

Friday Flyer

Friday 28th February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our school continues to bustle with visitors and trips; this week saw us visited by the fire brigade, the railway team and a dental nurse, all of whom gave the children invaluable information about their roles and sparked their interest.

Next week, we will be celebrating World Book Day, on Friday 7th March, a day after the actual World Book Day date (due to a school trip). For this, staff will be wearing accessories on the theme of an author and it will be up to the children to guess the books / author we are representing; children are free to dress up with accessories themselves, as they wish, but we are also aware that some children would prefer not to.

Cat Class

The cats have been on great form this week, as you can see from the photos. There have been new dressing up outfits bought over half term, enabling the children in all building one classes to harness their superpowers and become a variety of superheroes during the day. To see Thor and Superman playing together on the swing at playtime is such a delight!

We had so many interesting visitors in school this week, enhancing our science, PSHE and life skills lessons. I particularly enjoyed the dental nurse visit, and not just because of the lovely, coloured toothbrushes that she brought in for the children! I was lucky enough to shadow her as she talked to four different groups of children throughout the school and all children showed the very best of Selwyn manners. I couldn't have been more proud of the children at Selwyn, and staff for modelling such high standards.



CAT CLASS WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Marco Polo Class

It's been another exciting and engaging week in Marco Polo class!

In English, we explored contemporary stories, breaking them down to understand what makes them engaging before writing our own gripping introductions. Maths introduced algebra, where we learned how to represent addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division using algebraic notation. In computing, we focused on internet safety, particularly how to identify fake profiles and check for reliable information online. History took us back to the 16th century as we learned about the events that led to the start of the Spanish Armada and geography sparked curiosity as we asked and investigated key questions about extreme environments. In science, we explored how sound travels by making and testing paper cup phones, which led to some brilliant discussions and discoveries. Life Skills involved baking delicious quiches, with everyone getting hands-on in the kitchen.

We ended the week with a fantastic mini golf trip, celebrating another great week of learning. Well done, Marco Polo class! Have a great weekend. Miss Borgeson.

Okapi Class

This week in Okapi class, it was a pleasure to welcome our young people back after the half-term break. They were eager to share stories about the activities they got up to during the break.

We kicked off the first week back with a variety of exciting and engaging activities, starting with several guest professionals who came to visit us. The Network Rail team gave an informative talk about the importance of safety around level crossings, which was very engaging for our young people. We also had a fire safety session that highlighted important precautions and safety measures, which kept everyone's attention. One of the week's highlights was the dentistry talk on Thursday, where the young people learned key tips on how to effectively brush their teeth; they were especially enthusiastic about the interactive activity, where they practiced brushing on an image of teeth, ensuring they spent two minutes brushing and paid attention to cleaning along the gum line.

In addition to these activities, we also began a new science topic focused on magnets. The young people had fun exploring the different types of surfaces that are magnetic and non-magnetic, sparking their curiosity about how magnets work in the world around them. It was a busy and enriching week full of learning and hands-on experiences! Have a great weekend! Mr Noone.

Figge Class

This first week back has flown by; it's been filled with so many different opportunities for the children and even another reward treat to the mini golf on Thursday afternoon.

As part of the enrichment opportunity, we are always looking for visitors to come and talk to the children, and this week, we had a talk from the railway and transport people, who educated the children in railway safety; this will prove very useful, given our close proximity to the Foxton train station and its use for school trips for the children. We also had a visit from a fire woman, who came to educate us about fire safety; for the older children, it was good to learn about having the correct chargers for devices so that they don't overheat, as well as advice about not setting fire alarms off unnecessarily and teaching them about the procedures that occur when this happens. Yesterday, we had our final visit of the week from a dental nurse and the children loved 'masking up' and getting their gloves on to clean teeth, discuss oral hygiene and find out about why dental health is important. These visitors are invaluable to the children and every visitor has said how amazing the children have been; they ask questions, listen with focus and remember what they have been told. Next week, we have an engineer in to visit.

The class have loved many learning opportunities this week; our first lesson about the Vikings, the mysteries of algebra in maths, learning about myths and characters in English, learning to play a Bruno Mars track on the keyboard for music, working out confusing time zones in geography and learning about the life on Malala Yousef in RE.

All in all, it's been a very busy first week back! Next Thursday is our trip to the museum of zoology; so another chance of more opportunities for our young people. Have a lovely weekend all.
Miss Chandler

Otzi Class

It has been a busy week in Otzi class, with visits from the train safety team, fire service and a dental hygienist. The class asked wonderful questions and we learnt a lot. We've also been learning a little more about Vikings: how we still have



25.02.25 Vanilla
milkshake
making



Viking words in our everyday speech, what Vikings ate, who their gods were, where Vikings came from and got to in the world; we know Thor from the 'Avengers' movies so it was interesting to find out that he wasn't just the god of thunder, but also seen as the protector of mankind! One morning this week was also dedicated to trying to disprove something that members of the class had heard in podcasts – that fish 'don't exist'. After a journey through some great resources on the problems of categorising animals in science, the adults were forced to admit that there may not actually be such things 'fish'. We had an interesting time seeing if we could each come up with definitions to explain to any confused alien how to categorise their pet goldfish in light of this surprise. Have a lovely weekend...if they still exist... Mr Nightingale.

Final Thought

This week has been all about learning from adults outside of our school. We have had visitors from Network Rail, the fire brigade and from the dentistry profession. Our young people have been incredible at listening thoughtfully and asking really interesting questions. The fire brigade officer spoke about how important it was for our young people to be responsible and adhere to our three school rules of respect, protect and reflect. Part of this, they said, was remembering never to set the fire alarm off falsely, for a number of reasons: people may become complacent if they hear the alarm on a regular basis, it may create panic and upset amongst others and it creates an unsafe environment. Please could you re-iterate this message to your young people at home too.

Next week, we are looking forward to welcoming an engineer into school, as we head towards science week. It is wonderful to have more people starting to see the super learning opportunities the young people have and to be part of their wider learning, as well as adding to many of their career and future aspirations. If you have any ideas of other visitors that might inspire your young people, please don't hesitate to let us know.

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