

# Friday Flyer

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Dear Parents,

We are very much looking forward to our upcoming Selwyn Spectacular Story Day; there is a real buzz around school, with lots of creative ideas already being shared. We cannot wait to see it all come to life. Alongside this, we have been celebrating Neurodiversity Week in a range of thoughtful, engaging and unique ways. The week has culminated in a wonderful competition where our young people designed their own shoes – each one different, each one fabulous, and each one a true reflection of individuality. This has been a powerful way to encourage everyone to think about what it might feel like to be in someone else's shoes, prompting important conversations about empathy, kindness and consideration as well as the many qualities we all need to support one another.

## Staffing

We are also sharing some staffing updates this week. We are delighted to be welcoming a number of new teachers and teaching assistants to Selwyn, which is hugely exciting and will continue to strengthen our provision for the young people. At the same time, we are preparing to say goodbye to some valued members of our team. Mrs Carter has been instrumental in establishing cookery at Selwyn in the most wonderful way, creating opportunities and experiences that our young people have truly embraced. Miss Rixson has also played a key role in shaping and developing our Key Stage 4 offer, helping to pave the way for future success. They will both be greatly missed by staff and students alike and we wish them the very best for the future.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent Coffee Morning at 9:15am
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Selwyn's Spectacular Story Day Last day of term. School ends at 3:30pm
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	Students return to school after Easter Break

## Kelly Class

This week in Maths we covered 2D and 3D shapes, we developed our ability to recognise and identify a variety of shapes in different contexts. We also continued building our understanding of perimeter, applying our knowledge to calculate the area of different shapes and strengthening our problem-solving skills.

In English, we explored plot progression and gained a deeper understanding of the structure that most stories follow, including how events are organised to engage the reader. We then looked at dialogue in more detail, learning how it can be used effectively to show tone and reveal a character's emotions and personality, which helped us better understand how writers bring characters to life.

This week we spent time researching careers of personal interest, where we looked closely at the qualities and essential skills required for different roles, as well as typical salaries and the reasons why these careers appealed to us. This activity encouraged us to think about our future aspirations and what we might need to achieve our goals.



In cooking, we made breakfast muffins, selecting from a range of ingredients such as bacon, ham, onions, and mushrooms, which allowed us to practise our food preparation skills and make choices based on our preferences. The muffins looked and tasted fab!

We also took part in a neurodiversity quiz as part of Neurodiversity Week, which was both enjoyable and informative, helping us to understand and appreciate differences in how people think and learn. In art, we explored batik, learning about the traditional technique of decorating cloth using wax and dye, and gaining insight into the creative process behind this unique and expressive art form. We hope to be able to have a go at this ourselves soon. We have had some very focused learning in Kelly Class this week, we hope you have a great weekend.

### Butterfly Class

The butterflies have again been so busy this week and there are many things I could write about, however this week I will explain the meaning behind the shoes in our photograph. You may or may not know that this week has been neurodiversity celebration week. In butterfly class we have had many conversations about neurodiversity, even our daily story for 'snack and story time' has included stories that have a neurodiversity theme. Polaris, our parent company now have sixteen schools, they began life as owning independent fostering and adoption agencies back in 1987. Nowadays they also have leaving care services, and bespoke children's services contracts in UK and a centre for British forces families in Cyprus. Our nurturing community works collectively to support the very best outcomes for each and every child in our care. This week Polaris services have been running a competition accepting entries for diverse shoe designs from children from all over the Polaris community. That is a great deal of children and the chances of our children becoming winners is not guaranteed. The boys have designed shoes that represent their characteristics, interests and personalities. They could choose what type of shoe they wanted to decorate, we looked online at different ways of writing words that would look most decorative and decided on felt pens, wax crayons or pencil crayons. When you enter competitions as youngsters, you might not understand that there will be an enormous number of entries and you may not win. We came to the class conclusion that as they all tried their best in designing their entries, they are already winners. Have a great weekend, I hope the sun continues to shine for you.



### Frenchie Class

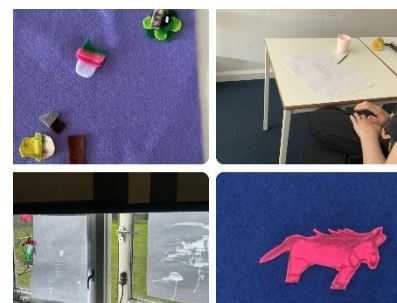
What a glorious change to the weather we have seen. It has certainly lifted the spirits of staff and children at Selwyn. Frenchie class has done a good mixture of outside play and learning in the classroom. This week we have been focusing on performing poetry in English; the class have memorised poems and then performed them, focusing on their expression, tone and body movements. We have seen strong performances of 'leaves on trees' and 'grumpy crabs'.

In Maths, we have started looking at angles and the area of shapes, understanding how to calculate perimeters. In science, we have been looking at chemical reactions, using lemon juice to paint pictures. The addition of heat from a hair dryer caused some of the dried lemon juice to change colour. In DT and Art, we are currently exploring the medium of textiles. DT this week involved making pictures out of felt, which we then turned into a stop frame animation.

