

# Friday Flyer

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Dear Parents,

It has been a lovely first week back after half term, with glimpses of sunshine brightening the school grounds and snowdrops beginning to bloom; a gentle reminder that spring is on its way. The children have enjoyed getting back into their routines and making the most of some fresh air and lighter days. Alongside the usual buzz of learning, we have also had both internal and external monitoring in school, this week. We were pleased to meet with colleagues from one of our local authorities and it was wonderful to share the progress our children are making, celebrating how far they have come. We also welcomed Catherine Beard back into school, who carried out internal quality assurance alongside Toni Reedman, Director of Education at Polaris, who will be newly supporting Selwyn as we continue to grow and develop. The quality assurance process was very positive, with encouraging feedback and exciting discussions about the career curriculum here at Selwyn and the opportunities we are building for our young people in the future.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<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

### Daily Mile

We have been flying this year on our Daily Mile and we have now managed to reach Martuk in Kazakhstan!! Since September, as a school, we have travelled almost 2900miles - what an amazing achievement. We've done this with art work, scavenger hunts, eye spies and lots of chatter in the open air. I wonder where we'll be by Easter!!?



### Dahl Class

Dahl Class has made a fantastic start to the spring term, and it has been wonderful to see so much enthusiasm, progress and laughter throughout the week. In English, we have begun our new topic on Shakespeare. The pupils have shown great interest in learning about A *Midsummer Night's Dream*, and there is already excitement about the possibility of a theatre trip later this term. Who knows — we may have some budding young poets in our midst! In Maths, we have been focusing on finding the perimeter of rectilinear shapes. To help with this, the class came up with a fun idea of imagining “a little person walking around the outside of the shape.” This simple visual has really supported their understanding (and caused a few giggles!). In Science, the pupils have been exploring the wonders of electricity. They have been learning to recognise the symbols used in electrical circuits and are now preparing to build some circuits of their own.



It has been a busy and inspiring week, and we can't wait to see what the rest of the term brings. Perhaps we are nurturing the next William Shakespeare or Albert Einstein!

### **Kelly Class**

A big welcome back to Kelly Class, we hope you had a wonderful break and look forward to an exciting term ahead. This week we have looked at how living things require the right conditions to grow and flourish in RE, we used our own inspiration and future aspirations to explore this. In PE we played a challenging game of Badminton concentrating on understanding how aiming of the shuttlecock will successfully help you play your opponent, we had a fantastic rally of 24 between two students so mission very much accomplished! Maths saw us begin to convert metric units of length, we had a great start and understanding of this. In Science we started to understand how sound travels and looked at the differences between sound travelling in solids, liquids and gases. We hope you have a great weekend, Kelly Class.



### **Butterfly Class**

What a packed short week we have had in Butterfly class. As you can see from the photo we have begun recorder lessons. I have waited three years at Selwyn for this, and it has given me so much joy. The children are using alto recorders (mine is a larger, tenor recorder) they give a much mellow sound than the descant (soprano) recorders that you may remember from your own past times. We have lovely, converted buildings at Selwyn but sound does travel and the lovely ladies in the offices on the ground floor did not deserve the squeaks and squawks from soprano recorders. Also, this week, we have been finishing off our poetry unit of work in English, alliteration and onomatopoeia, it has been a delight to see the enthusiasm that the children have shown in these lessons. We were kindly donated some play food, the butterflies quickly set to making a café and restaurant, they wrote their menu items using their amazing alliteration, they even delivered foods to Cayuga class! That was a fabulous spontaneous learning opportunity – showing that not every experience can be planned for! In history we looked at the life of Henry VIII and the children used books to do research into his life and wrote notes in their books about him. Learning about Henry VIII told us that he had a collection of 70 recorders, interesting, but I am not sure what our ground floor ladies would think about the noise that such an ensemble would produce! Have a good weekend and the beginning of warmer, longer days.



### **Frenchie Class**

What a great first week back we have had, the children have settled well into the new half term. This week Frenchie class have been introduced to new topics in Maths, English and History. We have started to look at place value in maths a topic all the class have picked up quickly, I think there has been a collective sigh of relief that we have moved on from fractions. In English we have begun our journey with poetry reading poems about the sea, daffodils and the natural world with 'The Tyger' by William Morris. We have discussed how the poetry makes us feel looking at descriptions used and the evoke of emotions to the reader. We have had a deeper look at what the poets were trying to portray with words. History has seen us begin the topic of the Tudors with the starting point of the War of the Roses. We have enjoyed some practical learning making felt 'plushies' in DT with the creation of a blueberry and a Mosasaur, both of which were fantastic showing true design flare and creativity. Friday has seen us visit Italian cuisine in cookery with the creation of delicious pizzas. It was difficult to stop the children eating too much of their creations before lunchtime.

It's been a great first week back, see you all next week for more learning and fun.

