

Friday Flyer

Friday 15th May 2026

Dear Parents,

As we waved goodbye to last week's sunshine, this week certainly reminded us that spring in Britain likes to keep us guessing, with rain, chilly winds and even a dramatic burst of hail on Wednesday. Despite the weather, there has been such warmth and enthusiasm across the school grounds, particularly in the wonderful allotment spaces that are beginning to pop up all around school. It has been lovely to see children taking such genuine pride and care in nurturing their plants, watering seedlings, checking on growth and talking excitedly about what they hope to harvest in the weeks ahead. These small moments of responsibility, patience and connection with the outdoors are incredibly special to witness. We would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the many families who joined us for Wednesday's coffee morning. The discussion around the new legislation regarding restrictive practice was thoughtful, reflective and hugely valuable, with parents contributing some incredibly insightful ideas about how we can continue to strengthen the support we offer to children and families. We are so grateful for the openness and collaboration within our community and hope to welcome just as many, if not more, families to our next coffee morning next half term.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 25th – Friday 29th May	Half Term – school closed
Monday 1st June	School reopens after Half Term
Thursday 25th June	Online RSE parent workshop – more details to follow
Friday 26th June	Sports Afternoon. Parents welcome for Picnic from 12pm. More details to follow.
Wednesday 1st July	Parent Coffee Morning – 9:15am
Friday 17th July	Last day of term
Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st July	INSET Days – school closed

Cayuga Class

It has been the penultimate week before the half term break and the young people have continued to engage in a range of learning opportunities. We are proud of how well they have been showing resilience and perseverance throughout the week. In English, we have been exploring discussion texts, looking carefully at their structure and identifying what makes an effective discussion text. The young people have enjoyed sharing their opinions and thinking about how to present balanced arguments. In maths, we have been focusing on kilograms versus grams and developing our understanding of mass and measurement. To help us remember our learning, we even created a rap song this week which the young people thoroughly enjoyed performing! This week has also been Mental Health Awareness Week. We have spent time discussing strategies that can help support our wellbeing and understanding the importance of looking after our mental health. The young people also took part in a live lesson with Joe Wicks, where they enjoyed keeping active and learning about healthy habits. We ended the week with a lovely trip to Foxton Park, where the young people enjoyed spending time outdoors together. We hope everyone has a restful weekend. Mr Noone.

Parks Class

This week in Parks class In art we used different materials to create ocean scenes examining the work of the artist Hokusai, his textures and movement of the waters. In Computing we programmed icons using 'Scratch', and in our DT we were modelling clay into the beginnings of 3D models and in science in our Physics lesson, we experimented with gasses - eg how vinegar mixed with baking soda created a very smelly reaction! It's been a very sensory week indeed!



Hamilton Class

This week Hamilton has been studying photosynthesis, respiration and food chains in science and the purpose of non-fiction texts in English. The class setup up an experiment collecting the gases released by fermenting yeast. There was also some light relief with water balloons. In life skills students improved their skills in working out change and reading analogue clocks. In PSD the class looked at medicine development in reference to the ethics of animal testing. In cooking the class made gourmet chicken burgers and studied different muscle stretching technique in PE.

Butterfly Class

This week we have been looking at famous people and places in Cambridge. We have yet to visit there as a class, but it's on our wish list! We watched a presentation about Stephen Hawking, and the class asked some very interesting questions about him and how he managed to communicate. As we head into end of year report writing time, I have had many conversations with the Butterfly teaching assistants about how far we believe the butterfly boys have come in their communication. How they have learnt to trust us to help guide them through the many decisions they have to make throughout the day – should I play here, or there, would I like to play with that child or not, play in the green room, or breakout room, dig a hole in forest school or go to cooking club. Our pupils are given a great deal more freedom at Selwyn to make such decisions than maybe they had been used to in previous schools, the trust is a two-way thing, they trust us to help them and we in turn trust them to get a good balance of learning together with their down time. In our career's lessons, so far we have looked at what it takes to be a police officer, teachers and teaching assistants, and an NHS worker. Discussion topics have been talking about hard work involved in such jobs, what is job satisfaction and do you earn enough money to pay your bills. The boys all agreed that they liked the idea of having a career and I told them all that we at Selwyn would excitedly wait and see where life takes them. Have a good weekend. Mrs Angell

Dahl Class

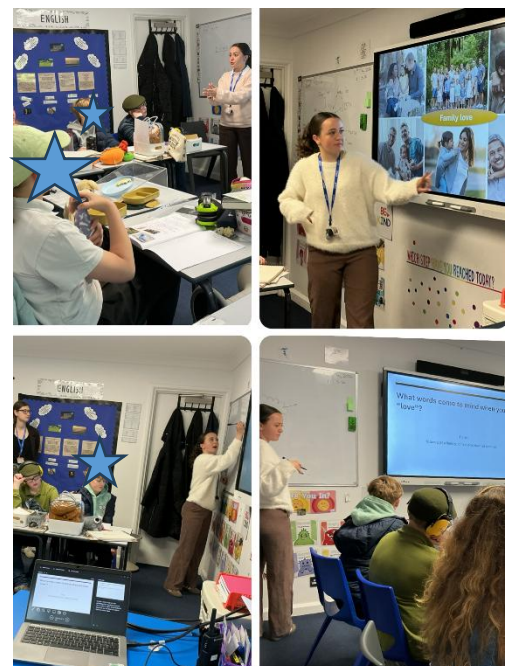
Celebrating Our Learning This Week

What a fantastic and engaging week it has been in Roald Dahl Class! The children have shown enthusiasm, resilience and a wonderful attitude towards their learning. We are very proud of their efforts

This week in maths, the children have focused on multiplication and square numbers. They have worked hard to deepen their understanding, using different strategies to solve problems and recognise patterns. It has been wonderful to see their confidence growing as they tackled challenges with determination.

