

Friday Flyer

Friday 25th July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, that is a wrap on the academic year 2024-2025 and what a year it's been! As we reach the end of a truly special academic year, we want to celebrate the many highlights that have made it so memorable.

Sports Day brought energy, laughter and teamwork to the forefront, and the family picnic was a joyful occasion filled with smiles, sunshine and community spirit. Our school trips provided unforgettable adventures and learning beyond the classroom, while our ever-growing animal family — including Pebbles the pony and our newly arrived chickens — brought daily delight to children and staff alike. We've been excited to introduce a new parent coffee morning — a relaxed space to connect, share and gather ideas from our families on how we can make our school community even stronger. Your voice matters, and we'd love to hear your thoughts on how we can grow together. We've proudly welcomed new children and staff members, all of whom have enriched our school in wonderful ways. Most importantly, we have seen children make fantastic progress not just academically, but socially and personally too. The resilience, curiosity and kindness shown across the year has been truly inspiring. Thank you all for being a part of it!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 1st September	INSET Day – school closed to pupils
Tuesday 2nd September	INSET Day – School closed for pupils
Wednesday 3rd September	Pupils return to school after summer break

Marco Polo Class

It has been an incredible honour to teach every single member of Marco Polo Class this year – whether you've been with us from the start or joined partway through. Each of you has left a mark, and it has truly been a privilege to be part of your journey. I have been consistently impressed by the growth in maturity, independence, and confidence shown by every young person in the class. The progress you've all made has been remarkable – not just in your academic learning, but in how you advocate for yourselves, show resilience, and navigate social situations with increasing awareness and care.

This term, we've tackled some tough subjects – from diving into algebra and exploring the periodic table to analysing historical sources in depth. You've approached every challenge with energy, curiosity, and a brilliant attitude to learning.

To celebrate all that hard work and success, we're looking forward to a well-earned park picnic – a trip the students have been excitedly planning themselves, including preparing and making some of the items to bring along. Wishing everyone a restful and happy summer break. You've earned it – and I couldn't be prouder.



Okapi Class

What an amazing year it has been in Okapi! Completing my first year of teaching has been a deeply rewarding journey, and as I reflect on the past year, I am filled with gratitude. This year has been marked by growth, both for our young people and for me as an educator. It has been a privilege to witness the progress each young person has made, no matter how big or small. Every achievement has mattered, and every step forward has been a celebration. One of the greatest joys has been creating a classroom environment that fosters authenticity, laughter, and a true sense of belonging. Watching the children feel safe to be themselves: expressing joy, exploring their interests, and connecting through play- has been incredibly special. The sense of community within our Okapi group has flourished. The young people have formed meaningful relationships through shared learning experiences, collaboration, and simply having fun together. As much as they've learned from us, we as the Okapi team have learned just as much from them. Their curiosity, resilience, and individuality continue to inspire and teach us every day. Some of our Okapians will be heading off into new classes next year, and while it's always a little bittersweet, I know they'll continue to shine. If you see Mr Noone around, don't forget to say hello! It's not a goodbye from Okapi- it's a see you soon in September. Enjoy your summer holidays, make the most of every moment, and I can't wait to hear all about what you've been up to when we return! Mr Noone.



Cat Class

Cat News – the finale!

Looking back at my final flyer post last July as Fox class, I mentioned the sense of togetherness that was evident while we watched our first film - Disney Cinderella together. This year cats have really taken on board the new systems and routines that we have introduced, not least the all-important staggered lunchtimes which has meant a little bit less hustle and bustle in the dining room. Our behaviour plan, the points that build together to make treats. Ensuring that the young people are understanding the need for boundaries and consequences. Cat class are all too aware of Mr Mbah, as 'master of the charts' whose afternoons end with him filling out the behaviour charts. What have the lessons been? How have the children behaved? Any consequences? "All good today, thank you" is the usual response. New desks and seating meant that we were saying farewell to the familiarity of our blue tables and chairs, but the wobble stools were embraced and now they are very much enjoyed. I can see the togetherness in the cats when they work collaboratively in class and when out at play. Football and forest school play remain the top activities, with the swing occasionally if they just need to sit crunching ice pops together. Although I will not be their teacher in September, I will be teaching one of the parallel classes to theirs, and it is my intention to



have them together for forest school once a week. It was such fun last autumn, and I'm sure with the introduction of new outdoor 'tree swings' over the summer, forest school will be even more fun than before.

