

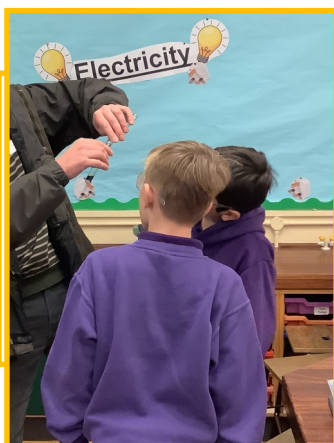
Thank you to all who came along to our Christmas Fair last week, it was a fabulously festive evening!

We must say a special thank you to the following local businesses who donated raffle prizes: The Little Flower Co, Meadowlodge Beauty Retreat, Frome Memorial Theatre, East Somerset Railway, Funways, Warminster, Haynes Motor Museum, Lilley's Cider as well as our wonderful stallholders and, of course, Santa Claus and his Elf! Clever Chefs provided much enjoyed festive food. We are pleased to say that we raised £920!

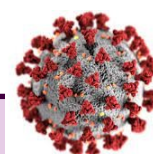


Christmas closing time

School will close for Christmas on Friday 17 December, at the earlier time of 12.45pm. School transport have been informed and will collect children at 12.45pm.



We were delighted to welcome Year 4 pupils to our first Taster Days this month. The children enjoyed trying out lessons including Science, French, DT and Forest Schools. We hope this gave them an insight into our lovely school and hope to welcome them into Year 5 next year.



COVID 19 Testing for Year 7 & 8

Parents and carers of pupils in Year 8 have been emailed a letter about COVID testing in January.

Following guidance from the DFE we will be staggering the return to school for all Year 7 & 8 pupils, they will be offered one Lateral Flow Test in school on Thursday 6 January prior to returning to school full time on Friday 7 January.

Please complete the consent form by clicking the link [Consent form](#), by **Tuesday 14 December** at the very latest. We will be unable to test your child without prior consent. The consent form will close at the end of that day.

To read the letter containing more information, click [here](#).

Year 5 & 6 pupils will return to school on Wednesday 5 January.

"Let your light shine before others" Matthew 5 v 19

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Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility - Selwood Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our children and we expect all members of staff, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment.

Selwood Pride Club's terminology of the week:

Each newsletter Selwood Pride Club will be exploring and explaining some of the terminology around the LGBT community to help parents and students better understand some of the terms they might hear.

What does LGBT mean?

LGBT is an acronym which stands for Lesbian (Women who love other women). Gay (Men who love other men). Bisexual (People who are attracted to more than one gender). Trans (People whose gender identity doesn't match the sex they were born with).



Literacy tip of the week:

5 rules for all basic sentences:

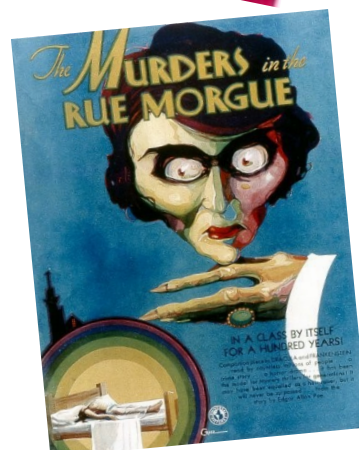
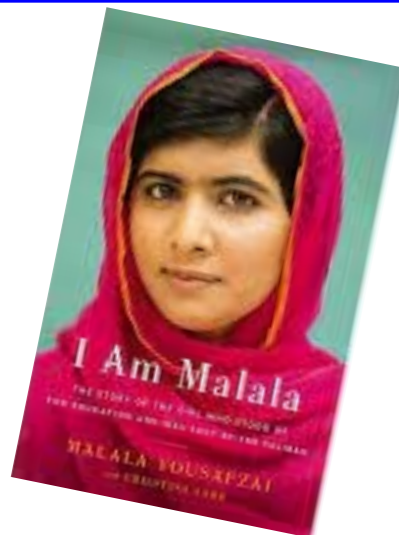
- All sentences need a subject (noun) and a verb.
- All verbs need to be in the correct tense.
- Must start with a capital.
- Must end with a full stop/exclamation mark/question mark.
- Must be in the right order and make sense.

English - What we are learning about:

Students in Years 5 and 6 are currently exploring autobiographical writing, looking at how to write an autobiography and reading key extracts from important figures like Roald Dahl and Malala.

Students in Year 7 are studying poems from other cultures and learning to write about author's methods.

Year 8 students are looking at 'The Murders In The Rue Morgue' or 'The Adventure of the Scarlet Band' and exploring the genre of 19th Century mystery writing.



Goodbye Emma!

We are saying goodbye to Emma, our wonderful Finance Manager! Emma has been with us since 2013 and is now starting out on an exciting new venture within a self-employment basis. Emma has supported the Academy in her capacity of Finance Manager effectively and efficiently throughout her time with us. She continuously drives improvements to systems and helps to streamline processes in line with the Academy Trust Handbook and supporting the Business functions of the Academy. Emma has also been committed to raising additional funds for the school, stepping up to the post of Chair of PTA when we were without volunteers, taking it upon herself to continue overseeing and organising numerous events for the Selwood Community. Emma will be greatly missed as not just a colleague but a friend to all too.