In both Science and RSE, we explored the important themes of love, healthy relationships, and understanding the difference between healthy and unhealthy behaviours. The children contributed thoughtfully to discussions and showed great maturity, respect and empathy towards one another.

Our English lessons focused on analysing organisational features in a range of texts. The children learned how authors structure their writing to make it engaging and easy to follow. We were impressed by their ability to identify headings, subheadings, and other key features confidently.



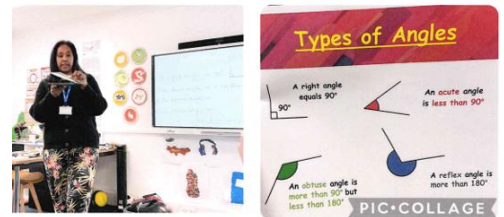
In Computing, the class was introduced to Python programming, an exciting step into the world of coding! The children showed curiosity and enthusiasm as they began learning the basics, developing their problem-solving and logical thinking skills. Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Otzi Class

Where has the sun gone? This has been part of our typical British conversations about the weather! Back to raincoats, jumpers, wellies and feeling meh but we will overcome this! One week to half-term! Yay!

Otzi Class have been very busy with learning, we've had discussions on the three main types of pollution in our Science Lesson - air, land and water, we moved into a very interesting part of History, discussions on the relationship between China & the UK, did you know that the Chinese invented tea? Not debatable, it's a fact 😊 We also learned about the different types of Angels in Maths and many interesting debates in English, including 'Back to the chain gang' new tough regimes for prisons or not? We've also learned about musical notes, their value & names - young people were very involved in this lesson. Of course, this week we also included Mental Health Awareness Activities in small bitesize pieces throughout the day, our young people participated and learned so much on how to support themselves and each other.

Have a great weekend and hope there's some sunshine.



Kelly Class

Kelly class have had a very busy week! We started the week by building our very own walk-in greenhouse. The class worked brilliantly together, following the instructions carefully, working out which poles were needed, and helping to push the poles in tightly to make sure the structure was square and secure. It was lovely to see their proud faces when the greenhouse was fully assembled.

It became even more special when the class placed all of our new vegetables into the greenhouse and planted their sunflower seeds. We are hoping they will grow as tall as it says on the packet — a whole 5 metres tall!

Every morning before our learning begins, the class have taken a walk over to check on their plants and give them some much-needed water. Once they have grown a little more, we are looking forward to putting the carrots and cabbages into the ground — exciting!

We have also been really enjoying our class story 'Ratburger' by David Walliams. So much that one student suggested they should make the story into a film! In maths, we have been finishing off our ratio work and relating our gradient learning to everyday objects such as ramps, roofs and banister rails. In PE, we have been learning how to throw the shot put correctly, focusing carefully on the starting and finishing positions. During English lessons, we have explored the importance of how a writer structures their work and how the term PEEL can help us to develop our analytical thinking. Science has made the class feel like real scientists this week, as they worked with acids and alkalis and observed the exciting reactions that took place. The children were fascinated to see the liquids bubbling and producing gas during their experiments!

We hope you have a lovely weekend!



Mandela Class

We've welcomed several familiar faces back into the classroom, with staff returning as 'old friends' to spend time with the students. Mr Prince supported cookery, Mrs Lineau taught for the morning on Tuesday, and Mr Sambrano visited today, to name just a few. It's also been lovely to hear from other staff who, having heard about the students' projects, are keen to visit and see their work first-hand. This growing interest reflects the positive reputation our class is building across the school—a real testament to the fantastic students we have.

As we begin to round off our key topics for the half term, the interconnectedness of our curriculum has become increasingly clear. In English and DT, we've included links to Careers. In Science we've been studying life cycles in animals and plants; themes have also woven into our English work, where we've been reading, watching and discussing non-fiction— today's focus was summarising a BBC short clip about research on how nature makes us happy. This has linked beautifully with our Daily Mile walks and the time we spend learning outdoors.

Alongside this, students have shown a growing confidence and readiness in both reading and writing, taking real pride in their work. We're looking forward to rounding off the half term with a little extra fun stitched in next week (quite literally, as we spend some extra time sewing in DT!).

Final Thought

As we begin to look ahead towards the next academic year, we are very mindful that this can often bring a mixture of excitement and uncertainty for children and families alike. Changes in classes, staff teams and routines can naturally lead to worries, particularly for children who thrive on predictability and familiarity. We want to reassure families that we will communicate plans for September as soon as we possibly can. At the same time, we ask for your patience and understanding while we carefully consider staffing arrangements, welcome new members of staff and review any internal changes within school. Every decision made will be centred around what is in the very best interests of the children, ensuring that they feel safe, supported and able to continue flourishing both emotionally and academically.

Yours faithfully

Rebecca Pine
Headteacher