Issue No 17 - 2020/2021 Friday 16 July 2021





I would like to start this final newsletter of the year by thanking the entire community for their efforts and support since my arrival in January. It seems like an age ago when I arrived at the school as a second lockdown commenced, following what had already been a challenging period globally. However I have been fortunate to receive incredibly high levels of support from Trustees, staff, parents and pupils. Despite the challenges we have all faced our community can be proud of our achievements this year. Our pupils have shown kindness and support to one another, they have engaged effectively with online learning and continued to ensure that Selwood Academy is a very special place to be a part of.

The end of a school year is also an opportune time to look forward to the exciting opportunities that lay ahead of us, we have in place a number of changes for next academic year as a result of parent and pupil feedback. This includes the enactment of our new relationships policy, the expansion of our use of the SIMs parent APP to further develop home school communication as well as the launch of our new rewards policy which will ensure that we recognise each individuals' uniqueness and celebrate everybody's success. We will also see the introduction of Sports day, Careers day, Forest School, wellbeing and mindfulness as well as hopefully a return to eating in the dining hall.

It is also the time of year when we say goodbye to valued members of our community. Our year 8's will be moving on to the next stage of their education and we have some colleagues who will also be moving on. However I know from my brief time here that the values of the school will stay with them. They will take Hope, Wisdom, Community and Joy with them and continue to let their light shine before others.

We will also welcome a number of new staff to our community, as well as some members of staff who will be changing roles. I am incredibly excited about what they will bring as we add capacity to accelerate progress of all pupils following the pandemic.

Mrs F Hughes will move to the position of SENDCO and her maternity Cover will be Mrs L Cook, who brings a wealth of experience Mr O Littlewood will move into the position of Interim Head of Faculty for Maths Ms K Evans-Bentley will move to the position of Head of Year 6 Mrs R Parker will move into the position of Librarian Ms T Brawn will take on the role of Senior TA

We will also welcome

Mr O Crook-Wynn will join us as Head of Faculty English Mrs L Rosier will join us as a key stage two teacher Mrs H Bartlett will join us as an English teacher Mrs Michelle Quelch will join us as an Art teacher Mr Chris Barker will join us to teach wellbeing / Mindfulness Ms Carmen Batchelor will join us as our Pastoral Manager

Although further information will follow, I would like to take this opportunity to highlight that

the first day of next academic year for pupils is Wednesday 8 September. However on this day next year's year 7 and 8 will be invited into school for testing at an allocated slot and return home, to begin the school year in earnest from Thursday 9 September. I can also confirm that following the parental survey we will be expanding the functionality of the SIMs parent App and therefore parents will receive immediately notifications of achievement and behaviour points. This will be supported by the updated communication protocols within the new relationships policy.

Finally I would like to wish you all a well-deserved rest after the challenges we have all faced and I look forward to the incredible things we will be able to experience and achieve next year, together as community.

### **Saying Goodbye**

It is that time of year when we say goodbye to members of our team who have decided to move on from Selwood.

Mrs Steward has dedicated an incredible 36 years to our school! She has helped so many children during that time and her significant contribution to Selwood will be sorely missed. Mrs Henderson is another much loved colleague who has decided to retire. Mrs



Henderson has been a loyal member of the SEN team for 19 years. Mrs Bailey has also worked tirelessly within SEN for the last 10 years. All have made an invaluable contribution to the children of Frome and we wish them well in their retirement. Mrs Rees will be leaving us after 8 years with the SEN team to take up a position in another school. We wish her well in her new post.

Mr Brooks is also retiring after 32 years at Selwood. Mr Brooks has committed himself to looking after the school and all who use it, and we will miss his knowledge and skills as he moves onto a slower pace of life. After joining us in 2016 as an apprentice, Mr Price has secured a post with a local IT company, we're sure he will go on to have a fantastic career and wish him well. Mrs Hylands has jumped at the opportunity to spend another year in the Falkland Islands, but sadly won't be returning to Selwood as she has decided now is the time to retire. We will all miss her cheerful smile and her enthusiasm for reading.

Mrs Lawyer, Miss Cartwright, Mrs Truelove and Mr Edwards have all secured new teaching posts, we wish them every success as they move on.

### And Welcome...

We welcome Miss Wicks, who has recently joined us as Year 5 teacher. We look forward to working with her in September too.

# **Important information for September...**

- September 6 & 7 are INSET DAYS (School closed to pupils)
- **Wed 8 Sept** will be an Induction Day for our new Yr 5 pupils, an email will be sent with more details
- Yr 6 pupils will return to school on **Wed 8 Sept** and will need to wear their PE kit
- On **Wed 8 Sept** we will be carrying out COVID testing on Yr 7 & 8 pupils who have parental consent (an email has be sent with more details)
- All Yr 7 & 8 pupils will return to school on Thur 9 Sept
- All pupils are expected to wear the correct school uniform. Details can be found on our website <u>https://selwood.somerset.sch.uk/parents/useful-information/uniform</u>
- Pupils should continue to wear PE kit on the days they have a PE lesson until further notice
- The school canteen will hopefully be up and running as normal, so please remember to top up your child's ParentPay account

Please keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for any updates during the holiday

## End of Term for pupils is Thursday 22 July School ends at the normal time of 3.10pm

### School Catering

We are delighted to announce that Cleverchefs have been awarded the new catering contract for Selwood from September 2021. You can view their website here <u>https://www.cleverchefs.co.uk/educationcatering</u>. We are currently working closely with them to ensure a smooth transition to Selwood and the other 9 schools within our contract. We are confident that we will return to a full service as of September so do remember to top up your child's accounts to allow them to use the canteen as we do not allow any overdraft facility - all being well, no more ordering will be necessary!



If you wish for your child to access the canteen from September 2021 please ensure you register with Parentpay and our biometrics registration will take place early in the new year (if not already done). This will ensure your child can make their purchases at break times and lunch times. You are able to use the canteen service flexibly too, so if you choose to use it for one day per week that is fine, and no need to place orders in advance. A delicious array of food will be on offer every day. Should you need any help with registration please don't hesitate to contact the school. We hope to hold an event to welcome them to our schools in the new year, giving you the opportunity to try some yummy tasters to check out what is on the menu for your children. More information will follow in the new year.



Well done to Will R and Macauley B who took part in 'Build A Bike' last term at Critchill School. They had a great time, worked really hard and kept the bikes that they built! Happy cycling boys!





Izzie H in Year 6 has been enjoying success recently with gymnastics, trampolining and DMT. In gymnastics she is currently training for her national grades. In DMT and trampoline she is competing at FIG level – this is the highest level in the country and the area that they select the England and GB squad from. She is doing very well and is performing double somersaults and multiple twisting single somersaults!

Frome Town Council believe choosing to spend your time in a playful way is essential for everyone's health and wellbeing and are working with Children's Scrapstore to explore the town's playfulness. Choose Play is launching with a survey to learn just what play means to Frome by exploring how the local community



Made differently

means to Frome by exploring how the local community choose to enjoy their free time.

They want to challenge and encourage people to think differently about play so, however young or old you are, it would be great if you could take a few moments to complete the short survey and let them know - how do you play?