One young person used the inspiration of a game they created in scratch to create a short clip of a farmer traveling through a maze, looking for an evil lettuce.

On Tuesday, we had a lesson on Neurodiversity to celebrate Neurodiversity week; the class talked about different types of Neurodiversity, discussing and celebrating what makes people different and how to support and understand others. Polaris have marked the week by launching a competition called Walk in my shoes - Frenchie class have taken part by designing and decorating shoes, with the emphasis on what makes them unique and special as a person. Pictures of the brilliant entries included.

We wish you all a restful weekend and look forward to seeing you all next week for the last week of term.



## Dahl Class

This week has been a wonderful blend of creativity, collaboration, and curiosity in Dahl Class, with pupils engaging enthusiastically across all areas of the curriculum.

In English, pupils continued their journey through A Midsummer Night's Dream, reaching the magical fairy kingdom. The class were fascinated by Shakespeare's enchanted world and have shown an impressive grasp of Shakespearian language. Their discussions and written work reflect growing confidence in understanding the play's themes and characters.

Our mathematicians rose brilliantly to the challenge of complex money-based problems. Pupils demonstrated excellent reasoning, clear step-by-step calculations, and supportive teamwork as they helped each other work through tricky questions. Their perseverance and positive attitude were particularly impressive.

In Science, pupils recapped their knowledge of electrical circuits. Each child produced a PowerPoint presentation explaining circuit symbols and confidently identified the features of both working and faulty circuits. The class presented their work to one another, showing strong communication skills and secure scientific understanding.

French lessons took us outside this week, where Dahl Class embraced the sunshine while practising new vocabulary. Learning outdoors brought a fun, active element to language work, and pupils collaborated beautifully as they explored and used new French phrases.

We hope you all have a restful weekend ready for more fun, laughter and learning.



## Cayuga Class

This week we have been celebrating Neurodiversity Celebration Week, with a focus on recognising and valuing our differences. We started the week by designing our own shoes that represent who we are, giving others an insight into what it feels like to step into our world. We also explored well-known celebrities with neurodiverse profiles, helping to highlight strengths, talents and individuality. The young people really enjoyed exploring the legend of Finn McCool and the Giant's Causeway, engaging with storytelling and discussion. In history, we looked at the types of food the Tudors would have eaten, sparking curiosity about how people lived in the past. To round off a fantastic week, we finished with a cosy onesie/comfortable clothes day as a well-earned treat, celebrating everyone's hard work and participation. Have a great weekend. Mr Noone.



## Hamilton Class



This week we have enjoyed the sunshine and have been getting lots of work completed...

Cookery involved Teriyaki chicken and making a delicious sweet and aromatic sauce to marinate and cook the chicken in. Pupils enjoyed mixing the ingredients and balancing flavours to ensure the chicken was well marinated.

In English we have made further progress with Shakespeare's Macbeth focusing on inner conflict which Macbeth is experiencing and the pressure felt from Lady Macbeth to kill the King. Pupils were able to read further extracts to explore the characters in more depth and develop creative writing skills and Functional Skills methods

with writing a letter from a character's perspective.

We are arriving at the end of term next week and are now discussing rewards that Hamilton class would like as well as our educational trip to Duxford. Pupils can choose from extra cooking, vouchers or pizza being ordered for lunch. We look forward to a positive end to the term, and we will also welcome our new teacher Mr Barnes to the class too. Have a lovely weekend.



### **Mandela Class**

As well as the usual lessons (in maths for example, we're working on converting units; in science, we've been playing with electrical circuits), we're having a strong focus on emotions, expressing ourselves, and creativity this week and next:

- As students start looking for more friends and meeting other classes, it's important to strengthen their initial base of comfort. It was lovely to see students filling their Hands of Trust. They had no problems naming Trusted adults and their lists could have gone on. We're improving emotional literacy, starting with naming and building towards quantifying.
- Creativity includes art, DT, cookery, PHSE, and English. I hope you liked the cushions that came home this week! We've also entered the Walk in My Shoes competition. We've been doing Traditional Tales in English and we're looking forward to Selwyn Spectacular Story Day to finish off a wonderful term.



### **Darwin Class**

Last Friday our class treat was a 'spa' afternoon.

This week in Science, we have been thinking about the speed of sound. We conducted an experiment where one student stood at one end of the field and made a sound and we timed it from the other end. In Music, we have been thinking about composition. In Life Skills, we solved laundry problems. Maybe the students could help out with laundry at home to apply what they've learnt?



### **Final Thought**

With just one more week of term to go before the Easter break, there is a real sense of anticipation across the school. It has been a full and rewarding term and we are looking forward to making the most of this final week together before a well-earned rest for children and staff. A gentle reminder to parents and carers that our coffee morning will take place on Wednesday 25th March – we would love for you to join us for a relaxed opportunity to connect, share and spend some time together as a school community.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

*Yours faithfully*

Rebecca Pine  
Headteacher