

# Friday Flyer

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week saw us learning about e-safety on Tuesday for Safer Internet Day. All young people explored how to keep themselves safe online and it was all based around the theme 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online'. Safer Internet Day is the UK's biggest celebration of online safety. Each year we work with our young people to cover an online issue or theme that speaks about the things they are seeing and experiencing online. This year, Safer Internet Day focussed on the issue of scams online and for young people, how to protect themselves and others, as well as what support is available to them. Over the last few weeks and months, I have been writing to you about the joys and pitfalls of our own, and our children's, online presence. It was good, on Tuesday, to reflect on the positives that we take from being online as well as considering the risks. Next half term, we will be celebrating world book day on 6<sup>th</sup> March; more information will be going out about it when we come back.

## Cat Class

I sum up this half term with thoughts on the mixture of weather we have had, the adults were glad the snow stayed away, though I am sure the children were not! We had a waterlogged field for a while and some murky morning playtimes. We also cannot forget the freaky hailstorm that came at lunch play the other week. I am pleased to say that the weather has not stopped Cat class engaging in their studies.

It has been such a delight having exercise books being filled up with some excellent pieces of learning. We now not only have photographs, but the children have also begun to write story ideas and character descriptions in English, having had discussions about different words groups. It is lovely to see their fabulous ideas be put down on paper. They have all enjoyed cooking with Mrs Carter, and they even used a recipe that was recommended by one of our young people.

Safer internet day was a success, we joined a live BBC lesson all about how to respond to phishing and scams. Handled very sensitively, the focus was on how misleading some things children can be exposed to when online. The visit from the police officer was interesting and we have more visits booked in for different people from different walks of life after half term. We live in a world that is changing and moving on rapidly especially in technology and science, it surprises me the changes in STEM subjects since I was the age of a cat class student, I wonder what the changes will be by the time they get to my age!

My last word is an example of the fabulousness from one of the cats during a maths lesson this week when the comparison between angle and angell was pointed out to me "I thought it said angell" I haven't heard that comparison made by a class of children in years, it shows just how far your children have come in terms of their reading, knowledge and understanding and humour as we had a laugh and a joke about it. I wish you all a happy, restful half term. Mrs Angell



Mrs Angle-Angell &  
cat class



### **Marco Polo Class**

We've wrapped up this half-term with a fantastic week full of creativity, problem-solving, and hands-on learning. In English, we focused on creative writing, practicing character and setting descriptions before writing our own spooky stories—there were some brilliantly eerie ideas! Maths saw amazing work on fractions, with the children confidently adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators.

For Internet Safety Week, we explored different types of scams, including romance, investment, and impersonation, helping the children understand how to stay safe online. In Life Skills, we put our baking skills to the test by making delicious brownies. In geography, we reflected on the environmental changes we could make at Selwyn, using everything we've learned this term. DT introduced us to the role of engineers and how they shape the world around us. PE was full of energy with another fun session of dodgeball and in science, we explored photosynthesis, learning key terms like stomata and chlorophyll. History took us on a journey through the Spanish Armada, looking at its route and strategy.

The highlight of the week was our mini golf trip, which was a fantastic way to celebrate everyone's hard work this half-term. Wishing all the children a well-deserved and amazing half-term break! Miss Borgeson.

### **Okapi Class**

This half term in Okapi class has been truly fabulous, with significant growth and development among the students. In just a short period of time, they have formed new friendships and adapted well to their new classroom environment. The students have embraced their new surroundings and have really started taking ownership of the classroom space, contributing to a positive and collaborative atmosphere. A highlight has been the students' impressive poetry work. They have shown great creativity and dedication, producing beautiful pieces that demonstrate their developing skills. It's been exciting to see how the children have expressed themselves through poetry, and their efforts have been a wonderful addition to the class. In addition, the class has thoroughly enjoyed learning about the functions of the body. The students explored fascinating topics like the muscular system and how nutrients travel to different parts of the body, sparking their curiosity and deepening their understanding of how their bodies work. A continuous highlight throughout the half term has been the engaging movement breaks, especially the wiggle dance. These moments of fun and laughter have kept the students energised and excited, with Danny Go always at the centre of the action, encouraging everyone to join in and enjoy themselves. The Okapi team of staff has played a crucial role in this process by recognising and nurturing each student's individual strengths. By focusing on their unique abilities and talents, the staff have helped students feel empowered and confident. As a result, the children have begun to step out of their shells, displaying more self-assurance and enthusiasm in their learning. It has been a joy to witness their personalities shine through, and their growth is truly remarkable in such a short time. The half term has not only been productive but also full of memorable moments that reflect the progress and spirit of the Okapi class. Wishing you all a wonderful and relaxing half term break! Mr Noone.

