuesday 10th July Tuesday 17th July	Intake Evening Year 8 Parents' Evening School Concert Evening
Tuesday 24th July	SCHOOL CLOSSES FOR SUMMER!!!!!!!

New Staff

My name is Miss Meadows and I am the newly appointed assistant head of science. I previously taught at a Liverpool school and I am already enjoying my time here at The Swinton High School. I look forward to being a part of the continued success of the pupils and the school as a whole.



I am Mrs Ireland and I have been teaching RS in Old Trafford for 7½ years and in Saddleworth, Oldham before that. I have been teaching for 12 years in total. I love teaching RS and I really like teaching secondary students as they are naturally inquisitive. I hope to help students get the RS lessons they deserve and achieve their full potential.

My name is Mrs Stewart and I am the newly appointed Head of English. I have been teaching at a school in Preston for the last four and half years. Before that I taught at a school in Bolton. Outside of school I enjoy reading and travelling - especially to hot countries!



I am Mrs Elliott and I am a new teaching assistant here. I have just graduated from the University of Manchester, and hope to eventually work as a learning mentor. At home I enjoy cooking, running and watching films.

My name is Miss Elliott and I am also a new teaching assistant. I recently graduated from John Moores University in Liverpool in dance. My other interests include dancing and teaching dance as well as going to the gym.



Year 8 boys enjoying some rugby coaching from Tom Wilde, the rugby league development officer.

We have managed to secure 8 weeks of coaching from Tom who is based at Pendleton college and is partially funded by Salford City Reds. Students have really enjoyed the sessions and a number have been asked to attend trials for further coaching / team playing.