Have a fabulous summer and I hope you enjoy the class pictures, which illustrate perfectly what learning at Selwyn is all about. Best wishes Mrs Angell and the cat class team.

Figge Class

I cannot believe its the end of the school year; it honestly feels like its flown by!

I wanted to start by saying how grateful I have been to have had Figge class, this year; the class really have been a joy to teach, and they have taught us so much. Your children are the most fabulous mix of intrigue, excitement, fun and humour and they have been a delight to teach; they have challenged my thinking at times, have made me be very reflective and I certainly know that I have learnt so much more about ADHD and autism by working with your wonderful children.

This year has seen so much progress in so many ways for your Figge class; I cannot think of a single subject where I have not seen progress from them. The class have taken on new learning and challenges and for many, this has meant they have shown great resilience, have learnt to work cooperatively and at times, they have shown determination to work on things that haven't come easily. All of the children have also overcome personal challenges in the form of understanding social situations better, tolerating others, becoming self-aware and being able to see things from others' perspectives. They have also been able to be reflective, and this skill has helped them with their own emotional regulation.

Some highlights from the year have included: the class trip to the museum in Cambridge where the class were exemplary in their behaviour and showed great interest; our VE day celebrations where they immersed themselves in the learning and wrote the most amazing Churchill speeches; the forest school campfire, where the children learnt fire safety and enjoyed each other's company as they drank hot chocolate and toasted marshmallows...I truly could have mentioned many more! Every week has brought 'glimmers' from Figge class, from changes in behaviour, to the completion of learning and efforts shown...they have truly amazed us, and you should be so proud of them - they have made Selwyn a truly unique place to teach.

Last week, the children learnt about their new classes for September, and this has brought a buzz to the end of term; I look forward to seeing what new class names the children decide on and will enjoy dipping into the new classes to work with the children. Wishing you all a lovely summer break - thank you for your support. Miss Chandler and Miss Joy



Otzi Class

We've spent a fair amount of time in Otzi class this term discussing the huge spans that constitute the biological timelines of earth, from the Triassic to Moo Deng. All of that seems nothing compared to Otzi Class' own evolution since the frosty mornings of January. As staff we are so happy with the complex, supportive, fun and creative community that has built up in class. Pupils encourage and support others in class with learning, introduce each other to new topics and interests and even help each other stay regulated. As we have wound down towards the end of term, the pupils have greatly enjoyed spending as much time as possible chatting in the forest school area and playing football. It is lovely to think that return to school in September will be seen by pupils at the very least as a chance to meet up with friends! Have a great summer. Mr Nightingale and Otzi Class.



Hamilton Class



As the end of term and academic school year draws to a close, Hamilton class have had a football themed curriculum as we watched some of the England Women's highlights from their matches and then read an example of an England match commentary from 1999! We discussed the language features

sometimes used in football commentaries to entertain their audience and to bring the football match to life! We listened out for metaphors, similes and personification and then added some examples of these to the commentary to make it more engaging, our examples included – 'the ball waits patiently to be kicked,' 'he kicked the ball like a baby' and 'Charlton is the lion of the jungle with 49 goals for England!' We also found an example of a metaphor with alliteration used to describe Ronaldo, 'bully of the big boys' and analysed it's meaning as him being the most powerful of all the best players in the world.

We will continue to practice our writing skills in September when we begin our KS4 journey to complete ASDAN certificates, Functional Skills and work towards some GCSE qualifications. There will be some well-known literary texts for us to read too, to help develop our comprehension skills. I hope you have a lovely summer break and return ready and refreshed in September! Miss Rixson.



Final Thought

As we close the chapter on this academic year, we reflect with pride on all that has been achieved and the many special moments we've shared. September brings the promise of new beginnings, with fresh faces joining our team and exciting opportunities ahead.

We wish all our families a restful, joyful summer break filled with sunshine, laughter and time to recharge. If you need anything over the holidays, the school office email will be monitored weekly — please don't hesitate to get in touch. We look forward to welcoming everyone back, refreshed and ready to go, on **Wednesday 3rd September**.

"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire." – William Butler Yeats

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