

20<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

'Tis the season to be jolly and for tidings of great joy. We have had the most fantastic week, at Selwyn, full of laughter, merriment and Christmas fun. We also have our own tidings of great joy about the growth and capacity of our school. As we grow, the need for leadership capacity also grows. We are thrilled to let you know that Miss Chandler, who has been with us since April as a class teacher, will be taking the role of Deputy Headteacher. Miss Chandler brings with her a wealth of leadership experience and is very much looking forward to getting started. She will still be class teaching this academic year and will have some time out of class, supported by staff already familiar with the children. We are excited for new roles to be established at Selwyn and I look forward to Miss Chandler being part of the leadership here.

### Okapi Class

What a fantastic first term it has been in Okapi class. As my first term here, it has been a joy getting to know Okapi Class and see their personalities and talents shine. One of the most special parts of the term has been watching new friendships form and supporting one another as they played games, shared ideas, and built positive relationships. The term has been packed with creativity and exciting learning. The young people have embraced the wonders of autumn, collecting vibrant leaves, ribbon dancing outside, and bringing the season indoors with creative projects. This week, we celebrated the end of term by making Christmas decorations and crafting a Christmas tree out of sticks and leaves—a wonderful way to embrace the festive spirit. This term has been an amazing start to my time at Selwyn Hall school, and I am so proud of how much the young people have grown and achieved. I can't wait to see what the spring term will bring for Okapi Class. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Mr Noone.



### Cat Class

Inspired by looking through the iPad, I was in awe of just how much we have packed into our term. Here is a snapshot of it, you can sing it to a popular carol, should you wish:

- On the first week of term Mrs Pine gave to me, a new classroom with a lovely staff balcony.
- On the second week of term we had a vote and got a new class name and a lovely staff balcony.
- On the third week of term the first box suit was made, we cut fresh fruit snack, had a new class name and a lovely staff balcony.
- On the fourth week of term we played a game called Nosh, the first box suit was made, we cut a fresh fruit snack, had a new class name and a lovely staff balcony.
- On the fifth week of term we played whole school rounders, a new game called Nosh, the first box suit was made, we cut a fresh fruit snack, had a new class name and a lovely staff balcony.
- On the sixth week of term we walked to the park, played whole school rounders, a new game called Nosh, the first box suit was made, we cut a fresh fruit snack, had a new class name and a lovely staff balcony.



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- On the seventh week of term, we made moon dough in class, walked to the park, played whole school rounders, a new game called Nosh, the first box suit was made, we cut a fresh fruit snack, had a new class name and a lovely staff balcony.
- On the eighth week of term we began our forest school, made moon dough in class, walked to the park, played whole school rounders, a new game called Nosh, the first box suit was made, we cut our fresh fruit snack, had a new class name and a lovely staff balcony.
- On the eighth week of term we learnt some sign language, went to forest school, made moon dough in class, walked to the park, played whole school rounders, a new game called Nosh, the first box suit was made, we cut our fresh fruit snack, had a new class name and a lovely staff balcony.
- On the tenth week of term, we looked at play scripts, learnt some sign language, went to forest school, made moon dough in class, walked to the park, played whole school rounders, a new game called Nosh, the first box suit was made, we cut our fresh fruit snack, had a new class name and a lovely staff balcony.
- On the eleventh week of term we used the Makedo kits, looked at play scripts, learnt some sign language, went to forest school, made moon dough in class, walked to the park, played whole school rounders, a new game called Nosh, the first box suit was made, we cut our fresh fruit snack, had a new class name and a lovely staff balcony.
- On the twelfth week of term we welcomed feathered friends, used the Makedo kits, looked at play scripts, learnt some sign language, went to forest school, made moon dough in class, walked to the park, played whole school rounders, a new game called Nosh, the first box suit was made, we cut our fresh fruit snack, had a new class name and a lovely staff balcony.

Have a lovely couple of weeks rest and we will look forward to seeing you in 2025. Mrs Angell.

### **Figge Class**

I cannot believe it is the last Friday before Christmas; this term has been so busy and yet September feels like a distant memory. This week, we have welcomed Selwyn's chickens to school and the children have loved welcoming them; yesterday, we had our first venture into the coop and managed to catch DaBaby (a baby chicken) and had lots of cuddles. The children enjoy going to visit them throughout the day and chatting to them and already, we have had 2 eggs from Justina. This week, we also had a second visit from Pebbles the pony who was dressed in festive bells and certainly looked Christmassy. We fed her carrots and led her around the paddock and gave her lots of strokes. On Thursday, the class had an exciting day as the children opened their class Christmas gifts, which was a treat from Polaris. We bought an inflatable sofa, a karaoke machine, a disco ball, class games and a hammock chair - all things added to a wish list by the children. This week, we also created a school Christmas treasure hunt for the rest of the school and had great fun writing rhyming clues for parts of the school and hiding clues and letters which spelt out a festive word; the rest of the classes had great fun taking part in the hunt which led them to all parts - far and wide - of the school grounds. It has been a joyous festive week, filled with costumes, Christmas jumpers, sparkly accessories, Christmas lunch and Figge class having a ball. Wishing you and your families a peaceful and joyous Christmas break; look forward to seeing you in January. Miss Chandler



