

# Friday Flyer

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back all to the summer term; the sun is shining, and it is definitely feeling like the summer is on its way! Whilst I have been out of school on a course for three days learning new skills, the school has continued with the buzz of learning and we have welcomed 4 new members of staff to Selwyn this week, who have already got themselves established in classes and are getting to know our young people.

During the Easter break, Selwyn welcomed 15 new chicks which hatched from the incubated eggs we had delivered; they hatched on Easter Sunday and are now fluffing up in the heated Vivarium and will be coming to school on Monday to meet the children - who can't wait.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Parent Coffee Morning 9-10am
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> May	Half Term
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	INSET Day – school closed for students
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Students return to school
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day and parent picnic – times TBC

## Cat Class

In Cat class this week, there was great excitement as our new furniture arrived. As you can see from our photos, we now have single tables and wobble stools. Why wobble stools Mrs Angell? I did my research and found that It's known as "Active Sitting" or "Dynamic Sitting," and it actively helps children channel some of their energy into something, better enabling them to pay attention in class and to focus on learning. Children can now watch and wobble either the interactive smart board or turn with ease to look at our traditional whiteboard. The stools also stop children dangerously rocking and potentially tipping back on their chairs, thus easing the past 30+ years of my worry when I see it happening in class! The arrival of the stools was a fun diversion to the afternoon's lessons, the children took off their history metaphorical hats (learning about Victorians this term) and quickly put on their design and creating metaphorical hats. They set about using the boxes in many ways, from lying inside them on bubble wrap pillows or creating box costumes, who knows what other ideas they will dream up over the weekend to use them for? They are becoming excellent re-users! Have a lovely weekend. Mrs Angell



### **Marco Polo Class**

It's been so lovely to see everyone back after the Easter holidays, full of energy and ready to learn! In English, we explored autobiographies, focusing on the lives of Malala Yousafzai and Roald Dahl. The children showed a brilliant understanding of the structure and purpose of autobiographies and gave thoughtful interpretations of each person's life story. In Maths, we recapped column addition and subtraction and took a deeper look into common factors and multiples—some excellent number work all round! Science was all about food chains, learning about producers, consumers, and decomposers. The children showed fantastic teamwork as they created their own food chain cards and sorted them into different chains.

In Art, we had a colourful time exploring Andy Warhol's pop art, brightening up our pictures with bold, vibrant colours. In Cooking, we made tasty pizza wraps—yum! Computing introduced us to programming with Scratch, and the children are already showing great confidence in getting familiar with the software. In BSL, we tested our fingerspelling knowledge with a fun game, seeing how many words we could identify in two minutes, and we also learned how to sign numbers 1 to 10. In DT, we began our initial designs for a clay container, taking inspiration from different creatures—some very imaginative ideas are forming already! Geography focused on the Amazon Rainforest, identifying its location across multiple countries in the continent of South America. The Amazon will be our key topic in the weeks ahead.

To end a fantastic first week back, we enjoyed a park trip as a reward for those who showed excellent behaviour and learning throughout the week. Well done, Marco Polo class—what a great start to the term! 🌞 Have a great weekend. Miss Borgeson.

### **Okapi Class**

It was a pleasure to welcome the young people back after the Easter break and to hear all about the exciting activities they enjoyed during the holidays. This week, Okapi class have made a really positive return to school life, settling back into routines with enthusiasm and focus. Their creativity has shone through in our literacy sessions, where they explored direct speech by writing imaginative dialogues for their favourite storybook characters. In addition, the class got hands-on with an engaging art project, designing and crafting armour inspired by their favourite superheroes- a fantastic blend of creativity and fine motor skills. It's been wonderful to see the children's ongoing passion for reading. Their curiosity and enthusiasm for books remain strong, with many eager to share their current favourites and dive into new stories. We're looking forward to a fantastic summer term ahead, filled with new learning and fun opportunities. Have a great weekend. Mr Noone.

### **Figge Class**

Welcome back to Figge class and the start of the summer term; it has been wonderful to welcome the children back to the school, in the warmth of the summer term.

This week has seen us begin new topics of learning in all subjects and we are looking forward to learning lots of new things. We have started understanding the complexities of Roman Numerals within maths and children have enjoyed working out the different combinations of letters representing numbers....and getting to grips with reading clocks! The English learning has revolved around non-fiction and the class have started to learn about paragraphs and using specific language. We are aiming towards making our own non-fiction books. This week, we have ventured into looking at more famous artists and in music, we are learning to read and use musical notation.

As always, we have enjoyed using the pool room for our movement breaks and the immense field for outdoor play. Next week, we will be meeting our new Selwyn chicks...we can't wait to have a cuddle with them!

Happy weekend Miss Chandler

### **Otzi Class**

Computer games are never far from students' thoughts in Otzi class, and this week we have been looking at how narrative structures in games are written. We spent some time exploring different types of narratives – linear, string of pearls, branching and open structures – and discussing which category popular games fit into. During the Easter break, one student visited some great museums in York, and we have also spent some time exploring what they learnt about Anglo-Saxons and aquatic dinosaurs. We are gradually returning to more structured discussions and debates, and space has been the primary focus here. Is Mars worth inhabiting? And, more importantly, why aren't there any aliens near us? It's been generally good weather this week, but we have also made use of the indoor 'stepping stones' to design 'the floor is lava' challenges for each other. We have also welcomed Ms Abbs and welcomed back Ms Aneena to Otzi Class. Have a lovely weekend. Mr Nightingale.

## **Final Thought**

This afternoon, I am sat here in my office hearing the joy and laughter from the children playing on the field and I find myself looking forward to the term ahead as I plan the dates in the school diary I cannot wait to bring the new chicks into school on Monday and welcome them to the brood; I know the children will be thrilled with their arrival. We look forward to welcoming prospective new recruits to our first Selwyn Hall school recruitment fayre on Monday after school and can't wait to show off the school in all its glory.

Have a great weekend.

*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