SELWOOD ACADEMY NEWSLETTER



Friday 12th January 2024 | Issue No. 7 2023/24

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DATES FOR THE DIARY

15th Jan - Year 5 coffee morning -

11.15am-12pm

17th Jan - Year 5 Paris trip info

evening - 5pm-6pm

25th Jan - Year 5 & 8 subject parents

evening - 3.30pm-7pm

31st Jan - Year 6 coffee morning -

11.15am-12pm

6th Feb - SEND coffee morning -

11.15am-12pm

8th Feb - Year 6 parents evening -

online - 3.30pm-7pm

Welcome back to Term 3! We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year break!

We're excited to see you all back and can't wait to get started on a new term of learning and fun! We have lots of exciting dates for the diary this term, so keep your eyes peeled!

We are excited to announce we are now on Instagram!

Please follow us for good news and important updates on: @selwoodacademyfrome

Important

Social Media platforms are not monitored for queries, we therefore ask that any school queries are emailed to

Selwood.academy@selwood-academy.co.uk or that you phone Reception.

If you would like to know more about what your child is learning, please visit our curriculum page.

Please also visit our <u>homework page</u> for helpful videos on how to access Bedrock, Sparx Maths and Google classroom!

Please fill out the google form if you wish to attend our Year 5 coffee morning

https://forms.gle/cDAVifxQGjac3na88

Did you get a new phone for Christmas? Please remember to let us have your number.

It is vital that we keep up to date contact information for all our pupils, so if any of your details have changed, please let us know. Many thanks.

A MESSAGE FROM THE



HEADTEACHER

"I know there hasn't been a great deal of news since our bid was initially submitted, so thought now was an opportune time to update everybody. Since our submission we have been keeping an eye on upcoming advisory board agendas and following several months of unfortunately not yet featuring on the newsletter we contacted the Department for Education regional team and asked for clarity and an update, particularly as there has been a great deal of change in the local education set up with additional schools joining Multi Academy Trusts and a number of OFSTED inspections taking place. The DfE have asked us to confirm we would still wish our proposal to be discussed in light of the changes locally. This is something that we will confirm, following the overwhelmingly positive response we received to our consultation and the desire of our community to have increased secondary education choice in Frome, including the support of the Local Authority, Diocese and Methodists. Furthermore we are mindful of the statistics that 1100 school aged children live in Frome but are not educated within the system and that this is most prevalent, as children grow older with one in three pupils in year 11 that live in Frome are not education at a school in the town. This level of travel and time commitment have a huge financial burden on parents, as well as a negative impact on the environment."

"In preparation for discussion at advisory board and in order to enable me to accurately and robustly represent the desires of our community I will be sending out a questionnaire early next week in order to further gauge community feeling but also as direct evidence and opinions to present at any preparatory meetings. This questionnaire will be slightly different for differing year groups as the effect of the proposal on each group is slightly different. Please also see the slightly updated frequently asked questions following the original consultation."

