

# Friday Flyer

20<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

This week, we have done a lot of collaborative learning and really built up the team, both of staff and of children, as well as all together. The start of the autumn term always takes time to get settled into as everyone has become used to the lie ins of the summer holidays. However, the learning that I have seen this week has completely blown me away and I am so proud of how everyone is getting back into the swing of things. I have also been learning as the children are studying a Shakespeare classic that I am less familiar with; it's been brilliant. Miss Borgeson has been away, this week, training to become our Behaviour Support Specialist, and we are looking forward to her return on Monday.

## Okapi Class

This week in Okapi was packed with fun and discovery! We explored the wonders of the human body and its cool functions, all while enjoying playing games outside with friends during lunch. The highlight was an epic comprehension treasure hunt- learners dashed around the school to uncover hidden questions in different spots. One of our curious learners even did some investigating of their own, researching an insect they spotted on a school bench. Turns out, it was a Hornet Robberfly! How awesome is that? This week was full of learning, laughter, and adventure. Hope you all have a great weekend. Mr Noone.

## Cat Class

Here is the cat news...or should we say cat mews...

In Cat Class, this week, we have been continuing to build relationships with each other and working on communication. This is a tricky thing for a great deal of adults, let alone our children with their adverse childhood experiences. What has surprised us is that the children are beginning to realise that effective communication can really help people to understand their wants and needs. Even when they are in crisis moments when effective communication from all parties is vital, the children are becoming able to let us know how to help them. Be it with picture cards, words or by us simply knowing what a touch from them means, in getting to know what makes the



children 'tick' we have been able to see a real improvement in their daily lives in school. I am in awe of how they are coping with our growing school of new students and new adults. Well done cats, it is tricky, but we're so proud. Have a restful weekend. Mrs Angell

### **Figge Class**

This week has been our first week of more in-depth learning tasks and lessons, after the settling in weeks; I must say the children have shown me such enthusiasm and enjoyment in learning and this has been great to see. Our English topic has begun with looking at Shakespeare's 'The Tempest' and the class have learnt about the characters and plot synopsis and have completed some written tasks, including a poster advertising the play and a detailed description of the fierce storm, after a great speaking and listening session where we explored fab vocab! Our maths work has seen the children show off their place value and number skills in many ways and in different forms. Many of our young learners find the social and communication skills one of the hardest things to navigate, but this week has seen Figge and Marco Polo class combine to complete a PSHE lesson all about 'mental health' and they were all so mature and gave such thoughtful ideas to the discussion. We split off into groups and the young learners shared thoughts and feelings and listened to each other respectfully; it was such a delight to witness this skill being seen in action. They also joined forces to make cakes for one young learner's birthday's this week and all children joined a 'Selwyn Hall School' birthday party in the afternoon with games and cake and fun and enjoyment! Have a super weekend. Miss Chandler



### **Marco Polo Class**

This week has seen the class add further learning about Shakespeare's 'The Tempest' and they enjoyed learning about the characters and plot in more depth. The class have missed Miss Borgeson being in class this week but enjoyed a 'Teams' call with her on Wednesday, in the midst of her course, to check in with the children – they all loved sharing what they had been up to. The class joined forces with Figge class on Tuesday to complete a PSHE session on 'mental health' and I was so impressed with how they spoke, listened and contributed to the session with great maturity and respect; they offered great views and insights on the matters discussed and it was great to see them using fabulous social skills to communicate effectively with both their peers and adults. The class enjoyed the celebrations of one of their classmate's birthdays on Wednesday and worked together to make cakes and then enjoyed an afternoon celebratory party with the rest of Selwyn learners...much cake was eaten and party games were aplenty – once again showing their great social skills in action! Have a lovely weekend. Miss Chandler

### **Armstrong Class**

It's been another busy week at Selwyn Hall School and the members of Armstrong Class are getting to know each other better. The new board game is being developed and there have been several prototypes of particular parts. There are such inventive minds in this class and such a keenness to develop the perfect game! Whilst the weather has been so sunny the students have particularly enjoyed using the swing outside

and looking for conkers. Walks have been taken, one with Fergie the dog, and ball skills were the focus for PE. We've looked at Greek myths this week and played the longest game of Monopoly ever. The papier mache masks and volcano are taking shape and today we will be making flapjack. Some impressive Maths skills have been demonstrated and we have reached Chapter 11 in Gangsta Granny. Watermelon has proved a popular fruit but figs were less successful. Overall, a productive week. Mrs Richardson

### **Final Thought**

As part of our art project this term, we are wanting to make a sculpture from recycled parts; if you have any nuts, bolts, tyres, cogs, pieces of machinery, hub caps, old cutlery, clock parts and springs, we would love to have them to create something spectacular. We are aiming to make something like this. Our curriculum is the bedrock of all we do, here at Selwyn, and we are always thinking of ways to engage your children in school life, whether it be creating sculptures like this, projects on chickens, inventing new board games or learning to cook. Everything is linked to our robust curriculum but worked to ensure that your children find it relevant, interesting and enjoyable. We want to get your children ready for a lifetime of learning.

Have a wonderful weekend.

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