

Friday Flyer

Friday 6th June 2025

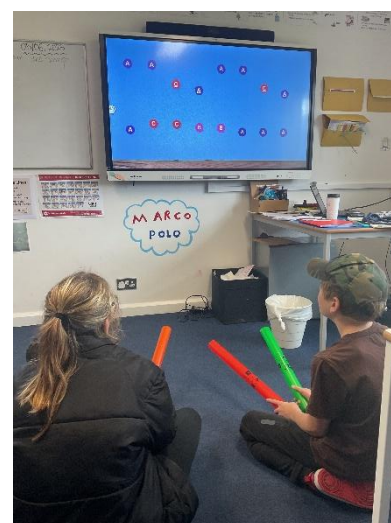
Dear Parents and Carers,

The new half term is in full swing, and we have already had our first visitors. On Wednesday night, I had a tour of the school for prospective parents and our governors came into school, yesterday, for their termly meeting. Governors were treated to a tour by two of our young people who were exceptional guides. It was wonderful to see them talk to the governors, with confidence, about their journey through Selwyn and give governors their ideas about how the school could be improved (hair and beauty as well as interior design courses!). Governors loved the opening of building 3 and saw Otzi class in their element in their new classroom. As always, I love opening our doors to visitors to show them the progress of our young people and, as always, they shone like the stars they are.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
Friday 27th June	Sports Day and Parent Picnic from 12pm
Monday 14th July	Parent Coffee Morning
Wednesday 23rd July	Last day of term. School ends at 3:30pm

Marco Polo Class

We've had a fantastic week back in Marco Polo class. In English, we've begun exploring historical non-fiction through *The Diary of Anne Frank*. We've been getting to know Anne's character through her early entries and have started imagining how we might feel if we had to go into hiding like she did. In maths, we've been working on understanding ratios and converting them into fractions—everyone showed brilliant focus. In history, we kicked off our new topic on the Industrial Revolution, learning key dates and vocabulary, asking brilliant questions about what we want to find out and designing front covers for our topic books. In Life Skills, we cooked a delicious pasta bake with options of cheese, tuna, and ham—it smelled amazing. In BSL, we've been learning lots of new food signs like pear, chips, and crisps. Music lessons focused on practising timing and learning some new notes. In RE, we explored the symbols of different religions and noticed lots of similarities between them. In geography, we looked at different types of landscapes and identified the mix of human and physical natural features. We ended the week with a fun reward activity—decorating T-shirts while listening to music. A great week all round! Have a great weekend. Miss Borgeson.



Hamilton Class

This week has been a great start to the term. We have focused on different parts of speech in English, simplifying fractions in maths and electrical circuits in science. We also started to work on what we think a healthy or unhealthy relationship might be, watching some scenarios and making decisions about statements linked to relationships. Amazing discussions and focus during class this week, as we continue to collect lots of points for our reward trip at the end of term. Have a lovely weekend! Miss Rixon



Cat Class

Cats have had a great four days back and have got back into the 'swing' of things. As you can see from our pictures, we are indeed all about the new sensory swing in our breakout room. On Tuesday morning, I talked through the risk assessment with the young people and TAs, we have made a large version for the wall of the room for everyone to refer to. The class understood the risks and since using the swing they understand the benefits and they have realised that they also need to manage unexpected risks while using it. They took on board the rules for using the swing and have been very sensible as they realise that if the rules are not followed then the swing will not stay. Having such a seemingly simple addition to our building has taught the young people so many skills in such a short time – risk management, how to use a sensory swing, how to improve, how to follow rules, and most importantly they have really proved themselves to be able to take on board the responsibility for the safety of themselves and others in the room while the swing is in use. (Not to mention the fun they have had!) One young person said to me that he felt like he could fall asleep in it. Many thanks to Mr Wollaston, our site manager, for installing it during half term – drilling down from the loft in building 1 with only a very small gap, to crawl along. Another example of Selwyn staff going above and beyond for the happiness of the young people. Some older young people who were acting as tour guides came over to building 1 and they expressed an interest in the swing, so maybe it will not be the last swing Mr Wollaston has to install.... Have a good weekend Mrs Angell