Diary Dates.....

Dec

10 Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day

17 End of term 2, school closes at 12.45pm

Jan

4 INSET DAY - School closed

5 Years 5 & 6 return to school

6 COVID testing for Years 7 & 8

7 Years 7 & 8 return to school

Christmas Card Winners

We were delighted to receive so many fantastic entries to our Christmas Card Competition. It was very difficult to decide the winners, but after much deliberation the following were chosen to have their designs made into cards to be used as the school's Christmas card:

Year 5 - Delilah P

Year 6 - Isla W

Year 7 - Charlie N

Year 8 - Ted N



Delilah



Isla



Ted



Charlie

The runners-up were:

Year 5 - Lily H

Year 6 - Hannah N

Year 7 - Rosario D

Year 8 - Tessa R

All winners and runners - up were presented with certificates by Mr Jeffries, Headteacher.



Selwood plants new trees in Frome

'Let your light shine before others' is the mission of Selwood Academy, a dedication to hard work, aspiration for all, success and care for others.

During Summer school 2021, Jamie Prouse, teacher at Selwood Academy, decided to work on the theme of the Japanese Olympics. As a mark of kindness and as a legacy to the community of Frome, he decided to buy four well-established Japanese Cherry trees and donate three to benefit the wider community of Frome for the benefit of all now and for years to come.

The trees remind Mr Prouse of a burning torch (when in full bloom), truly lighting up its environment and bringing joy to all who see it.

Each tree is named after one of our four key school values: Hope, Wisdom, Community and Joy.

Should you wish to see these beautiful trees in Frome, each has been planted in a location where their presence will hopefully bring pleasure and appreciation, in reflection of the value that the area holds within the community.

'Hope' is situated at Belmont Villa Care home, continuing and revitalising a cherished partnership between the care home and school that has existed for the past ten years.

'Wisdom' resides proudly in the grounds of Selwood and will act as a proud reminder of the beauty of growth and care in life for all those whose visit and journey through the school.



'Joy' can be found at Frome Community Hospital, providing a strong reminder of happiness and the value of each and every person. A symbol to welcome those arriving, and a pleasant reminder for those departing.

And finally, 'Community' can be found in the wonderful natural space of Victoria park, residing at the pinnacle of a magnificent triangle of cherry trees that will gradually grow together, bringing a spirit of togetherness and delight to all those who visit and spend time there.

This project was founded upon a strong desire to build relationships and in representation of the care that Selwood Academy has for our town. We strive to have meaningful and positive impacts on the people and wildlife that live here, not only now, but in a lasting legacy for the many generations of the future.

Mr Prouse, the visionary for this project worked in partnership with the town council, local rangers Mark and Dave, 'Wild about Trees,' Helen Viner, Melissa Book (Frome Hospital) & Sharon Welsh (Belmont Villas). We all hope that these four beautiful trees add real value to people's lives throughout the town and serve as a memory to mutual values, respect and care.

SATS support

Available now on our website. Click this link.

<https://selwood.somerset.sch.uk/curriculum/sats>



We are on FaceBook!
Please like our page for regular news and updates.

The Legacy Garden

The Year 5 Garden has had a makeover: Planted back in 2010 by Mr Prouse and his tutor group, the garden was purposely encouraged to be 'wild' and 'untamed,' a haven perfect for insects and birds. However, in the last few years it has been in need of attention (weeding) and love (tidying up). And, over the past few weeks, a transformation has occurred.



'The Legacy Garden.'

Mr Prouse completely redesigned and renamed the garden with funds from the 2021 Summer School, with a vision to improve the look and the variety of plant and wildlife in the garden.

A legacy garden involves learning about the past, growing for the future, and living in the present time, matching our school definition of Spirituality. It is hoped that many will see its beauty over the coming years.

'The Legacy Garden' has Viburnums, Verbenas, Geums, Daffodils, Alliums, Lavenders, Geraniums, Crocosia, Buddhlia, wild grasses and much more. We are in for a treat in Spring, however there are plants for every season, of every colour!



New wild area:

Beyond the path, a new 'wild' area has been planted and will be purposely left to its own devices. Hebes, Crocosia, daffodils, geraniums and many more bulbs.

We look forward to welcoming lots of nature back in the Spring and Summer months (birds, bees and butterflies), as well as seeing what pops up out of the ground & surprises us too.

Polite Notice Regarding Forest School

Now the weather is getting a lot colder (and wetter) it is very important children are coming into school with the correct equipment for Forest School.

Most important are a pair of wellies or spare shoes, and a warm coat. Other items are waterproofs, hats, scarves and gloves. A thick pair of socks would also be great for those frosty mornings - we had some very cold toes Monday morning, including mine!

We will be outside whatever the weather and its a shame to let the children's fun be ruined by being cold or worrying about getting school shoes dirty.

Thank you for your support. Miss Farley