Question	Response
Classrooms building/site	The current site can house 870 pupils in line with all regulations. In preparation for key stage 4 additional development and refurbishment of the current buildings would be
size/green spaces/infrastructure	undertaken, all internally funded in ensure the highest quality experience for all pupils. There is no plans for any loss of green space or immediate plans for additional buildings.
Staffing of KS4 subjects	81% of current staff at Selwood are secondary trained with high levels of KS4 experience. Over the next 3 years additional training and updates will be provided for staff and
	recruitment will be focused as required. Current staffing would allow a full KS4 offer taught by specialist teachers.
Curriculum at KS4	Selwood Academy would offer the full national curriculum at key stage 4, with a strong focus on the Arts and The English Baccauleatte. This would include a minimum of, but would
	not be limited to; English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Statistics, Synergy Science, Trilogy Science, History, Geography, RE, Computer Science, French, German, Law, PE,
	Design and Technology, Cooking, Art, Music and Drama.
How will the school manage KS2	KS2 provision would take place in the specialist KS2 block with a separate break and lunch time. Selwood is a nurturing caring environment in which all pupils light may shine and this
pupils on the same site as KS4	would not change. We have the highest expectations for all our pupils to work hard, be kind, do our best and accept nothing less and this would be the case for children of all ages.
pupils	Nationally there are many successful all through provisions which manage an age range from 4-19, which is an age range of 15 years. A traditional secondary school runs from 11-19
	which is a gap of 8 years. This proposal would see pupils from 9-16 together which is a gap of 7 years and we believe would work most effectively within the current system
All secondary provision would be	All provision for years 9-13 is already on one side of the town. This therefore would not alter with this proposal. This distance from Selwood to the schools on the other side of town is
on one side of the town	1.8 miles which is manageable for pupils of that age as is demonstrated already. There are number of secondary provisions in neighbouring areas that are all located nearby to one
	another eg Trowbridge, Chippenham and Salisbury. This is very successful and allows for effective collaboration, shared resources and curriculum offer.
Would children from other	We would offer multiple entry points and would certainly allow pupils from other schools to join at these points, in line with school spaces and local need. We would also include rural
schools be able to join Selwood?	schools admissions criteria to ensure that those living in villages outside of town were not disadvantaged.
Can't we just be a two-tier	This proposal works within the current three tier structure; however Selwood will continue to work alongside the LA and colleagues in the areas in developing and implementing the
system?	vision for Frome.
Wouldn't it be better if all the	
schools found a solution	
together?	
Where do the pupils go in year 5	There is a surplus of places in year 5 in the area. This is due to 5 providers in this area; Selwood, Oakfield, St Louis, Avanti and Leigh on Mendip. Selwood has agreed with the Local
if Selwood reduce their PAN?	authority if this was to change and more spaces be required then they would increase their intake.
What leadership experience does	Our current headteacher has experience of leading several secondary schools.
Selwood have in KS4?	At Wyvern college he moved attendance up 6%, PA down 25%, Eng and Math 4+ up 25% reduced exclusions from 700 to less than 50 days, with no PEX's. Progress also moved from
	the bottom 10% nationally to top 20%, including an P8 for disadvantaged learners of +0.9. This was recognised nationally and as result he was guest speaker at the SSAT national
	conference, and PiXL main meeting to over 3000 school leaders.
	At St Edmunds in 2019 following exceptional outcomes across the board the school was awarded the SSAT award for educational outcomes.
	We are a member of the local authority thriving schools groups as part of the somerset secondary group. We provided school improvement support for 5 secondary schools last
	academic year, a total of 13 secondary schools across the last 3 years.
	Three additional members of the current SLT have a wide range of experience as senior leaders across multiple secondary schools. The current staff also includes 12 members of staff
	with middle leadership experience in secondary schools.
What will you do if other schools	We will continue to work with local schools and ensure we fit within the system. If the system changed to 2 tier we would change to fit with this.
move towards a two model?	
How will you ensure that travel	The admissions change would include rural admissions criteria which will ensure those in local villages will be able to attend Selwood should this be their choice and therefore not
costs for the LA are not increased	increase costs to the local authority.
as a result of this change	

SIAMS UPDATE AND VACANICIES



As part of our commitment to continually develop our school and to ensure the provision we provide is the very best it can possibly be, we organise numerous audits over the year, and as part of this cycle, we recently had a mock SIAMS Inspection. We are very pleased to announce that the day was a huge success. A sample of the strengths highlighted by the inspector are listed below:

- Our school vision is incredibly strong and embedded through all aspects of school life
 - The well-being of our pupils and staff is at the heart of all our decisions and all members of our community flourish during their time at Selwood
- Our collective worship provision is inspirational, age-appropriate and meets the needs of all our pupils
 - The R and P curriculum is engaging, well sequenced, purposeful and all pupils make good progress.

Our school creates a culture of justice and responsibility for our pupils and our pupils have the belief to make a difference and change the world.

The day ran as a normal SIAMS inspection would, the 'Inspector' spoke with parents, pupils and staff and we would like to extend our thanks to all those involved. Our successful inspection reminds us of how proud we all should be, being part of the Selwood Community.

Lunchtime Supervisors required

Term time only Monday – Friday Working 1 hour 10 mins per day.

Grade 16 (£11.59 per hour)

We require reliable and well-motivated people to join our existing team of Lunchtime Supervisors to start as soon as possible. Applicants should enjoy working with young people. Duties include supervision both inside and outside the buildings across the whole site. The key role is to maintain a calm atmosphere. Please see our website or contact the school for more details and an application form.

