

Friday Flyer

Friday 12th December 2025

Dear Parents,

As we move into the final week of what has been an incredibly positive term, it's hard to believe how quickly the weeks have flown by. Many classes are celebrating their hard work with end-of-term trips, including visits to Audley End Railway and Glazed Creations, which the children are very excited about. At this time of year, lots of us are feeling a bit tired or under the weather, and many in our school community have been battling the lurgy. This can make everything feel just that little bit harder, especially with the stresses of Christmas around the corner; I'd like to gently remind everyone that our staff appreciate being spoken to with the same courtesy and understanding that they show to all our families every day. Our team genuinely wants the very best for every young person and will always work alongside you—so thank you for continuing to approach conversations with warmth and kindness.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 17th December	Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 19th December	Last day of term. School ends at 3:30pm
Monday 5th January	INSET Day
Tuesday 6th January	Children return to school after Christmas break

Daily Mile

Santa Dash - it was so lovely to see lots of smiling faces running and skipping around the field last Friday as we all went looking for Santa's missing reindeer. Thankfully we managed to round them all up and call Santa to let him know. It has added a wonderful 26 daily miles to our journey as the trail was just half a mile long. Next week, we will reveal our final destination before Christmas - where will we end up!!!?



Butterfly Class

As we come to the end of term in Butterfly class, we are incredibly proud of the positive choices the class have made. They have shown respect for themselves, for their peers and staff, helping create a calm, supportive and caring environment. As I have mentioned before, I make their learning fun, because in keeping the children's happiness at the forefront of our minds, the children will begin to see a purpose to learning and we will begin to see academic success. On that note, we have begun to see a marked improvement in the independent learning starting to take place. Their commitment to making safe, thoughtful choices is not only preparing them for future success in adulthood but also is something that makes all the adults, both at school and at home incredibly proud. To celebrate these achievements, both academic and social, we have today enjoyed a special end of term reward treat. This is a well-earned recognition of kindness, resilience and understanding of our behaviour/consequences ethos which the Butterflies have embraced throughout the term. We look forward to carrying forward this positivity into next term as the Butterflies continue to grow into safe, respectful young people. Butterfly adults chose this Christmas themed trip because we couldn't think of a more special place to take our magical class. We must of course thank Mrs Pine for her unwavering support in allowing us to let such treats happen; she understands each child's individual needs and it's through this that makes Selwyn such a positive, purposeful workplace. Mrs Angell

Mandela Class

This week we have taken part in the Decem'BAR' maths challenge, solving word problems using bar modelling every day; we have also developed empathy and understanding through discussions in PSHE. We've been creative with clay both in the classroom, and whilst out and about as we took a wonderful trip to Glazed Creations. Students were fantastic in keeping themselves safe as we travelled on rail and beside roads, kept within budget in selecting their items to paint, listened and followed all instructions and really enjoyed painting their objects. I'm so proud of the class, we can't wait to collect the finished pieces next week. Miss Goldup



Dahl Class

This week has been a busy and exciting one in Dahl Class, filled with creativity, learning, and hands-on activities across the curriculum!

🎂 Cooking Mini Marble Cakes - In DT and cooking, the children had great fun making mini marble cakes. They practised measuring ingredients carefully, mixing the chocolate and vanilla batters, and creating the classic marbled effect. The classroom smelled amazing, and the children were very proud of their delicious results!

🎨 Painting Mayan Temples in history - As part of our history topic on the Maya civilisation, the class continued building and painting their Mayan temples. The children focused on adding detail, colour, and texture to bring their models to life. Their creativity and teamwork really shone through!

FR Learning new French words - In French, Dahl Class learned some new vocabulary, practising pronunciation and using the words in simple sentences. Everyone enjoyed the speaking games and showed fantastic enthusiasm for trying out the new language.

📏 Maths – volume of prisms - In maths, we explored how to calculate the volume of prisms. The class practised using the formula, worked through examples, and solved real-life problems. They showed great perseverance and growing confidence with this new topic.

📚 English & 🔬 science fun - We also had a lot of fun in English and science this week. In English, pupils enjoyed creative tasks, discussions, and activities that helped develop their reading and writing skills. In science, we carried out engaging investigations and explored new concepts in a practical, hands-on way. Well done to all of Dahl class for their hard work, creativity, and enthusiasm this week! Miss Anderson



Frenchie Class

In English, we have been acting out scenes from the Tempest. The children in Frenchie have shown great skill at changing their tone of voice and body language to embody the characters of Miranda, Ferdinand and Prospero. In maths, we have been doing more advanced fractions and the students have been pushing themselves to try. At breaktime, we invented a new game for the school; it is called Santa-Elf-Snowman and the children have been teaching other classes how to play! Another good game that we have tried is spelling tic-tac-toe. Overall we have had a very fun week in class! Miss Borgeson and Mr Prince

Hamilton Class

Hamilton have enjoyed a great week of learning and have embraced new class targets as well as personal ones. Functional skills and Asdan work has dominated this week as we strive to get ever closer to our qualification end goals. Science has seen us talking about acids and alkali's, accidentally discovering that if we mixed an acid and an alkali together, we would be in a whole heap of trouble! We were rolling crazy in cooking, making our own pasta from scratch; getting to grips with the pasta machine was fun, if somewhat fiddly, but we managed and even knocked out a tasty pesto too. PE saw Mrs Lienau dominate in the badminton mini competition but the skills on display were controlled and the serves, in particular, were deadly; all this after learning about the differences between tv and radio media during a football match. The radio version was certainly exhausting as we tried to keep up with everything being said during a live match! A great penultimate week Hamilton. Miss Rixson

