Selwyn Hall school

Friday Flyer

Friday 23rd October 2026

Dear Parents

As we reach the end of another busy half term, it was wonderful to welcome so many parents and carers to our coffee morning this week. For the first time, we also offered the session online, enabling those who were unable to attend in person to join the discussion. It was a valuable opportunity to talk openly about our continued focus on attendance and to reassure families that our expectations have not changed, nor has our commitment to supporting every child and family. During the session, we shared the letters that parents may receive when attendance falls below certain thresholds. These letters are not intended to diminish the significant challenges some of our young people face, the barriers they have already overcome or the remarkable progress they have made. Rather, they form part of our commitment to working in partnership with families to identify and overcome difficulties together. We know that every attendance story is unique, and we remain firmly focused on understanding individual circumstances, offering support and helping every child to access the learning, opportunities and relationships that allow them to thrive in school. Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to such a positive and constructive conversation.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
Monday 26th – Friday 30th October	Half Term
Friday 20th November	HPV Vaccination for Year 8 pupils
Friday 20th November	MenACWY/DTP Vaccination for Year 9 Pupils

Sean Rose Visit to Selwyn

Wow! What a day! Young people working with each other and performing superbly in the fitness circuits.
It was really great to see how inspired they all were by Sean's story of never giving up, especially if you don't get the thing you've really strived for. His story of resilience and adventure was great to hear and it led to our young people asking some wonderful questions.
We have had quite a few sponsor forms with money brought in to school and we will continue to collect them in after half term.
There is still the option to sponsor online instead, if that is easier. Just follow the link and it'll take you to where you need to do. Just click set up a fundraising page

Great Athletes · Event Promo



Benz Class



We've made the most of the changeable weather this week, getting outdoors for football and creating human models of the planets in our Solar System.
We've also been establishing routines that will support students' success next term, including reading aloud to staff, regularly discussing emotions and wellbeing, and developing positive habits around catching up on missed learning.
In the classroom, we've been strengthening some important foundation mathematical skills, working on money through counting, multiplication, division and problem-solving activities.
In English, we're coming to the end of our Fairy Tales unit. Students have thoroughly enjoyed exploring traditional stories, and we'll be celebrating our learning with a film on Friday before moving on to Shakespeare next term.
It's been encouraging to see students continuing to develop their independence, resilience and engagement as we head towards the end of term. I hope everyone has a lovely week off next week!

Alma Class



What a wonderful way to end the half term! In English, we have loved exploring the work of Maya Angelou, connecting with her powerful messages and extraordinary poetry. A student's suggestion that her poetry could be turned into music led us to discover her collaborations with Caged Bird Songs and Harlem Hopscotch, sparking amazing discussions about poetry and music. In Science, we have enjoyed discovering how reflection and lenses work and in Maths we've been working hard on averages and estimation. We have also shown kindness, respect and tolerance when learning about British Values, experimented with texture in Art, and had fun walking Fergie and visiting our chicken friends.

Penguin Class

This week we have been comparing a modern fictional princess with a traditional fictional princess. Princess Smartypants is a modern but not a recent book, and penguin class loved it. They had not heard of it before but liked her wild ways and non-conformist attitude. I was able to segway into a brilliant discussion on the British Rule of Law to clarify the importance of what we were reading about – the Rule of Law means we do have rules we have to keep to; we can't turn princes into frogs. We accept each other's differences and we have individual liberty; kings and queens ought not to complain if princesses don't want to marry. Penguins understood that their opinions matter and we look after each other; we can have fun, we have the right to speak up, when necessary, but we also need to look after each other. This tied in rather well to our focus this half term in PSHE, politeness and kindness an all-important skill for our children now and in their futures. Have a lovely half term. Mrs Angell



Hudson Class

Hudson Class enjoyed their visit from Paralympian - Sean Rose this week; it was indeed a highlight. They
participated in an interactive session as well as enjoyed listening to Sean Rose talk about his sporting journey, his story of resilience and determination. It was good to see Hudson Class get involved as well as take a few snaps with the famous athlete.

Have a great half-term break Hudson Class.

Capybara Class



As Capybara class reflects on the last half term, it certainly feels as though it has flown by! However, when we look back, we can see just how much we have accomplished, from developing new friendships and exploring new learning to discovering information we didn't know before and showing resilience when trying something new, even when it feels tricky. Our final week has been no different! In English, we have read The Princess's Blanket and discussed some of its key themes. In maths, we have enjoyed playing a range of games to develop our fluency and recall of number facts, including our Times Table Towers challenge. We have also travelled across Europe through our learning, discovering different countries and some interesting facts about them. In science, we brought our learning to life by creating our very own mini solar systems. To top off a fantastic week, we welcomed Paralympian Sean Rose and his friend Ian, who put our capybaras through their paces with some fun exercises! It was truly inspiring to meet Sean and learn from his experiences as a Paralympian, and wonderful to see our Capys embracing the activities with such enthusiasm and determination. As we head into the half-term break, we can feel proud of everything we have achieved together. Have a wonderful half term, everyone!

Shakespeare Class



This week has been wet, energetic, and full of twists and transitions. We have enjoyed a mixture of learning activities, plenty of time outdoors, and a visit from a Paralympian.
This week in science we have focused on Physics, learning about the difference between convex and concave lenses. We had a practical lesson looking through different lenses and marvelling at the differences in the size and shape of the objects viewed. Miss Joy also brought a microscope to the lesson, and the young people each had a turn viewing the slides and trying to guess what they were looking at.
On Thursday, we were delighted to welcome Paralympian skier Sean Rose to the school. Shakespeare Class took part in a fun exercise session with Sean and his assistant, Ian, who put us all through our paces with activities including lunges, star jumps, and planks. All of the young people present that day joined in, earning themselves an exclusive purple wristband.
After the activity, Sean delivered a presentation about his inspiring journey to becoming a Paralympian, sharing his message of positivity and determination. Some of our young people also chose to have their photo taken with Sean and had the opportunity to hold his gold medal.
As we head into Friday, Shakespeare Class will be having a day to recuperate, consolidate learning, and strengthen relationships through a PSHE lesson and time together as a class.
We hope you all have a restful and enjoyable half-term break, and we look forward to welcoming you back in a week's time for a fresh start and a new half-term of learning.

Final Thought

As we come to the end of our first half term, it feels fitting that we finished with such an inspiring day. We were incredibly fortunate to welcome Paralympian legend Sean Rose and his wonderful helper, former Cambridge United captain Ian Miller, who captivated us all with their stories, humour and determination. Their message was simple but powerful: challenges do not define us; it is the courage, resilience and perseverance we show in meeting them that truly matters. The children were exceptional throughout the day. They listened thoughtfully, asked insightful questions and embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm and respect. Sean and Ian reminded us that every journey is different, that progress is not always measured in giant leaps, and that success often comes from taking one brave step at a time. It was a wonderful reflection of the values we see in our children every day.

As we pause for a well-earned half term break, it is worth taking a moment to reflect on how much has been achieved during these first weeks of the year. We are proud of every child for the growth, effort and determination they have shown. We wish all of our families a restful and restorative half term, with time to recharge, enjoy one another's company and create happy memories together. We look forward to welcoming everyone back ready for another exciting half term of learning, growth and success.

Best wishes

Rebecca Pine
Headteacher