

# SELWOOD ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Friday 26th January 2024 | Issue No. 8 2023/24



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## DATES FOR THE DIARY

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

21st Feb - Year 7 Black country  
museum trip

21st Feb - Year 5 Paris information  
evening

## Appointments

If your child has an upcoming appointment that requires them to come in later or be picked up early, please be sure to inform the attendance team in advance on the following email address:

[selwood.attendance@selwood-academy.co.uk](mailto:selwood.attendance@selwood-academy.co.uk)

## Forgotten Items

Please can parents and carers ensure that their child has all they need for the school day when they come to school each morning.

With Selwood being a large and busy site, we cannot guarantee that we will get forgotten items and messages to children throughout the day, especially when after 12.30pm.

Thank you for your support with this.

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

Please also visit our [homework page](#) for helpful videos on how to access Bedrock, Sparx Maths and Google classroom!

**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.

# ACHIEVEMENTS



We are extremely proud of Georgie B in Year 6 who held a fundraising coffee morning for the British Hen Welfare Trust outside of school. She was hoping to raise £100 but exceeded her target and raised £370! The coffee morning was all Georgie's idea and as well as raising money she used it as an opportunity to educate others about the charity. Well done Georgie, what a fantastic achievement!



# SUBJECT NEWS

## English

**Year 5** - This term, Year 5 are embarking on a journey with a one-eared rabbit called Podkin as they begin their study of Kieran Larwood's 'The Adventures of Podkin One Ear'. They will be focusing on how stories are created and structured, as well as how interesting characters can be created.

**Year 6** - This term Year 6 have been immersed in different myths and legends from around the world. They began by looking at dragon myths, then the myth of Stonehenge and will soon be looking at creating an imaginative piece filled with their own impossible creatures. The focus has been on how writer's use language, and using inference and deduction in their reading.

**Year 7** - Have begun studying 'Can You See Me?' by Libby Scott - written by an author with Autism and based partly on her own experiences. Students are refining their understanding of story structure and Freytag's pyramid of writing. As well as examining and exploring how complex characters are created.

**Year 8** - Having finished their Sherlock Holmes study, students are now studying Shakespeare's The Tempest and learning all about how to structure a well-written essay. They are also exploring issues of Colonialism and gender in their study.

**A reminder that, as part of school equipment, all students should have a current reading book in their bag. Students can access the school library at break or lunch if they need to update their books.**



Year 5 had a magical time at Harry Potter Studios! They even got to try their hand at Quidditch! Here's some of our pupils trying to catch the golden snitch!



# SUBJECT NEWS



On Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January we took 8 of our year 6 pupils to Strode College to compete in the ESFA Large Schools County tournament. Selwood went undefeated in their 5 group stage matches which saw them qualify for a place in the semi-finals. Selwood won the match on penalties and progressed to the final where they would go on to lose narrowly. We would like to say a big well done our pupils for this fantastic achievement, and we are incredibly proud that Selwood Academy are up there with the best footballing schools in the County!



Term focus across the school in drama is Style and Staging.

Year 5 are looking at a traditional theatre with the stage at the front of the auditorium. Their work is based on the poem, *The Highwayman*, by Alfred Noyes

Year 7 are looking at 'in the round' staging where the audience is sat around the stage. Their work is based on the play *'Invisible Friends'* by Alan Ayckbourn.



# SMARTPHONE SAFETY TIPS

## for young people

7

You may have been lucky enough to have unwrapped a smartphone at Christmas, or you might be eagerly anticipating getting a new one at some point during this year. Whether it'll be your first ever phone or an upgrade on your old model, it's always useful to have a refresher about how to set it up and adjust the settings to keep yourself – and your valuable personal info – safe and secure. We've collected some expert tips to help you enjoy your smartphone in the healthiest way possible.

### NEVER SHARE YOUR PASSCODE

Alongside face or fingerprint recognition, your passcode is crucial to unlocking your phone and accessing your apps and personal information. You shouldn't give it out, even to close friends – after all, you wouldn't hand them a key to your house and let them go in for a nosy around! If a friend wants to use your phone, ask them why and make sure you can see what they're doing with it.

### RESPECT PARENTAL CONTROLS

If you're allowed to have a smartphone, it's because your parents or carers feel that you're mature and responsible enough to use it safely. They might set controls and boundaries on your device – not to spoil your fun but to help you avoid hazards like too much screen time or costly in-app purchases. Following these rules means you can enjoy using your phone while respecting their wishes.

### TALK TO A TRUSTED ADULT

Whether it's to listen to music, play games, create content or chat with friends, using a smartphone should be fun. If you're ever feeling anxious, worried or scared about going on your phone, then something isn't right. It's important not to ignore these feelings; instead, talk to a trusted adult about what's happening and how it's making you feel.

### STAY ALERT

Two words: look up. It might sound obvious, but it's so easy to get immersed in what we're looking at or listening to on our phones that we can become unaware of our surroundings – or who might be around us. People often walk with their head down, focusing on their phone, and forget to check for obstacles in their path, cars or other pedestrians coming towards them, which is clearly dangerous.