### **Marco Polo Class**

What a fantastic week we've had in Marco Polo Class, as we wrapped up our first term. The Christmas spirit has been in full swing and it's been a joy to watch the children grow both academically and personally over the past few months. This week, we had a lot of fun with festive activities, including writing our own Christmas cracker jokes and creating hilarious Christmas stories with Mad Libs. In PSHE, we explored human rights with the question, "Does everyone have the right to Christmas?" The children made a beautiful Christmas tree and decorated it with different rights, symbolizing how everyone deserves a little holiday joy. Our classroom and lunch hall were also filled with festive cheer as we decorated them together. In Life Skills, the children enjoyed decorating their own Christmas cakes, a fun and creative way to celebrate the season.

We also welcomed three new chickens to our school: Justina, Mushroom, and Da Baby, and we're eagerly awaiting Mario to join them. To finish off an amazing term, we celebrated with a Christmas movie, hot chocolate, and a brilliant Christmas Award Assembly, followed by a fun Christmas party full of music, balloons, and games. It has truly been a wonderful term, and we are so proud of everything the children have learned. We wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year, and we look forward to more adventures in Marco Polo Class in 2025. Miss Borgeson.



### **Armstrong Class**

Armstrong Class have had an awesome final week of term. Pebbles the pony came to visit and we all loved stroking her and feeding her carrots – she had a very healthy appetite. In maths, we explored symmetry, with some quite complex patterns and with the line of symmetry in different positions. Although Armstrong class found them challenging, with focus and hard work they soon got the hang of it. The treasure hunt was a real highlight too as we had to think hard about the clues. The clues were quite cryptic, but we pooled our brain power together to find the answers. We wowed Ms. Clifford with our stories this week. We wrote alternative tales to “The Magic Finger” and taught our baddies a few lessons. Finally, Santa visited the class and brought some new games for us. Wishing you a very happy Christmas and New Year. Ms Clifford.



### **Final Thoughts**

As we reflect on the term that has passed, the staff have thought about how we can improve our communication with you at home. Next term, we will be holding a series of meetings and get together to aid our interaction. I will be holding a coffee morning on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March in school and teachers will be meeting with you to update the Understanding Me Support Plans and to create Individual Learning Plans for your young people. We hope, in this way, you feel listened to with ideas and we can continue our mission to give your children the best education and the one they thoroughly deserve. With that, I hope you all have a relaxing and wonderful Christmas, surrounded by peace and happiness.



*Yours faithfully*

Rebecca Pine  
Headteacher

## **General School Information**

### **Uniform**

There is a school uniform for Selwyn Hall School which can be purchased from the school office.

Prices are:

Polo Shirt: £8.25

Sweatshirt: £9.25

Cardigan: £10.25

T-shirt: £ 4.95

### **School Lunches**

All children will be encouraged to have a school lunch and we will order them one every day. School meals are free for all children at Selwyn Hall School. The menu can be requested from the school office; we are pleased to offer a choice of desserts as part of the meal options and salad and bread are also included as part of the daily meal options and are provided as standard.

There is also an allergen matrix for the menu choices per day.

Please talk to your children about the menu as we will be putting orders in every morning by 9.15am. Children will be eating their lunch with the adults in school at 12pm. Thank you.

### **Term dates for the academic year 2024-2025**

#### **Summer Term 2024**

Summer Term begins

Monday 15th April 2024

School Closed May Bank Holiday

Monday 6th May 2024

School Closed for Staff Training

Friday 24th May 2024

Summer Half Term

Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May 2024

School Closed for Staff Training

Monday 3rd June 2024

Last Day of Summer Term

Friday 19th July 2024

School Closed for Staff Training

Monday 22nd July 2024

#### **Autumn Term 2024**

School Closed for Staff Training

Tuesday 3rd September 2024

School Closed for Staff Training

Wednesday 4th September 2024

Autumn Term begins

Thursday 5th September 2024

Autumn Half Term

Monday 28th Oct to Friday 1st Nov 2024

School Closed for Staff Training

Monday 18th November 2024

End of Autumn Term

Friday 20th December 2024

#### **Spring Term 2025**

School Closed for Staff Training

Monday 6th January 2025

Spring Term begins

Tuesday 7th January 2025

Spring Half Term

Monday 17th Feb to Friday 21st Feb 2025

End of Spring Term

Friday 4th April 2025