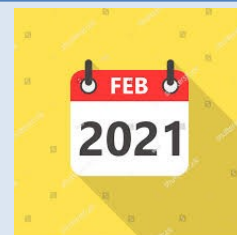


February half-term - 15 - 19 February

Along with all schools, Selwood will close as usual over February half-term, so will not be open to vulnerable children and the children of critical workers during that week. We will however, continue to provide vouchers for those pupils entitled to Free School Meals. These will be sent to you by email.



Year 8

It was lovely to see so many parents and carers take part in the Year 8 Virtual Subject Consultations this week. If you have not yet registered your child's option choices for Frome College, please click this link. <https://www.fromecollege.org/join-us/year-8-options-registration>. This must be completed by **Monday 8 February 2021, 4pm.**

In **May 2021** student options will be confirmed following an interview with their new Head of House. If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Year 6 Virtual Parents Evenings will be held on 8 & 9 February. More information about these has been sent to parents. The letter is also on our website, click [here](#) to read.

Rapid Asymptomatic Testing

After much planning, preparation and training, Selwood successfully opened its 'Covid Testing Hub' last week. In our attempt to help reduce the spread of coronavirus we have introduced weekly testing of staff members. The Lateral Flow Device tests assist with identifying positive cases in people who are asymptomatic, in order for them to isolate at the earliest point.

Whilst we have started the process with staff, it is our intention to offer a test to KS3 (Year 7 & 8) keyworker and vulnerable children also upon their return after half term which will consist of a course of two tests 3-5 days apart only. Please look out for further information and consent forms next week (tests will not be administered to anyone without informed consent).

We wish to thank members of the Business Team who have stepped up to take this additional responsibility on and ensured that a smooth process is in place to keep all safe. We would also like to thank our volunteers who are working hard going through necessary checks and training and will hopefully join us in the Hub very soon.



Home Learning

We are so impressed with the level of engagement with Google Classroom and the commitment our young people are showing to their studies at home. We recognise the significant efforts that teachers, parents and carers are putting in to support them with this. The number of pupils engaging daily with Google Classroom has grown exponentially! Our sincere thanks to you all for your continued support and encouragement.

There have been some big successes and some small bumps along the road as we have all learnt and developed our use of this fantastic platform. Together, we continue to evolve our approach in support of your children.

- At the start of each day, pupils should 'register' by completing a short form in their new 'year group' classroom. This should appear at the top of the Stream and only take a few seconds. This is very important as this helps us understand when children are accessing the platform and be able to offer support when it is required.
- After completing this, each child should check the classrooms for the lessons they have on that day. In

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

Head Teacher : Mr Daniel Jeffries BA(Hons) MA NPQH
Selwood Academy, Berkley Road, Frome, Somerset, BA11 2EF

Telephone: 01373 462798 Email: SelwoodAcademy@educ.somerset.gov.uk Web: www.selwood.somerset.sch.uk
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.

here, children can find activities that have been published for the lesson and If a live lesson has been scheduled, a link to this is shared on the 'Stream' in the classroom and will typically happen at the time the lesson would normally take place in school.

If you have any queries related to Google Classroom, you should email: gctechhelp@selwood-academy.co.uk

Keyworker pupils

We would like to thank all parents and carers of keyworker children for their ongoing support in providing clear evidence of their status. Due to the number of requests and current level of provision being offered we will have to continue to review the provision available. However at the current time there is no change for families who currently have a place at school during lockdown.

For any further requests for a place in school moving forward we will require a letter from your employer confirming your keyworker status. It would be helpful if this was on headed paper and stated days and times you are required to attend work. This will help us understand your circumstances fully and establish whether we are able to support based on the current level of demand.

Whilst understanding the difficulties of home schooling and working from home we want to do everything we can to limit the number of children attending school in an attempt first and foremost to keep our community safe. We will have to give priority to children where both parents are keyworkers and **cannot** work from home in any capacity. Please remember that current guidance for all parents including critical workers is that they "should keep their children at home if they can."



School lunches

Please could we remind parents and carers of pupils who are currently attending school that we do not have any catering facilities on site during this time. Please ensure that your child brings their lunch and snack with them each day.

Many thanks.

Communications from Selwood

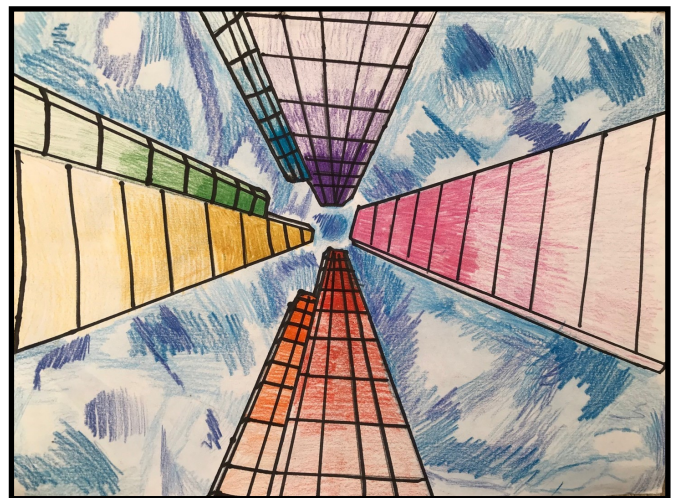
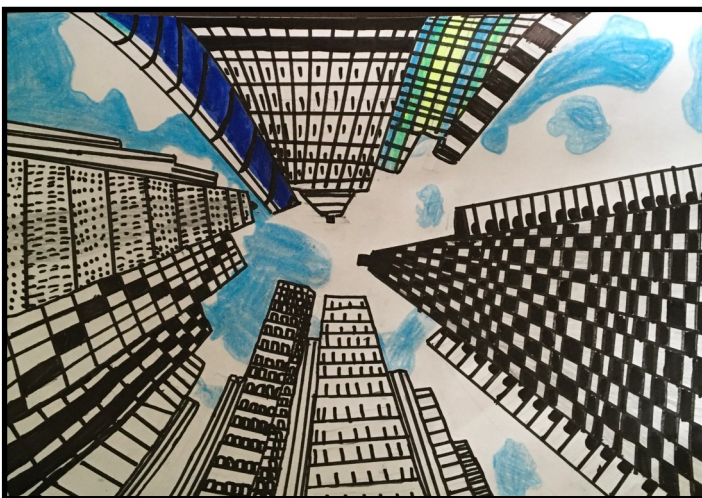
You will receive a letter in the next few days explaining how we communicate with parents and carers. This newsletter should have come to you by email from Selwood Academy. If it did not please contact us so that we can ensure we have your correct details. The letter can be read on our website or by clicking this link.

<https://www.selwood.somerset.sch.uk/parents/letters>



WOW wall

Year 5 have been producing some fantastic work on sky scrapers. Here are 2 great examples from Sophia and Kitty. To see more, go to the WOW page on our website or click [here](#).



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