GOOD NEWS

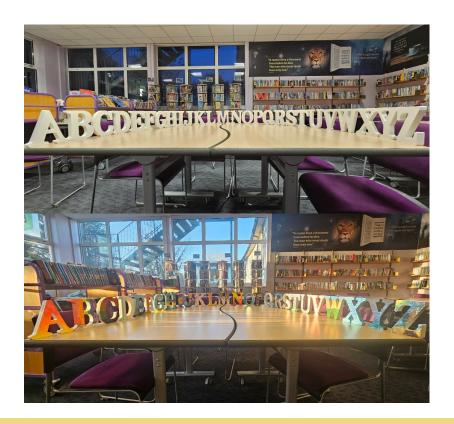






Alexa in Year 6 received her Blue Peter reading badge (designed by Quentin Blake!) just before Christmas. She wrote 400 words about her favourite books and drew a picture of one of her favourite characters.

Well done Alexa!



A number of pupils designed and painted these beautiful wooden A to Z letters to help them find books more easily in alphabetical order. We can't wait to see these varnished and displayed in our library!

SUBJECT NEWS





- Year 5 We have come back into new maths sets this term and have been continuing to look at multiplication and division including multiples, factors and prime numbers
- Year 6 We are continuing to look at fractions including multiplying and dividing them by whole numbers and by other fractions
- Year 7 We are completing our block on multiplication and division where we will be looking at formal methods as well as how to use them to calculate the area of triangles and trapezia.

Parent Challenge Question:

Write +, -, \times or \div to complete the calculation.







Our Year 8 Drama students are currently embarking on a magical journey through the tales of Arabian Nights, and we're in urgent need of your help! To make their performances truly enchanting, we're on the lookout for colourful cushions, vibrant rugs, and large pieces of material that can transport our students to the heart of the desert. If you have any of these items lying around your home, we would be eternally grateful if you could donate them to our cause!

SPORTS NEWS



Our Taekwondo club started in September and the pupils are doing really well.

The club is run by TIGER martial arts and has the following philosophy



The pupils have now passed their uniform licence and have taken part in their first grading. They are doing really well and developing some good skills.

Well done to all of them!

If your child is interested in joining the club. Tiger are offering a Month Free!

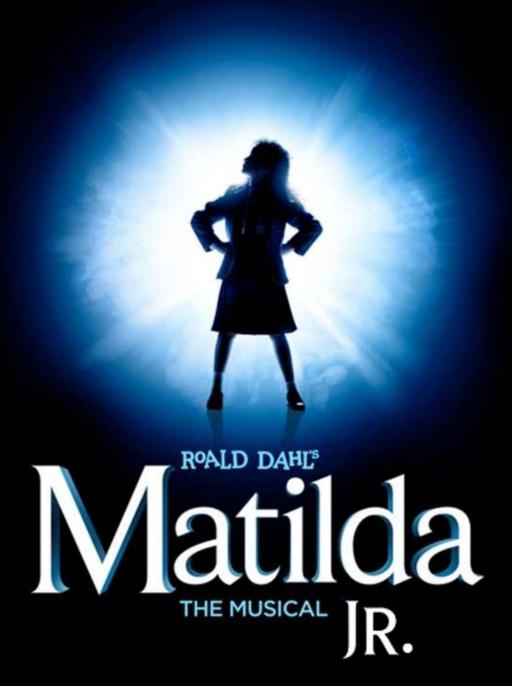
It's on Mondays, starting Monday 8th January and continue at that location going forward 5:30-6:15pm in the school hall. Please sign up on their website www.tigermartialarts.club/monthfree



The PE department would like to say thank you and well done to all the students who have committed and dedicated their time to Netball club. We are arranging a trip to see Team Bath Netball on Friday 15th March v Saracens Mavericks at the Team Bath Arena. We have a number of fixtures this term against local Schools, wish all the netball teams good luck.



SELWOOD ACADEMY PRESENTS



20th-23rd March 2024 the Merlin Theatre

FROME FIREBALLS FROME BASKETBALL CLUB



U12S

SCHOOL YEARS 3-7

STARTING ON TUESDAY 9TH JANUARY AT 4.30-5.30PM 5.30-6.30PM FROM 16TH JANUARY **ONLY £6 PER SESSION**



DATES JANUARY 9TH - 26TH MARCH EXCLUDING 23RD JAN & 6TH FEB

A COMMUNITY CLUB PROVIDING BASKETBALL IN FROME!

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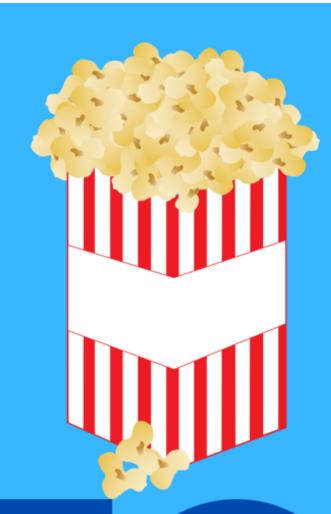
FIND US

FROME SPORT AND FITNESS, PRINCESS ANNE RD, FROME, BA11 2SA



Win a ViewSonic MI Portable Cinema!