### **Cayuga Class**

It has been absolutely lovely to welcome Cayuga Class back after the half-term break. The young people have returned with such positivity and enthusiasm. The lighter mornings and longer evenings have certainly helped make the transition back to school that little bit easier. There is a real sense that spring is on its way; the flowers are

beginning to bloom and there is a fresh energy around school. We have started this half term strongly and with great focus in our learning. In English, we have begun exploring traditional tales. The young people have been identifying key features such as repetition, clear morals, and character. Alongside this, we have been introduced to the story of Anansi the Spider. The class have loved learning about this clever and mischievous character - a West African traditional story. We have discussed how traditional tales are passed down through generations and how stories can teach important lessons about behaviour, choices, and consequences. In Science, we have launched our new topic on electricity. The young people have started by identifying everyday items that use electricity and discussing the difference between mains and battery-powered devices. We will soon be exploring simple circuits and investigating how components work together.



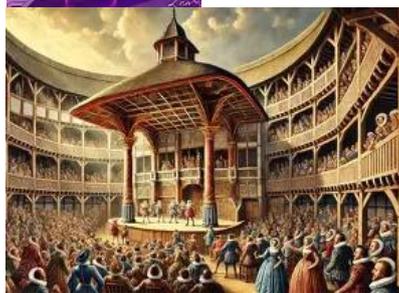
There has been lots of curiosity and excellent questioning - a fantastic start to the topic. In History, we have begun an exciting new unit on The Tudors. We started by placing the Tudor period on a timeline and thinking about how long ago this era was. The young people are already intrigued by kings, queens, and what life might have been like during this fascinating period in British history. In DT, we have been practising cutting skills safely and accurately. We have focused on developing control and precision, discussing why safe handling of tools is so important. It has been wonderful to see the young people showing responsibility and care while building their confidence. Our class book this half term is The Treehouse collection by Andy Griffiths. The class are thoroughly enjoying travelling through the different levels of the imaginative treehouse, discovering the outrageous inventions and hilarious adventures along the way. It has sparked lots of laughter and brilliant discussion, and it is quickly becoming a favourite! There is a lovely sense of community in Cayuga Class at the moment, and we are excited for all the learning and growth still to come this term. Have a great weekend!

### Hamilton Class



Returning to school this week was made easier by the signs of spring and Hamilton class have enjoyed spending their PE lesson outside playing basketball and focusing on their dribbling skills.

Cookery was all about taste testing this week and discussing their cookery sessions for this term and how their lessons will need to link to their ASDAN qualification.



History has also been a focus for Hamilton as we explore local history and prepare for our educational trip to Duxford Air Museum in the coming weeks. We researched the local area and found out how Duxford airfield was used during the WWI and WWII.

In English we have started our Shakespeare unit of work and had an introduction to The Globe Theatre and how the stage and seating structure represented society at the time, learning about the history of the Elizabethan era before we start our study of Macbeth. Have a lovely weekend, Miss Rixson.

### Darwin Class

It's been great to welcome back Darwin students after half term. In Maths, Darwin have been trying out some simple algebra. In English, a little bit of Shakespeare. Darwin have started a new topic in science of waves. We demonstrated waves in water. In music, we watched performances that teachers enjoyed and one student gave a go at a little performance!

### **Otzi Class**

We all spent an unusual amount of time looking at our knuckles this week. We have been working on time problems in maths which involve using dates and months. However, it turned out that many of us struggled to remember how many days are actually in each month! One method we looked at for remembering was Miss Aneena's incredible 'knuckle method' which hopefully will give us a hand in future. Thankfully, the sunny days allowed us to have our fire at last and provided plenty of dry sticks to cook our marshmallows and hot chocolate on. The pupils made scotch eggs with Mrs Carter on Tuesday which were one of the most popular - and apparently delicious - things they have created with her. We have begun exploring the Holocaust in history and we were all very impressed with the pupils' mature response to the topic. Have a lovely weekend.



### **Mandela Class**

Mandela's highlight of the week is possibly the number of plushies appearing - students are bringing their friends from home, making them in Golden Time Craft Club, plus we have some career bears to add to the work our students are doing at looking to their futures, where we've seen some great research and PowerPoint skills developing. Overall, a great first week back!



### **Final Thought**

Next week marks National Staff Appreciation Day, and we are really looking forward to celebrating it here at Selwyn. It provides a welcome moment to pause and recognise the extraordinary commitment, care and expertise the team bring each and every day. Our staff speak often about what a privilege it is to work with the children at Selwyn; they value the relationships they build, the progress they witness, and the individuality each young person brings to our community. Staff Appreciation Day is not simply about saying thank you; it is about acknowledging the professionalism, patience and heart that underpin everything they do. Throughout the week we will be taking time to recognise and celebrate our team, and we know you will join us in appreciating this day.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

*Yours faithfully*

Rebecca Pine  
Headteacher