

# Friday Flyer

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Dear Parents,

We were delighted to host our recent Parent Coffee Morning and, although it was a small gathering, it was wonderfully supported and provided us with some really valuable discussion. We spent time exploring how our Friday Flyer could be made more streamlined and considered other effective methods of communication. The parents who attended shared that they particularly value seeing photos of the young people and receiving clear information about the wide range of activities they have been enjoying. We also took a tour of the grounds, including a visit to Building 4, where we discussed some potential future plans. While nothing has been decided yet, we will continue to explore possible options later in the term. A reminder that all parents are always warmly welcome to attend our Parent Coffee Mornings – we would love to see you there!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Half Term
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	INSET Day – school closed for all students
<b>W/C 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	Parent Consultations – teachers will contact you to arrange times and dates
<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Students return to school
<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Parent Coffee Morning at 9:15am
<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Last day of term. School ends at 3:30pm
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Student return to school after Easter Break

## Dahl Class

Dahl class have had an amazing last week of term, from persevering through fears and anxieties to building new friendships and learning new skills. We finished last week on an ultimate high, for the first time we had all our lovely young people together as we embraced Gravity! Overcoming fears of being on a train and anxieties of meeting new people lots of trampoline fun was enjoyed by TAs and young people. Hearing the laughter of new friendships being built was a highlight for me.

Culinary and flipping skills were achieved in cookery this week as our class made delicious pancakes with a variety of toppings, we have some master chefs in the making that is for sure! Young poets were in full force during English with Dahl pupils embracing The Tyger poem by William Blake and transferring his techniques to create their own poetry. Maths saw lots of number factors being sought and determination glowing as our young people embraced deeper into the mathematical universe. Science brought us lots of insight into the human body, who knew how much we could learn about our trachea, pharynx and lungs in just one week!



As this term comes to an end all the adults in Dahl cannot express enough how proud we are of all our young people, we hope you all enjoy half term and come back with recharged batteries ready for more fun, laughter and learning.

### **Kelly Class**

In Maths, we have been working on multiplying decimal numbers and recognising the relationship between whole number equations and those involving decimals, helping us understand how the value of the answer changes. In English, we used *Treasure Island* as inspiration to create our very own sea-themed story openings. We included metaphors, similes and powerful verbs to really capture the reader's imagination. The results were fantastic! It was wonderful to hear Kelly Class proudly reading their work aloud — who knew we had so many budding authors at Selwyn? We rounded off our English Civil War topic by learning about Charles I. We explored his early life to help us understand why he was so strongly against Parliament and what made him the headstrong King, we now know him to be. For PE, we enjoyed one of our class favourites — football — focusing on drills and techniques to create the best goal-scoring opportunities. Our cooking lesson enabled us to practise making some delicious pancakes this week in preparation for Shrove Tuesday! We are more than ready for a restful half term and look forward to seeing everyone after a well-deserved break.

### **Butterfly Class**

I cannot believe next week is half term – and halfway through the academic year. We have had some fabulous learning this half term and even when the butterflies seem to be pulling in multiple directions, weeks like this show me that they are really trying hard to come together as a mini community. In our PE lessons this term we have been working on teamwork and collaboration. They have not been conventional lessons, more a subtle take on movement and working together in different ways. This week we reintroduced the class to our parachute. After a failed attempt earlier in the year, we were determined to revisit it when we felt the time was right. Coming up to halfway through the academic year, as teachers we know our children really well, we know what makes them tick, we know how they are feeling, even before they are feeling it. On Wednesday, I sensed that today was the day. Naturally



as I got outside with the parachute the heavens opened and we began our parachute games in the pouring rain. Luckily for them, they had the parachute to shelter under, and we staff had our coat hoods. The children had the best time and by the end of it were really thinking about how to move the parachute to enhance the experience for each individual child's needs. Imagine my surprise when one of the butterflies asked to play with the parachute after play on Thursday. After our KS2 playtime is the older children's playtime, so while we were playing, we were suddenly joined by some of Darwin and Kelly staff and children, they were curious to see what we were doing and in the spirit of the more the merrier, I of course let them join in! See if you can spot some familiar feet in my picture! The older children were so kind and caring to my younger children. They offered encouragement and kind words as they joined in and took turns beautifully. Whoops of delight from older children warmed our hearts "This is great fun" were the words staff heard that kept us going for the rest of the day. We will definitely be getting more parachutes and promoting the use of them for generating happiness amongst all the staff and children. Have a happy half term.

### **Frenchie Class**

As we reach the last week of the half term, Frenchie Class have spent the week recapping all of our learning and cementing what we have learnt over the term. In English, we have written our own traditional stories. There have been tales of a haunted house, ghosts, bravery and magic. Each child used their skills and knowledge of traditional storytelling to create a page-turning tale with either a cliff-hanger or a page-turning final chapter. Miss Borgeson has used AI to generate each story into a keepsake hard-copy book. The artwork that has been generated really captures each story beautifully, and the books look fantastic.

In Geography, the class used Scratch to generate an image of a city with a river. The class used their prior learning to plot the types of buildings and structures you find near a river in a city. The pictures created all showed bridges,

boats and houses. One image included a structure like the London Eye, as we had discussed as a class how rivers are used to support tourism within a cityscape.

