

# Friday Flyer

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, we have really started to notice the lighter evenings and it has been a joy to keep the light after school. It means that spring is just around the corner and warmer weather is on the way - hopefully! This week, we have been taking part in Children's Mental Health Week. This year, the theme has been Know Yourself, Grow Yourself in partnership with Here4You, supported by The Walt Disney Company and the *Inside Out 2* characters. It has given the children an opportunity to consider their emotions and how each emotions make them feel and what it makes them want to do. I joined the end of a lesson, yesterday, where the children had been stomping, dancing and literally jumping for joy. It has been a wonderful opportunity to combine our work in school on our Zones of Regulation with other learning around emotions. I hope your children have shared some of their learning with you, at home.

## Cat Class

This week has seemed to have been about Cats making us laugh. We welcomed a new, lovely teaching assistant into class, Mrs Tucker, we discovered that she has one of the best laughs in the school, one young person even recorded her laughter to use in her iMovies. You can see joy and happiness in one of this week's photos: A young person doing his maths lesson while lying underneath a chair. The children, having discovered going underneath that chair, have frequently tapped at the ankles of anyone sitting on the chair, making us jump out of our skins - its lovely to see them having so much fun and happiness especially in this Children's mental health week. Under the theme 'know yourself, grow yourself' the children have thought about what makes them so wonderful, what things they are good at and need improving and then we honed our (Question Time) interviewing techniques and tried to find out more information about the people in the class. The discovery was that we are mostly different to one another, but there are similarities between us – a love of pizza being one of them! One of the young people even interviewed a passing Mrs Pine and found out (in a random way that is SO cat class) that she'd rather live without toenails than live without fingernails! Yet another example of cat hilarity! Have a lovely weekend. Mrs Angell



## Marco Polo Class

Another brilliant week in Marco Polo class, filled with creativity, problem-solving, and hands-on learning. In English, we explored characters in poems, wrote our own poems from a character's perspective, and crafted poems based on personal experiences—all while focusing on correct structure and punctuation. In Maths, we revisited fractions, practicing simplification, ordering, and comparisons with great progress from everyone. In History, we analysed a variety of sources to compare the lives of rich and poor Tudors, leading to some insightful discussions. In Geography, we explored the concept of green cities, discussing why they exist and designing our own sustainable cities with fantastic ideas. In Life Skills, the children baked delicious fruit muffins, showing great teamwork in the kitchen. Computing focused on email etiquette and tone, where we learned about appropriate and inappropriate communication in different settings. For Art, we explored different weave patterns, sketching them out and experimenting with new designs. A fantastic effort from all the children this week—well done, Marco Polo class. Have a great weekend. Miss Borgeson.

### **Armstrong Class**

Armstrong class have had a great time learning this week. They solved time problems galore in maths, so if you have a train or bus timetable challenge – you know who to ask! We also tapped into their creative sides and wrote lyrics to a Minecraft soundtrack. The language choices were lovely, with all the words fitting the beat perfectly. We felt we were able to tell a story and reflect a real Minecraft experience. The teamwork involved was also something to behold and brought a smile to all our faces. The extra special aspect included a beatboxing accompaniment. You can try to re-create it at home, but perhaps you needed to be there! (see below). Armstrong class also enjoyed a visit to the local park and were thrilled with the slides, trampoline and climbing frames.

(Beatboxing)

*Getting wood, getting stone*

*Mining all night, mining all day,*

*Getting iron and getting diamonds*

*Building places*

*Creating spaces*

*Different dimensions*

*Apprehension*

*Making armour*

*Enchanting weapons*

*Getting stronger*

*To battle longer*

*Killing creepers*

*Slaying monsters*

*Charging to the portal*

*Breaking the end crystals*

*Destroy the dragon.*

### **Okapi Class**

This week in Okapi class, we've been engaging in a variety of topics. In PSHE, we focused on children's mental health awareness. We explored an analogy using a party blower and a straw on top of a Lego block to help understand the power of controlling our breath. The party blower represented a deep exhale, teaching us how to let go and breathe freely, while the straw on the Lego block symbolised the control we have over our breathing, reminding us that we can use our breath to centre ourselves whenever we need calm and focus. In English, we worked on sequencing and put together movie plots in great detail. This activity helped us practice logical thinking and the importance of organizing events in a clear and structured way to tell a story effectively. In D&T, we explored the role of engineers and the different types of engineers. This gave us an understanding of how engineering impacts our everyday lives and the various careers within this field. In cookery, we had fun baking vanilla sponge cakes and fruit cupcakes, learning new baking techniques and enjoying the delicious results of our hard work! Hope you all have a great weekend! Mr Noone.

### **Figge Class**

This week has seen the school partake in 'Children's Mental Health Week' and every day, Figge class have been both mature and considerate when talking about emotions, their strengths and weaknesses, creating personality islands and learning how different emotions can co-exist in all of us at the same time. I have been really impressed by the children wanting to share their thoughts and to consider others' views. In art, we learnt to draw one-point perspective and the children's skills blew me away; they focused, persevered and actually impressed themselves with their artistic results. Our English work this week has been about reading and creating our own poems, based on the works of Benjamin Zephania and Roger McGough; there has been much humour, rhyming words galore and children enjoying sharing their works. In DT, we have started work towards a competition that the children have been entered into; the class have been looking at different engineering designs and have evaluated them and thought about how these could be improved...the first steps to considering designs! Happy weekend all. Miss Chandler

## Otzi Class

We've introduced 'meditation' time this week just after story time, led by Miss Rawlins' calming voice. It's nice to have a chance step out of the afternoon activities and take a few minutes to do some mindful breathing or just reflect on the day. A little in keeping with this, we made 'lava-lamps' in science using oil, water, food dye and effervescent tablets. We discussed how the 'lamps' work before-hand (by briefly making the coloured water bubbles less dense than oil), but watching the results was mesmerising. As we experimented with adding more food dye to one 'lamp' we ended up with a what looked like bubbling blood, so it may be an experiment to try again near the end of October! Have a lovely weekend!

## Final Thought

We have one more week until half term and it doesn't feel like 5 minutes since the Christmas holidays. That said, we can see that the children are getting tired and are ready for a break. After half term, we will have some children moving classes and some new staff joining us. Please be reassured that if your child has any changes to support in any way, we will let you know. To re-iterate what I said in the letter, yesterday, your child's journey at Selwyn is personal to them and you, as their parents and carers. If you have any questions about your child's provision, please contact the class teacher in the first instance. Thank you.

Have a great 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

#### 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

#### Summer Term 2025

Summer Term begins

Tuesday 22nd April 2025

Bank Holiday

Monday 5th May 2025

Summer Half Term

Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May 2025

School Closed for Staff Training

Monday 2nd June 2025

End of Summer Term

Wednesday 23rd July 2025

#### Autumn Term 2025

School Closed for Staff Training

Monday 1st September 2025

School Closed for Staff Training

Tuesday 2nd September 2025

Autumn Term begins

Wednesday 3rd September 2025

Autumn Half Term

Monday 27th Oct to Friday 31st Oct 2025

End of Autumn Term

Friday 19th December 2025