

End of Half Term Newsletter



Swiss
Cottage
School
Development &
Research Centre

Inclusive
Nurturing
Inspiring

Thursday 3rd April 2025

We have ended the Spring Term with the cross-curriculum Spring Festival. The Eid Celebrations, Easter Egg Hunt, and Spring Hat Parade were wonderful highlights from the festival. The end of half term newsletter shines a light on the fundraising initiatives from the School Charity and Lion's Club of Enfield, Music and Animation project with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and St Paul's School, National Science Week, World Book Day, UCL Institute of Education Trainee Teacher Placements, and our Annual Challenge Partners Review Report!

Special Delivery from Lion's Club of Enfield and The Shanta Foundation!

We are thrilled to share that two new minibuses have arrived to Swiss Cottage School! This is through the School Charity's fundraising initiatives over the last couple of years with generous donations from events held by the Lion's Club of Enfield and The Shanta Foundation.

The curriculum focuses on making learning relevant to the real world through our community learning. The School Charity focused on our priority for two new minibuses with the changes to the London emissions zones regulations. The minibuses will mean we can increase our community-based learning. A huge thanks to the School Charity, Lion's Club of Enfield and The Shanta Foundation!



Chair of School Charity and President of Lion's Club with Upper School Parent, Anthony Doherty and Vijita Patel

Orchestra for the Age of Enlightenment & St. Paul's School

It was fantastic to be invited to take part in a music project this year involving Sixth Form students from St. Paul's School studying music and the Orchestra for the Age of Enlightenment.

The project involved classes performing and created a stop-motion animation to Vivaldi's "Four Seasons". The project culminated with performances this term. Classes from across the school experienced the phenomenal performances from the group of musicians and pupils. We experienced the harmony of piano violins, violas, cellos, upright bass, harpsichord, bassoon and oboe.

Thank you to Clover Class, Obama Class, Sixth Formers from St. Paul's, and our friends from the Orchestra for the Age of Enlightenment!



National Science Week

We explored nature and colours for this year's National Science Week theme of 'Change & Adapt'. Cross-class activities focused on germinating seeds with cress, cause and effect for oobleck, and colour burst experiments.

The class plant growing competition has brought nature to every pathway and it looks like Bluebell class are the winners of the tallest plant category!



World Book Day

Classes across every pathway explored a range of literacy, reading, storytelling, and drama through multi-sensory lessons. The theme at Swiss Cottage School this year was chosen by the pupils through the Little Miss & Mr Men book series!

Peer learning across the school made the joys of storytelling shine so bright! Thank you to the national charity for giving each pupil the opportunity to purchase their free book through the World Book Day tokens!



UCL Institute of Education Training Partnership

We have an important partnership across the years with UCL Institute of Education. We are a training partner for their Initial Teacher Training programme.

This term, we supported a cohort of 35 primary PGCE students through their placement in a special needs school. The trainee teachers joined classes across each pathway to understand our curriculum, capable environments, and approaches to teaching to help them consider strategies they can take into their future mainstream classrooms.

The presentation from each group of trainees reflected the value in mainstream teachers being immersed within a special school during their formative training years.

Challenge Partners Quality Assurance Review

We complete an annual school review through Challenge Partners. The quality assurance review evaluates the school provision and standards of education. This year's school review involved two Executive Headteachers from Special Schools and a trained Ofsted Inspector. The review team said:

"Swiss Cottage is a school where 'WOW moments' are part and parcel of everyday provision."

"It is evident that very careful care has been taken to ensure that the environment matches pupils' individual SEND (special educational needs and disabilities)."

"At Swiss Cottage the school's values and culture are truly lived..."

The full report is available to read [here](#).



QUALITY ASSURANCE REVIEW
REVIEW REPORT FOR
SWISS COTTAGE SCHOOL -
DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH
CENTRE

Name of School:	Swiss Cottage School - Development and Research Centre
Headteacher/Principal:	Vijita Patel
Hub:	Empower
School phase:	4-19
MAT (if applicable):	Not Applicable (N/A)

Overall Peer Evaluation Estimate at this QA Review:	N/A
Date of this Review:	20/03/2025
Overall Estimate at last QA Review:	Leading
Date of last QA Review:	24/06/2024
Grade at last Ofsted inspection:	Outstanding
Date of last Ofsted inspection:	21/03/2023

Term Dates

Spring Term 2025

Monday 6th January to Friday 4th April 2025

Monday 6th January: **Staff training day - no school for pupils**

Half-term: Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February 2025

Spring Holiday: Monday 7th April – Monday 21st April 2025 (Easter weekend 18th – 21st April)

Summer Term 2025

Tuesday 22nd April to Tuesday 22nd July 2025

Monday 5th May: **May Day Bank Holiday – no school for pupils**

Half-term: Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May 2025

Monday 30th June: **Staff training day - no school for pupils**

Tuesday 22nd July 2024: **Last day for pupils**

For the Term Dates for 2025/26, please visit:
www.swisscottage.camden.sch.uk/parents/termdates

**Wishing all of our families a safe and enjoyable break.
The first day back for pupils is Tuesday, 22nd April!**