



Welcome Back!

We hope you all had a lovely Christmas with your children. It's great to see them back at school, full of energy and ready to learn. Thank you to all the parents and carers who ensure their children arrive at school on time and with all they need for the school day.

This term, Selwood welcomes Assistant Head Teacher, Andy Owen who will fulfil the role of Interim Deputy Head until Easter and continue in post until the end of the school year in the first instance.

It gives me great pleasure to introduce myself as a member of staff at Selwood Academy. I am very proud to have been appointed to such an important and responsible position and I am looking forward to working in partnership with you. Prior to my appointment, I was Lead teacher for Teaching and Learning at a PRU in Salisbury and previously an Assistant Head at Avon Valley College in Durrington, Wiltshire. There I was responsible for Teaching and Learning for 2 years and Behaviour and Standards for 4.

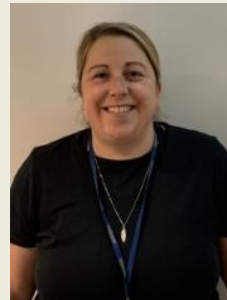


Through education, we have the gift of inspiring love of learning; creativity and the courage to make positive choices to build the future. I believe we need to put learning first and shape our teaching to bring out the best and most productive learning in the children. We need clear and consistent systems and measures so that we can report the progress and achieve strong outcomes through feedback and purposeful planning.

I believe that an excellent education will not only change your child's life, but it will also make our local community stronger. I believe that as education staff it is our duty to support our children and provide them with opportunities so that they can achieve the highest academic standards and develop their unique individual talents to the full. With a strong partnership between home and school, I believe that together, we can achieve this.

Please feel free to contact me if you require my support and hopefully when visiting restrictions are reduced it would be great to see you in school where I would welcome a distraction chat about the state of Welsh rugby! Thank you, Andy.

We also welcome two new teachers to our team, Kate Adegun who will be teaching Art and Technology, and Lucy Woodward who will be mainly teaching Humanities. We also have a new addition to our cleaning team, Maz Cheeseman who joined us just before Christmas. We look forward to working with them.



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

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Registered Company Number: 7814065

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.

Severe Weather Arrangements

With the weather forecast to get colder we need to remind you of the procedure for school closures.

- ★ A decision to close the school will be made at 7am
- ★ We will post a closure message on the front page of the website and our school Facebook page. This will be updated throughout the day
- ★ Parents will be contacted by text message
- ★ For information regarding school transport please see <https://www.travelsomerset.co.uk/transport-affected-by-bad-weather/>
- ★ Please listen to BBC Somerset Sound
- ★ Please **do not** ring the school for information unless absolutely necessary
- ★ It may be necessary to close the school early; please ensure care arrangements are in place. If pupils cannot be sent home safely they will remain in school until they can be collected
- ★ School transport will make a decision to either run at the usual time or not at all, this information will appear on our website



Y7and 8 Bookbuzz:

Students in Y7 and 8 took part in the Booktrust's *Bookbuzz* scheme this year, with each student receiving a free copy of a book. With a huge selection to choose from this year, from the gothic ghost story *The Haunting of Aveline Jones*, the historically inspired *D-Day Dog* and the exciting *Wonderscape* to non-fiction titles such as *Survival in Space: The Apollo 13 mission*, students were thrilled to receive their books and eager to get on with reading them.



Literacy tip of the week:

Sentence composition - Each sentence that we write must contain a **complete idea**.

A simple sentence has a **main clause** which means that it has at least *one subject* and *one verb*. This means that there is **one complete idea** before the end punctuation.

English - What we are learning about:

Students in Years 5 are looking at *The Firework Maker's Daughter* by Philip Pullman.

Year 6 are currently undertaking practice PiXL papers before moving on to *Windrush Child* by Benjamin Zephaniah

Students in Year 7 are exploring non-fiction texts, particularly focussed on advertising and the media.

Year 8 students are exploring poetry.

VACANCIES

We are currently looking for morning and afternoon Cleaners to join our friendly team at Selwood. Grade 17 - £9.24 per hour

Also Lunchtime Supervisors needed. Grade 16 - £9.43 per hour

For more details and an application form please contact us.

[Click here to email us](#) or telephone 01373 462798



Before Christmas we were very kindly donated a hamper by Tesco. This was raffled off amongst the staff and was won by Mrs Dredge! Many thanks to Tesco for their donation and to all staff who bought raffle tickets, we raised £108 for WHY.



