

# Friday Flyer

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

What glorious weather we have seen this week! It has really made the week shine, in all areas of school life. I have seen biscuit making, science investigations, maths activities and more.

We have welcomed our new chicks to Selwyn and the children (and staff!) have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know them.

Please could I remind everyone that children shouldn't be bringing sweets or treats into school to share with others. We have a number of young people with allergies, as well as those with specific dietary requirements. It is really important that young people don't share their food.

Please could I also let you know that some of your young people don't like to wear the school aprons so if they would like to bring in an apron from home, that would make them feel more comfortable, that would be great. Thank you.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Bank Holiday – school closed
<b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Parent Coffee Morning 9-10am
<b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Half Term
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>	INSET Day – school closed for students
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June</b>	Students return to school after half term
<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Sports Day and parent picnic – times TBC

## Cat Class

This week we have remained busy in class despite trying to stay cool. Every evening, I look at my rather huge black labrador who every year forgets what warm weather is like and how to stay cool. It is a fact that children and dogs both need adult care. Another fact is that when you are young the years go by slowly, children (like dogs) forget how to stay cool from year to year, they forget the 'tools' they have that can help them. We have been helping support your children in many ways; we have shady trees to sit under, reminders to wear your hats when you go outside, plenty of ice cubes, ice pops, taps and water coolers full of water to top up water bottles, and, not comparing children to horses, but the proverb 'You can lead a horse to water but you can't make it drink' this week has actually been true. We have even changed learning this week to focus on sun safety, reminding children of the importance of hydration, sun cream and hats. In science we did an experiment to show evaporation, and we joked that the children were going to evaporate in the heat. Maybe this unusual spring heat will help serve to remind the children (and dogs) how to stay cool when we do get to actual



summer! Our PE this week focussed on three types of dance: ballet, traditional Cossack dancing and dances from Fortnite. As you can see from the photos, the children (and adults) were perfectly in sync, it made me very proud to see the respect they were showing by joining in with each other's choice. The love and respect our children have been showing our chicks is delightful – there has been a definite three stage process to learning to love them as you can see from the photo, all the children have their favourites and the names that they are calling them are charming. We have yet to decide on the official names for them, but it is exciting thinking up nicknames. Have a good weekend. Mrs Angell

### **Marco Polo Class**

What a brilliant and busy week of learning we've had in Marco Polo class/

In English, we focused on persuasive writing, learning how to use emotional language, and the difference between fact and opinion to make our arguments more powerful and convincing.

In Maths, we explored prime numbers, divisibility facts, and practised multiplying large numbers—working with 4-digit and 2-digit numbers. The children showed fantastic resilience with these challenging calculations.

Geography took us deep into the Amazon Rainforest, where we learned about its four ecosystems: the emergent layer, canopy, understory, and forest floor. The class created amazing flipbooks to showcase their understanding.

In History, we jumped into the exciting new developments of 1920s America, learning about innovations like the Ford conveyor belt, fridges and freezers, and the fun-loving culture of flappers. To bring the learning to life, the children even designed their own party to celebrate the roaring twenties!

PE saw us developing our skills in athletics, focusing on correct body positioning to help improve our running techniques.

In Science, we continued learning about photosynthesis, how plants absorb water and CO<sub>2</sub>, and carried out a fascinating experiment with liquid density.

In Computing, we created a fun band project on Scratch, where clicking on different sprites played musical instruments—some brilliant coding going on!

DT was all about preparation, as we finalised our creature container designs and wrote out an order list ready to begin making them soon.

It's been a great week full of exciting learning and creativity! Just a reminder as the weather warms up—please ensure your child has weather-appropriate clothes, water, and sun cream to stay safe and comfortable in the sunshine. 🌞 Well done, Marco Polo class! Miss Borgeson.

### **Okapi Class**

What an exciting week it has been in Okapi Class! One of the biggest highlights has been the arrival of the chicks at school — the children have loved watching them and learning all about their care and development. Their curiosity and care have been wonderful to see.

In science, we have been exploring living and non-living things, with lots of thoughtful discussions and investigations to help us understand the characteristics that make something alive. Our love for languages continues to grow! We have been practising a variety of languages, and our Language Club during Golden Time has been a big hit — not just in our class, but across the school. It has been heart-warming to see children from different classes sharing the enjoyment and joy of learning languages together.

Thanks to the lovely weather, we have taken our learning outdoors. The young people have had fun playing games and learning new exercises, including some impressive push-ups and side planks as part of a gymnastics routine. It has been a great mix of movement, fun, and fitness! Enjoy the bank holiday weekend. Mr Noone.

### **Figge Class**

I have been so impressed with the class this week, as we have settled to a more structured week, back in routine, at school. Figge class have shown better focus, more concentration and a sustained work ethic as they have approached the different subjects this week. We have settled to daily handwriting lessons and beautiful joining in being perfected.

The addition of the chicks has brought much excitement to the school and to Figge class; children have enjoyed daily visits to the vivarium, watching our fluffy friends and many have been brave enough to hold the chicks



and watch them sleep in their hands. I, personally, have found having the chicks very therapeutic...I could watch them for hours! As I was topping up their feed after school yesterday, I noticed how similar the chicks represent life at Selwyn. At some points, the chicks are all nestled, happy and chirping - which replicated the scene of Figge class at playtime earlier when the 5 children were hugely enjoying each other's company, laughing and chatting; at other times, the chicks were facing each other up and seemingly play fighting, again, very much replicating a typical lunch time in Figge class where the children play so well and then have a bit of banter! The chicks have definite characters - some quiet and timid, some more dominant and brave and others following the crowd, again, very much like the dynamics at different times of the day in Figge class. It made me realise that we are all unique, even tiny chicks and it is our uniqueness and quirks which make us interesting in this world and make the children the fabulous characters that they are. As we always say, no two days are ever the same at Selwyn and I, for one, am glad of that....it certainly makes life interesting!



### **Otzi Class**

We have a class trip to the movies this week to see the Minecraft movie and so we spent some time looking at theme music in movies. It was amazing how many iconic themes and songs we came up with. We have also been exploring video game narratives and trying to understand the different structures of the games that the children play. We have managed to get out in the sun a little too, and conducted a 'bug survey' to find what species are living in our back field. Throw in a little bit of 'still life' drawing and it has been quite a busy week. Have a great long weekend.

### **Final Thought**

This week, I have been working with another Polaris school and our new KS4 teacher, Miss Rixson, to complete our KS4 offer for September. We are looking at a variety of exams, qualifications and assessments and I am thrilled to let you know that we got approval from NCFE as a centre who can work with them for functional skills assessments. We are thrilled with this and are excited about the opportunities it will give our young people. I look forward to updating you with more information about KS4 in the coming weeks and months. I hope you all have a glorious bank holiday 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

#### 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

#### Spring Term 2026

School Closed for Staff Training

Monday 5th January 2026

Spring Term begins

Tuesday 6th January 2026

Spring Half Term

Monday 16th Feb to Friday 20th Feb 2026

End of Spring Term

Friday 27th March 2026