### **Otzi Class**

Otzi Class has had a lovely week welcoming two new students, making the transition into being part of the class. We have been playing lots of games which has allowed the students to cultivate friendships. Two of the pupils collaborated on a story and were laughing and having fun, which was lovely to see. Otzi have been learning about the Vikings and comparing them to modern day times. We have been enjoying playing Scrabble, which has included learning new words and using our maths skills to add up the scores. To help us prepare for our afternoon learning, we have introduced a ten-minute meditation session after lunch. We (students and adults) have found it a great opportunity to relax and 'chill out' before the afternoon begins. After half term, we look forward to welcoming two new students to the class. Have a lovely half-term, from Otzi Class.

## **Figge Class**

I cannot believe it is half term already; where did January go? This week has seen the newly formed Figge class coming together, with new students joining and new adults being welcomed to the class. We have enjoyed sharing our learning and routines with adults and children, and have enjoyed building new relationships. Our English work has seen us tackle debating - which was loved by the children - and they had to think of both positive and negative reasons why mobile phones should be banned in schools. They were then challenged to write a letter to Mrs Pine to convince her of our views. Our maths work saw the children learn about ratio and the children worked hard to understand this new concept in its many forms, both pictorially and abstract. Our art work has seen children learn to draw one point perspectives, and the children showed great focus to complete this skill, despite believing that they wouldn't be able to do it when they saw the finished outcome. This week has seen Miss Joy doing some teaching in Figge class and she has been a real hit; Miss Giggles (as she is more commonly known around Selwyn) will be team teaching with me, next half term, as I complete some deputy head duties. She has some great ideas for science lessons and experiments for the children and is full of scientific facts - this week I learnt that bananas are radioactive.

Our new behaviour system is working well; last week saw members of the class have a reward to the local park and this week saw some members visit Jurassic golf at Kingsway in Melbourn. This proved a real hit in more ways than one; many holes in one were achieved, a few balls went into the drink and there were some interesting techniques. The afternoon ended in milkshakes in the cafe for all. Wishing you all a lovely half term. Miss Chandler



## **Final Thought**

It has felt like a long half term for our young people, maybe because there have been so many illnesses for families. As we go into half term, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and wish you a very relaxing and peace filled break, whatever you are doing. When we return, the days will be longer and spring will be on its merry way to us. I can't wait!

Have a wonderful half term.

*Yours faithfully*

Rebecca Pine  
Headteacher

## General School Information

### Uniform

There is a school uniform for Selwyn Hall School which can be purchased from the school office.

Prices are:

Polo Shirt: £8.25

Sweatshirt: £9.25

Cardigan: £10.25

T-shirt: £ 4.95

### School Lunches

All children will be encouraged to have a school lunch and we will order them one every day. School meals are free for all children at Selwyn Hall School. The menu can be requested from the school office; we are pleased to offer a choice of desserts as part of the meal options and salad and bread are also included as part of the daily meal options and are provided as standard.

There is also an allergen matrix for the menu choices per day.

Please talk to your children about the menu as we will be putting orders in every morning by 9.15am. Children will be eating their lunch with the adults in school at 12pm.

Thank you.

### Term dates for the academic year 2024–2025

#### Spring Term 2025

School Closed for Staff Training

Monday 6th January 2025

Spring Term begins

Tuesday 7th January 2025

Spring Half Term

Monday 17th Feb to Friday 21st Feb 2025

End of Spring Term

Friday 4th April 2025

#### Summer Term 2025

Summer Term begins

Tuesday 22nd April 2025

Bank Holiday

Monday 5th May 2025

Summer Half Term

Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May 2025

School Closed for Staff Training

Monday 2nd June 2025

End of Summer Term

Wednesday 23rd July 2025

#### Autumn Term 2025

School Closed for Staff Training

Monday 1st September 2025

School Closed for Staff Training

Tuesday 2nd September 2025

Autumn Term begins

Wednesday 3rd September 2025

Autumn Half Term

Monday 27th Oct to Friday 31st Oct 2025

End of Autumn Term

Friday 19th December 2025