Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2024

## **Dear Parents and Carers**

I can't believe we are half a term away from having been open for a whole academic year; how time flies when you're having fun! We have now welcomed eighteen children into our school and nearly as many adults. After half term, we will have our first full class, with Monkey class having six children. We have been expanding our playtime equipment and now have goals, pogo sticks and many more exciting things to be used. We have also increased our computing capacity this half term to aid our curriculum delivery and we have seen an increase in cookery in Life Skills and Design and Technology. Our curriculum is the life and soul of our school, showing that all children can learn and that relationships with trusted adults are key to ensuring children feel safe and ready to learn. We have also revisited our school rules this week: respect, protect and reflect. By having these as our bedrock for learning ensures that children are the best citizens they can be at Selwyn Hall School and for the wider world around them. How lucky we are to be part of that journey with them!

# **Crocodile Class**

School; 5 weeks since I met the wonderful children and 5 weeks of learning new skills and teaching the class. It has gone so fast but also feels like I've been here forever. This week has seen Crocodile class write explanation texts and the children have used great vocabulary to explain their inventions, as new machines. In maths, we have been learning all about fractions and the children have certainly been testing us with their knowledge of dividing to find fractions of numbers; I have been impressed with their ability to apply their quick mental maths skills to new areas of maths. In DT this week, the class made cheesecake; at first the idea of this was met with utter disgust (a cake made of cheese!) but after showing them images and reading the recipe, they soon discovered that it looked rather tasty. The crocs worked together to read the recipe, weigh ingredients, combine ingredients and soon they had some rather fabulous looking cheesecakes...and they were indeed delicious. This morning, we learnt how to use atlases and we had a great discussion about places we had visited, places we wanted to visit and countries we

had heard of; it struck me in talking to the class that we often all have the same wants and desires – for some this may be visiting new places, for others it lies in the more simple day to day routines to help us feel secure. I thought about the want to have a day without rain, the desire to visit Ohio (George so wants to do this!), the want to feel safe (expressed by a deep thinker) or the desire to make a difference in the world. I am a strong believer that if you

I cannot believe it has been 5 weeks since I started here at Selwyn Hall

 $\frac{1}{2} \bigcirc \frac{1}{5} = \frac{1}{3} \bigcirc \frac{3}{4} \bigcirc \frac{1}{5} = \frac{1}{3}$   $\frac{1}{4} \bigcirc \frac{2}{6} = \frac{1}{3} \bigcirc \frac{1}{3}$   $\frac{2}{3} \bigcirc \frac{3}{3} = 1$ 





put your mind to something, you can often make it happen; and as the quote says 'we need to find our inner desires in order to achieve what we actually want'. Happy half term Crocodile class; I look forward to seeing you after the break, ready to learn...and please bring the sunshine. Miss Chandler

#### **Fox Class**

This week, we have been happy to welcome a new class member to take us to an even number of students. This makes pairing up in lessons so much easier and already has enhanced our collaborative learning environment. As you can see from our photo, the children have been enjoying sharing Pokemon knowledge and I think are getting used to the term 'the more the merrier'. This week, we began using Times Tables Rockstars in maths and Foxes have a login that means they can use it at home, if that is your wish. Ever hopeful for a dry field and sunny Thursdays, we have upgraded to proper rounders bats and balls to enhance our PE lessons. We have already come a long way with beginning to build our school and we continue to remain excited daily and embrace the new opportunities for us all. Mrs Angell

# **Iguana Class**

What a fantastic end of the half term we have had here in Iguana class. As part of our science lessons, we have recently welcomed a butterfly house into the classroom and watched caterpillars turn into the most beautiful butterflies. We have finished history and geography with end of topic quizzes and watched Goodnight Mister Tom to complete our English topic. I am very excited to get back in the classroom to start our final half term, with some very exciting topics. Iguana class, you have been wonderful once again, I hope you all have the best half term and I look forward to seeing you all soon. Miss Hunko

# **Monkey Class**

Last week of our first half of summer term; Monkey class have been feeling tired and ready for next week's break but we haven't let it stop us from having fun and continuing with our learning. We did an awesome spy role-play for our history lesson on the Cambridge spy ring. In Life Skills, we did cookery and made pesto; we had a lot of fun preparing the ingredients and ate it afterwards which the children said was very yummy. Our PE lesson included an indoor scooter agility course as the weather wasn't that great but it was so much fun (but definitely hard work) as the course got more challenging. All in all, a great last week and we can't wait to see everyone after half term. Miss Borgeson

## Final Thought

With the news, yesterday, that there will be a general election on 4<sup>th</sup> July, it has made me think about what it could mean for education. After far too many years to want to count in education, I have worked under a huge number of Secretaries of State for Education and each one has made a difference to the way schools run. For me, education is about ensuring that all children, no matter what their starting point or the load they carry, get excellence in education which prepares them for life beyond the classroom. This is always our aim at Selwyn and my joy is to hear staff already discussing what they look forward to seeing with our children in the future. We have staff who really believe in what our children can achieve and we are excited to see them continue to flourish.









Have a good half term, everyone, and we look forward to seeing you back at school on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June.

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

School Closed May Bank Holiday

School Closed for Staff Training

Summer Half Term

School Closed for Staff Training

Last Day of Summer Term

School Closed for Staff Training

### **Autumn Term 2024**

School Closed for Staff Training

School Closed for Staff Training

Autumn Term begins

Autumn Half Term

School Closed for Staff Training

End of Autumn Term

## Spring Term 2024

School Closed for Staff Training

Spring Term begins

Spring Half Term

**End of Spring Term** 

Monday 15th April 2024

Monday 6th May 2024

Friday 24th May 2024

Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May 2024

Monday 3rd June 2024

Friday 19th July 2024

Monday 22nd July 2024

# Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Wednesday 4th September 2024

Thursday 5th September 2024

Monday 28th Oct to Friday 1st Nov 2024

Monday 18th November 2024

Friday 20th December 2024

## Monday 6th January 2025

Tuesday 7th January 2025

Monday 17th Feb to Friday 21st Feb 2025

Friday 4th April 2025