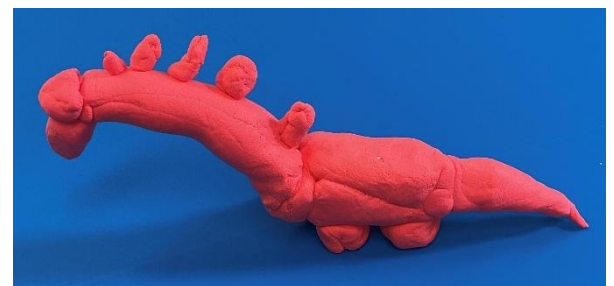
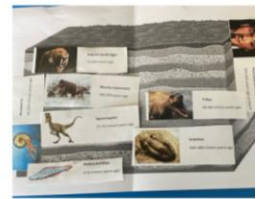
Figge Class

It has been a lovely start to our last half term of this academic year; the children have come back refreshed and they have settled back to learning. This week saw the children reading a text all about chess and then they answered a range of comprehension questions about it; they then learnt about non chronological reports and selected their own games to write about in that style. Our art lesson saw us learning about the artist Bridget Riley - the children enjoyed the abstract style and her optical illusions and had a go at making some of their own art in her style; they were able to see that a simple series of lines and clever shading can create the most amazing optical illusions, which they were proud of. The children had an introduction to Scratch in computing, and all were pleased of their achievements in programming. Our RE lesson brought much discussion and debate on the theme of finding out how religious activity in today's world has been affected by past and by traditions; this brought much interest which led to spirituality, events in history linked to religions and things going on across the world nowadays. The class were so engaged and keen to listen and contribute to the discussion with their thoughts. It was so great to have members of Figge class involved in yesterday's governor visit; one young person led them on a tour with a member of Marco Polo class and gave an excellent commentary; another young person read out their English writing to the visitors as they visited the classroom and another young person's books were shared with the governors to show their learning journey since September. Having Figge class representing the school makes me so proud and it made me realise how far we have come as a class. Happy weekend all - may it bring sunshine! Miss Chandler



Okapi Class

It has been a real joy welcoming the young people of Okapi Class back after the half term break. The classroom has been filled with big smiles and positive energy as we've eased back into our routines. This week, we've spent time reconnecting with one another through creative play, which has brought lots of laughter and teamwork. Even the adults couldn't resist getting involved in the fun. A particularly exciting development has been the arrival of dinosaurs in our classroom – not real ones, of course, but our imaginations have certainly brought them to life. We sparked some brilliant conversations by asking: *if you could be any kind of dinosaur, what would you be?* The responses were as creative as they were entertaining, and we had great fun designing our own dinosaur selves. Science has been a running theme this week. We explored plants and the curious properties of sticky weed, as well as diving into a hands-on investigation involving boats. Using scientific thinking and teamwork, we designed, built, and tested whether our boats would float or sink – a great opportunity to apply our learning in a practical way. In geography, we've been developing our map-reading skills. Using atlases and indexes, we searched for capital cities around the world, building both our geographical knowledge and our confidence using reference tools. I hope you all have a restful weekend! Mr Noone.



Otzi Class

It has been a great start to the term here in Otzi. A few things stand out from the week. Firstly, we spent an afternoon this week looking at Kinder Scout Trespass and the Right to Roam movement. Whilst researching the history of land ownership and access in the UK, the paired groups all became fascinated by the illegality of the protests. Many students felt that - no matter how worthy the cause - protesters should never resort to illegal action: something which we tested against a host of historical examples (suffragettes, the civil rights movement in the US, Just Stop Oil). Second was an art and maths activity that involved drawing an obscure object from a mystery box guided only by vague, shape-based descriptions. It was quite an enlightening and amusing experience. Simple items like a cylindrical fishing float proved the most difficult for listeners to capture. Finally, following our work on the Rights of the Child last term, we looked at how the pupils understood their own educational rights, needs and requirements. It gave everyone chance to talk about how their previous experiences in education had shaped some of their attitudes and feelings, and what they needed in the class to make them feel more able to learn without stress. Have a lovely weekend! Mr Nightingale.



Final Thought

During the governors visit, it was lovely for them to see how much the staff here really care for the academic progress and emotional wellbeing of the children at Selwyn. They met with different members of staff to gain their opinions and ask them about the work they do with the children. After governors had met with them, they all commented on how well the staff knew the children and how much they had a desire to see them achieve everything they wanted to. I have to say, it is a feeling I echo and I told them that one of my highlights is hearing staff talk about their 'glimmers' of the day or week. They really do get incredibly excited and enthusiastic about things your young people do and achieve 😊

Yours faithfully
Rebecca Pine

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