Cayuga Class

We are so proud of Cayuga class for their wonderful performance of our short class play “Greek Myth Mix-Up” to Butterfly class. Many of the young people shared that they felt a bit nervous at first, but they showed perseverance and courage. Their hard work, teamwork, and enthusiasm truly shone through. Well done, Cayuga! In science this week, we explored changing states of matter and the young people investigated how a solid can change into a liquid and then return to a solid again. They observed these transformations closely and discussed what might cause them, making thoughtful predictions and connections to real-life examples. In design technology, we continued our work on pneumatics and the young people began the first steps of creating their own pneumatic projects—experimenting with different design ideas. They explored how air pressure can create movement and followed their ideas with great creativity, getting everything ready for adding the balloon next week to see their projects come alive. It has been a fantastic week of curiosity, confidence, and creativity! Have a great weekend. Mr Noone.



Darwin Class

Darwin class had a productive and engaging week filled with learning across multiple subjects. In English, they focused on writing a persuasive speech about the importance of recycling and caring for our planet. They displayed their ability to use a range of effective persuasive techniques, including emotive language, statistics and many more. They showed a thoughtful consideration of environmental issues and demonstrated an ability to express their ideas with clarity and conviction. Their speeches highlighted not just why recycling matters, but also how small individual actions can contribute to a healthier, more sustainable world.

In maths, students spent time working with bar charts and analysing different sets of data; they practised plotting information accurately, labelling axes, and interpreting what the graphs showed. This allowed them to strengthen their understanding of how data can be represented visually. The young people approached the tasks with curiosity and care, showing growing confidence in handling data and presenting it clearly.

This week in history, the class explored the lives of children during World War II, recognising the meaning of evacuees and evacuation and gaining insight into the challenges young people faced at the time. In French, they enjoyed learning Christmas-themed vocabulary to celebrate the festive season; their confidence is growing with each session, and they are eager to try out their new vocabulary in conversations. It has been wonderful to see their excitement and willingness to support one another as they develop their language skills.

Overall, Darwin demonstrated excellent focus, creativity, and reasoning skills throughout the week. Their growing confidence in expressing ideas across subjects and interpreting information shows them to be well-rounded learners who are continually developing. The pupils continue to show kindness, empathy, and a high level of respect towards one another, demonstrating the positive values they bring to our school community. Have a restful weekend. Miss Joy.

Kelly Class

Kelly class ended the week on Friday with a takeaway pizza delivery, movie afternoon and happy faces, this was a reward for great participation in learning, along with perseverance and resilience in the face of change. The day was finished with the golden mile Santa Dash which saw them running around the field with heaps of energy and enthusiasm, as they collected reindeer numbers and then received a certificate on completion; great fun was had by all. This week in maths, we have continued looking at areas of parallelograms which has been well received and understood. In cooking, the children were given a variety of random 'left over' types of ingredients to use, they then had the task of creating a snack from the available options; there were some great ideas and really gave the children 'food for thought'. We have been focusing on racquet skills and teamwork in PE with indoor badminton being the current focus; the children thoroughly enjoy this and have produced some fantastic rallies. Geography this week saw



us exploring the impacts humans have on the world around us, and we discussed the use of transport, public and private, along with waste and recycling issues. We gave positive and negative comments on these areas and look forward to discussing this further next week. Another fabulous week in Kelly Class and, as we move into our last week of term, we would like to say how proud we are of the class in how they have adapted to recent changes. Miss Nightingale, Mrs Revell, Mrs Willis & Mr Todd



Otzi Class

Quite an unusual week in Otzi: we were down to one or two students at points and we all missed the buzz and chatter, but the remaining students kept the Otzi spirit going. We often get suggestions of things to watch on YouTube that are relevant to our topics from pupils, and we based our history this week around such a resource. It covered examples of unusual bravery and cunning by soldiers in WWII and allowed us to look more closely at a number of topics, sometimes missed in our overview of the war so far: such as the importance of roles like military scouts, the importance of terrain and the role of 'bluffing' in deciding the outcome of battles. Pupils have also created PowerPoints this week on subjects of their choice, which they have re-edited ready for presentation: subjects included rare dinosaurs, Harry Potter studios and Manchester United. The results are fantastic and have not only taught us a lot about each other's favourite subjects, but also given the pupils experience of presenting and answering questions. We were also able to make some fascinating connections between the topics – most particularly between dinosaurs fighting extinction and a certain football club! Have a lovely weekend. Mr Nightingale

Final Thought

As we approach the Christmas period, we're reminded of the many stories, beliefs and traditions that different families hold at this time of year. For some, the Christmas story is one of hope, light and new beginnings; for others of different faiths or none, this season still offers a moment to pause, reflect and connect with the people who matter most. In a wonderful school like ours, these themes feel particularly meaningful. Every day we see the power of compassion, patience and community—values that sit at the heart of many winter celebrations. However you and your family mark this time of year, we hope it brings warmth, rest and togetherness.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully

Rebecca Pine
Headteacher