Tickets available at our Coffee Mornings and at the School Production. Dates will be emailed.



Get a chance to win this amazing prize while helping our school raise funds for our upcoming projects.

Raffle tickets £2.50 each



ANGLICAN/METHODIST FOUNDATION SCHOOL

What Children & Young People Need to Know about

Everyone in the UK has the right of "freedom of expression". That's the right to voice your opinions and share information and ideas with others. It's not the right to say whatever you want without regard for others' feelings and values. We all have a responsibility to use this right properly: being respectful and inclusive to those around us, rather than making offensive and threatening remarks. That's called 'hate speech' and knowing the difference is incredibly important.

Free speech is a person's legal right to share information, opinions and Ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship or legal consequences.
This freedom of expression is recognised in international human rights
legislation, and here's what it does for us in our day-to-day lives....

The Human Rights Act 1988 states that everyone has the right to express themselves freely - even if their views are unpopular and might offend others.

Freedom of expression encourages listening to others and allowing opposing views to be heard. It's important to respect someone's opinion, even if we disagree with it. Free speech lets us engage in meaningful discussions with people who feel differently.

Any concept could potentially offend someone. Galileo's theories were incredibly offensive to many at the time, while not everyone agrees with Darwin, even today A frequent exchange of ideas is vitally important for a healthy society.

> Free speech allows us to engage people we disagree with in a debate. The ability to challenge others' views is healthy while having ours challenged helps us learn how to deal with criticism and think deeply about what we say and believe.

Freedom of expression includes the right not to do something, like not standing up for – or singing – the national anthem. Even though some people would find that offensive, it isn't illegal. By law, nobody can force you to say anything you don't want to.

> Free speech is a powerful tool for change justice and reform. Many modern UK rights – such as women being allowed to vote, decent working conditions or same-sex marriage - couldn't have been achieved

Meet Our Expert

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/NationalOnlineSafety



♂ @national_online_safety

Hate speech refers to any communication – like talking, texting or posting online — that negatively targets a group or an individual because they are perceived to be different in same way. Demonising and dehumanising statements, threats, identity-based insults, offensive name-calling and slurs would all count as hate speech. Here are some common forms it takes...

> Targeting people or groups because of a protected characteristic – like race, gender identity, sexuality, nationality, religion or a disability – and verbally abusing them with slurs and name-calling. The Equality Act 2010 has more information on this.

Content that dehumanises people based on the same characteristics: referring to them as if they were animals, objects or other non-human entities, for example. Separating the target from other human beings is usually an attempt to justify the speaker's bigotry

> Calling for violence or hatred against certain people or groups and justifying and glorifying those actions. Suggesting that a certain group should be removed from society could be seen as a call to arms, for example – potentially putting people from that group in danger

TO THE REAL PROPERTY. Claiming that specific types of people are physically, mentally or morally inferior (or even that they are criminals) to encourage others to view them in the same way. This kind of thinking is always incorrect – but can be incredibly harmful to the group in question.

> Spreading damaging misinformation about a person or group that the speaker views as "different" – essentially, trying to turn others against them by lying. Someone might claim that a recent tragedy is the fault of this entire group, when this is simply not possible.

National NOS Online Safety #WakeUpWednesday

Promoting the segregation of certain groups, or discrimination against them, because of who they are. This has been illegal in the UK

for a long time – but some people still try to promote the exclusion of others, which

can cause a huge amount of distress.



Expand your knowledge and awareness of autism and neurodiversity.

In each session you will learn about a different aspect of autism, including the key differences between the brains of neurotypical and autistic individuals, how autism affects executive functioning skills and how autism and anxiety are linked.

What do I need to know?

- For beginners and more experienced learners alike.
- ✓ Zoom access required.
- *Please see our website for eligibility information.

Understanding Autism - Starter: Wednesday 10th – 24th January 2024 10:00am – 1:00pm | 3 Sessions

Understanding Autism: Sensory Sensitivity, Stimming and Masking: Wednesday 21st February – 6th March | 10:00am – 1:00pm | 3 Sessions

Call Somerset Skills & Learning for more information / book online

0330 332 7997 sslcourses.co.uk

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