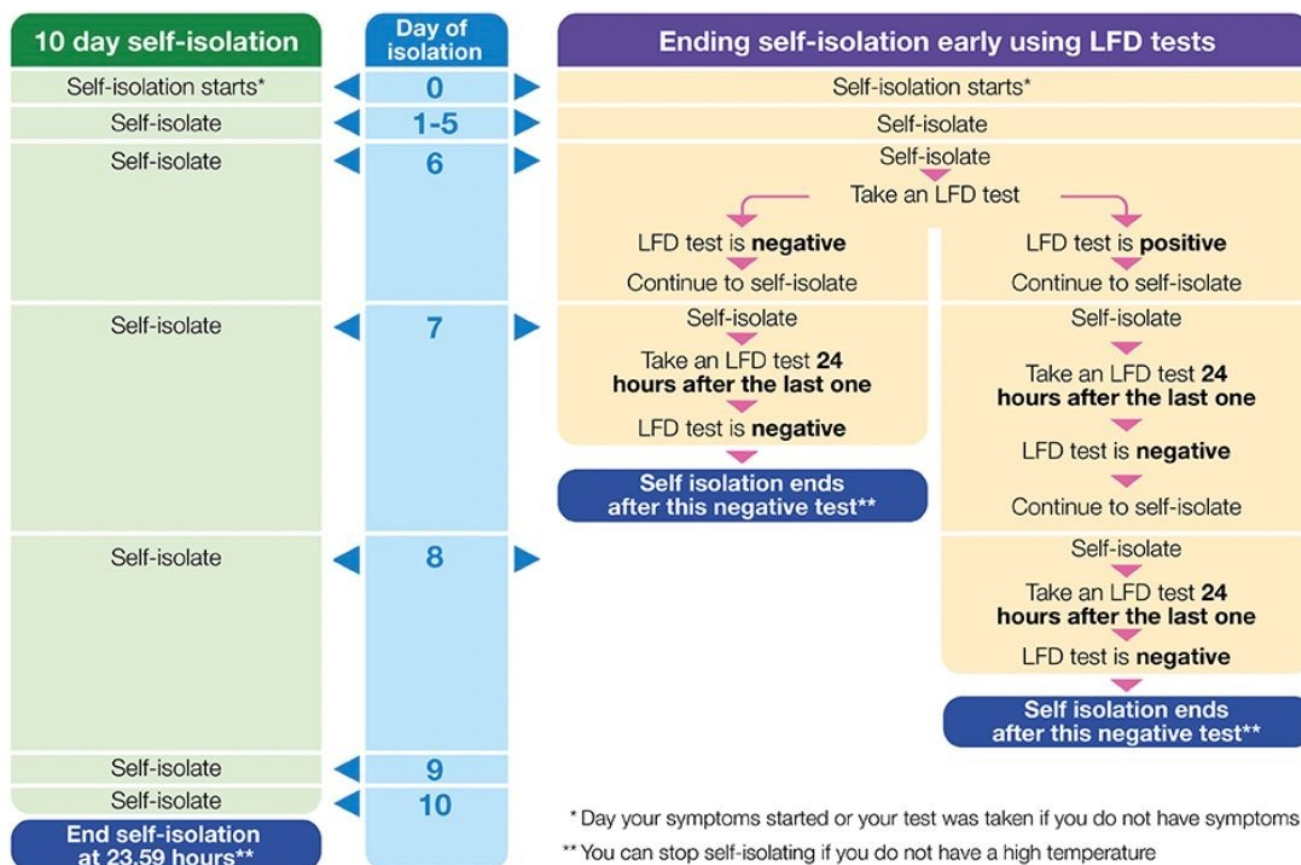
COVID Update

Thank you to all those parents who sent their children in for COVID testing or carried out the test at home. We will continue to hand out testing kits to Years 7 & 8 on a regular basis. We recommend that these are used twice a week on a Sunday and Wednesday.

As you will be aware guidance has been updated in relation to the wearing of masks in school and pupils in Year 7 and 8 are now once again recommended to wear face coverings in all communal areas including classrooms. I would strongly urge where possible for pupils to follow this guidance however, I would like to emphasise that there are a number of reasons where a pupil can be exempt from wearing a face mask including "where putting on, wearing or removing a face covering will cause you severe distress." Therefore we would also support any parent who requests that it was not appropriate for their child to wear a face mask for this reason and will be supportive to any pupil who finds wearing the mask challenging.

There has also been changes to the expectations in relation to the expected isolation period, which are best explained in the graphic below.

Examples of when to end self-isolation if you have had COVID-19 symptoms or have received a positive COVID-19 test result



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



Forest school - old wellies

Do you have old or spare wellies at home? Would you mind donating them to the school?

They would be really useful to us for when pupils forget to bring their own.

All sizes and colours welcome!

Please bring to school reception.

Many thanks.



Car Parking

Please can we ask that parents and carers do not drive into the school car park, we are extremely lucky to have the use of the Football Club car park for dropping off and picking up children. Please can you ensure that you are parked sensibly and not in the entrance or in such a way that obstructs a safe passageway for all. Thank you for helping to keep our pupils safe.

Diary Dates - please remember that the school calendar on our website is updated regularly.

[Please click here to view.](#)

Jan 17 - Year 5 & 8 Parents Evening

Letters have been sent this week. [Click here to view on our website.](#)

Jan 20 - Year 8 Options Evening at Frome College - Details to be confirmed

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 **Pansexual** mean?

Being **pansexual** means that your romantic attraction is not limited by gender, gender identity or biological sex – instead attraction is based on the personality of the person.



**Special
Stay and Play
Sessions**



Come along and play with our extensive range of toys, meet other families and access parenting support.