In cookery, we made some delicious pancakes. The children all made their own batter independently, from cracking the eggs to whisking all the ingredients together. Mr Prince showed his culinary skills by being able to produce beautifully cooked pancakes for all of the class to enjoy, eaten warm with a selection of toppings.

We have had a lot of fun during breaktime this week. One young person made up a new game to play at breaktime called 'chicken, tiger, turkey, hero'. There has been lots of running and laughing. The fun continued into the end of the week with our class trip to the cinema to see the film 'Goat'. All of the children seemed to enjoy the film — all the adults who went definitely did! It was a well-deserved treat for everyone to mark a half term of good learning. We wish you all a restful and fun week off. See you next half term!

**Cayuga Class**

It truly has felt like a whirlwind since returning from the Christmas break. In such a short space of time, the young people have settled back into routine with strength, resilience. It has been a joy to watch them grow in confidence and belief in themselves each day. In English, we explored different forms of poetry, sharing ideas thoughtfully and beginning to find our own creative voices. There have been some wonderful moments of reflection and expression that the class should feel very proud of. In maths, we focused on time - building confidence in reading clocks, calculating durations. The perseverance shown, especially when learning felt challenging, has been fantastic. In Geography, we learned about the European Union and how countries work together, sparking thoughtful discussions and curiosity about the wider world. In History, we explored different time periods, with the Ice Age becoming a firm favourite. The fascination around how early humans survived and adapted led to some brilliant conversations. In PE, we began learning the skills of badminton. Watching the young people practise how to hold the racket correctly and develop their coordination and control was a reminder of how quickly they grow when given the opportunity to try something new. Beyond the curriculum, what has stood out most this half term is the continued strengthening of relationships within Cayuga. The class has remained steady, supportive and kind to one another. It has been especially lovely this week to see friendships flourish and the sense of belonging deepen. This feeling of belonging truly echoes the theme of Children's Mental Health Week, reminding us how important it is for every child to feel safe, valued and connected within their community. To celebrate their hard work and positive attitude, the class enjoyed a well-earned trip to the park. Seeing them laugh, play and simply enjoy being together was a special way to end the half term. Enjoy the half-term break!



**Hamilton Class**



This week in Hamilton we have enjoyed an extra cooking session as our end of term reward, as well as making pancakes in our usual cookery lesson. Pupils always remain focused in the kitchen, listening well to instructions and developing their folding, whisking and measuring skills.

English has seen a continuation of our non-fiction writing skills as we have produced Room 101 style persuasive texts with things pupils would like to be sent to the room of doom! Clowns and spiders were on the list of things to banish, and an array of persuasive devices were included to engage the reader.

Science has included creating stop motion animations and pupils will be developing these to show the different stages of the moon, using plasticine to show the different phases.



Lots of progress has been made and will continue after half term, where we will also be regularly visiting the local leisure centre after our induction this week and planning an end of term class trip before Easter. Lots to look forward to! Have a wonderful break, Miss Rixson.

### Darwin Class

In Darwin this week we have had a new tutor teaching the class while Miss Joy is away - Miss Brocklebank! We played a few variations of the game Dobble to help get to know her. In Science, we have explored the reason why we have bacteria in our digestive system. In English, we have looked at unseen poems; the students have shown good analysis and inference skills. In Maths, we have been learning converting units. In DT, we have thought about good food hygiene rules and how to be safe in the kitchen. The class will also bake some exciting things, hoping to celebrate one student's birthday.

### Otzi Class

Aged just 33, Alexander the Great wept salt tears when he realised there were no more worlds to conquer. Today, in Otzi class, our emotions may echo Alexander's as we finally fulfil dreams to order a Domino's Pizza and Chicken Strips for movie afternoon. Aside from achieving life-long goals, we have also been dabbling in some learning this week! In maths, we worked on questions that asked us to calculate profit and loss for a donut bakery: it was great to see pupils recording their working and trying different approaches for the same problems. In Science, we explored the criteria that is used to attribute life to help us answer the question 'Are bones alive?'. We used some AI-created atmospheric pictures to co-create evocative and descriptive sentences in English, and almost literally ran away from the Battle of Naseby in History. As of Friday morning, still no Otzi Campfire due to some rain and absences, but perhaps that is a world we can look forward to conquering after half-term.



### Mandela Class

Mandela has had a marvellous last week of term. I was so proud of students on our class trip – it was quite ambitious with the travel and the jumping. It was lovely to see students collaborating on the equipment and having fun together. In class, we've moved more towards projects this week, with students considering life expenses and future careers, working on problem solving, and investigating things for student council meetings. I hope everyone has a fabulous half term!

### Final Thought

As we come to the end of this half term, we would like to wish all of our families a restful and relaxing break. Thank you so much for your continued support since returning after Christmas — it has been a busy and productive start to the year, and we truly value the strong partnership we share with you. We look forward to welcoming everyone back after the INSET day and seeing the young people return on Tuesday 24th February, ready for another positive and successful half term together.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

*Yours faithfully*

Rebecca Pine  
Headteacher