2nd February - Cheese and Grain, Frome (upstairs)

**9th February - MCA Hut (next to Christ Church School),
Feltham Lane, Frome**

23rd February - The Hub, Church Street, Coleford

2nd March - Cheese and Grain, Frome (upstairs)

9th March - Chilcompton Village Hall, Wells Road

All sessions are on Wednesdays from 1pm to 3pm

Suggested donation of £1 per child

Booking is essential. Contact Sarah on 07960 565939.



www.purpleelephant.org.uk

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FOR YOU. FOR LIFE.

Eat Lunch
With Us



AND GET A
CHANCE TO
WIN A BIKE

halfords



WIN A BIKE

EVERY LUNCH ORDERED GIVES
YOU AN EXTRA CHANCE OF
WINNING THIS FANTASTIC PRIZE

Delicious Dinners & Perfect Prizes

EVERY STUDENT THAT EATS A SCHOOL LUNCH
WILL BE ENTERED IN TO OUR PRIZE DRAW.

Every time your child eats with us they will be
automatically entered into our competition with the
chance to win a brand new bike and safety
accessories with a value upto £500

WINNERS TO BE ANNOUNCED ON OUR
WEBSITE 31ST JULY 2022

WWW.CLEVERCHEFS.CO.UK





Healthy Minds. Healthy Lives

GOOD FOOD
Real Chefs
Great Vibes

CLEVERCHEFS.
THE GREAT VIBES RESTAURANT

September 2022							October 2022							November 2022						
M			5	12	19	26	M		3	10	17	24	31	M			7	14	21	28
Tu			6	13	20	27	Tu		4	11	18	25		Tu		1	8	15	22	29
W			7	14	21	28	W		5	12	19	26		W		2	9	16	23	30
Th		1	8	15	22	29	Th		6	13	20	27		Th		3	10	17	24	
F		2	9	16	23	30	F		7	14	21	28		F		4	11	18	25	
Sa		3	10	17	24		Sa	1	8	15	22	29		Sa		5	12	19	26	
Su		4	11	18	25		Su	2	9	16	23	30		Su		6	13	20	27	
December 2022							January 2023							February 2023						
M			5	12	19	26	M		2	9	16	23	30	M			6	13	20	27
Tu			6	13	20	27	Tu		3	10	17	24	31	Tu			7	14	21	28
W			7	14	21	28	W		4	11	18	25		W		1	8	15	22	
Th		1	8	15	22	29	Th		5	12	19	26		Th		2	9	16	23	
F		2	9	16	23	30	F		6	13	20	27		F		3	10	17	24	
Sa		3	10	17	24	31	Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa		4	11	18	25	
Su		4	11	18	25		Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su		5	12	19	26	
March 2023							April 2023							May 2023						
M			6	13	20	27	M			3	10	17	24	M		1	8	15	22	29
Tu			7	14	21	28	Tu			4	11	18	25	Tu		2	9	16	23	30
W		1	8	15	22	29	W			5	12	19	26	W		3	10	17	24	31
Th		2	9	16	23	30	Th			6	13	20	27	Th		4	11	18	25	
F		3	10	17	24	31	F			7	14	21	28	F		5	12	19	26	
Sa		4	11	18	25		Sa		1	8	15	22	29	Sa		6	13	20	27	
Su		5	12	19	26		Su		2	9	16	23	30	Su		7	14	21	28	
June 2023							July 2023							August 2023						
M			5	12	19	26	M		3	10	17	24	31	M			7	14	21	28
Tu			6	13	20	27	Tu		4	11	18	25		Tu		1	8	15	22	29
W			7	14	21	28	W		5	12	19	26		W		2	9	16	23	30
Th		1	8	15	22	29	Th		6	13	20	27		Th		3	10	17	24	31
F		2	9	16	23	30	F		7	14	21	28		F		4	11	18	25	
Sa		3	10	17	24		Sa	1	8	15	22	29		Sa		5	12	19	26	
Su		4	11	18	25		Su	2	9	16	23	30		Su		6	13	20	27	

Key:

	School Holiday
	Bank Holiday
	Term Time
	Inset Days

Term dates summary:

Term 1: 01 September – 21 October 2022 (37 days)
Term 2: 31 October – 16 December 2022 (35 days)
Term 3: 03 January – 10 February 2023 (29 days)
Term 4: 20 February – 31 March 2023 (30 days)
Term 5: 17 April – 26 May 2023 (29 days)
Term 6: 05 June – 21 July 2023 (35 days) **TOTAL = 195**

Bank and public holidays 2022/23

Christmas Day Bank Holiday	27 December 2022*	Easter Monday	10 April 2023
Boxing Day Bank Holiday	26 December 2022	May Day Bank Holiday	01 May 2023
New Year's Day Holiday	02 January 2023*	Spring Bank Holiday	29 May 2023
Good Friday	07 April 2023	Summer Bank Holiday	28 August 2023

*Replacement Bank Holiday day when the Bank Holiday falls on a weekend

Academy, Free Schools, Foundation & Voluntary Aided schools can set their own term dates and may differ from ours. Please check with the individual schools for their term dates.