### DEVELOP HEALTHY HABITS

Phones offer a vast amount of content and the chance to chat with friends whenever we feel like it, which can make it difficult to take time away from the screen. If that's something you struggle with, you could try setting time limits on certain apps. Putting our phones down for a while gives us more time to interact with others or do something physical that helps keep us fit and healthy.

### IGNORE UNKNOWN NUMBERS

There are some scammers who might call or text asking you to share personal data or to click on a link and provide your details. Some may claim to be from a genuine company, but trustworthy businesses don't spontaneously call or message to ask for your information. It's safest to ignore calls or texts from unknown numbers, and never give your personal details out over the phone.

### ONLY USE AGE-APPROPRIATE APPS

Before downloading a new app or game, check what age rating it has. Don't feel pressured into getting a particular game or app just because your friends are using it. If it's intended for older people, there's a definite risk that it could include content (which is violent or frightening, for instance) or language which isn't suitable and may leave you feeling upset or disturbed.

### REMOVE TEMPTATION

A good night's sleep is so important for concentration, mood and overall health. Unwinding properly before going to bed – which means not staring at a screen late at night – can often improve sleep quality. Put your phone on charge overnight, but not in your room. This means you'll have a lot less temptation to check any notifications, reply to messages or get caught up scrolling on social media.

### THINK ABOUT OTHERS

Watching videos, listening to music or calling someone can all help to pass the time while we're on the bus, waiting in a queue or walking down the street. It's important to remain mindful of other people, though: they might not want to hear your tunes or your conversation. Likewise, if you're calling from a public place then don't forget that anyone could overhear something personal about you.

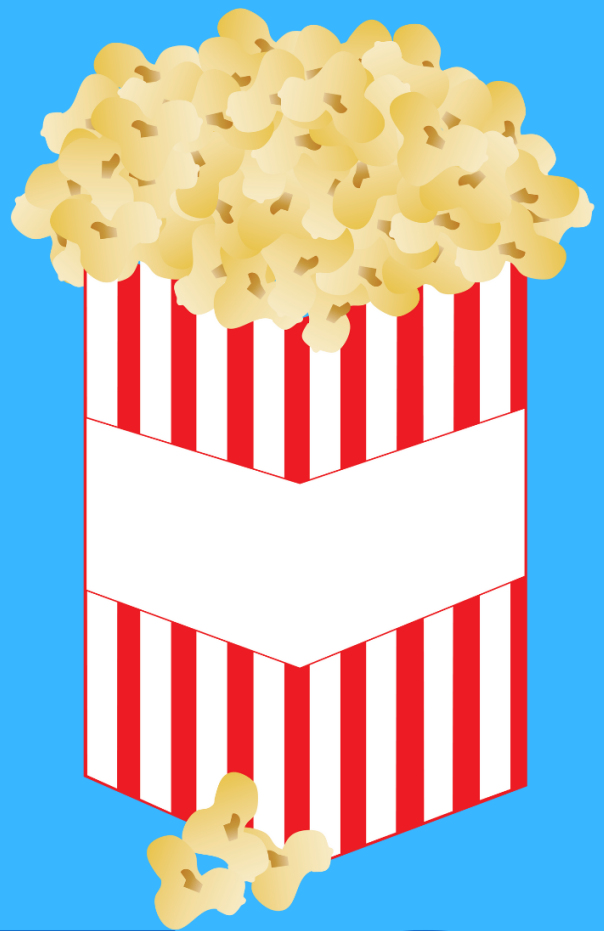
### SWITCH OFF GEOLOCATION

In your phone's settings, you'll be able to disable geolocation for individual apps and photos: this means that people online (including strangers) can't see information about where you are when you share or post a pic. On the subject of images, it's also important to ask permission before taking or sharing a photo of someone – and don't share embarrassing images of your friends with others.



# 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**



**SELWOOD ACADEMY**  
ANGLICAN/METHODIST FOUNDATION SCHOOL

**\*\*Join our Lunchtime Supervisor team and make a difference!\*\***

We're looking for kind, caring, and calm individuals to join our existing supportive team of Lunchtime Supervisors. If you have a passion for helping children and want to make a positive impact in their lives, this could be the perfect opportunity for you.

As a Lunchtime Supervisor, you'll be responsible for supervising pupils during their lunch break, ensuring their safety and well-being.

This is a part-time position, working 1 hour and 10 minutes a day during term time. It's a great way to earn some extra money while making a difference in the lives of children.

**\*\*If you're interested in joining our team, please contact us today!\*\***

[Selwoodacademy@selwood-academy.co.uk](mailto:Selwoodacademy@selwood-academy.co.uk)

We look forward to hearing from you! 😊



**SELWOOD ACADEMY**  
ANGLICAN/METHODIST FOUNDATION SCHOOL



# FAMILY HOLIDAY



**Activities in Frome for families in need of support.**

<b>Saturday 10th February</b>	10am to 12pm	<b>Play and Take Away day - booking not required</b>	Frome Library, Justice Lane Frome BA11 1BE
<b>Tuesday 13th February</b>	10am to 1pm	<b>Family cookery - make a tasty, healthy meal to eat together</b>	Trinity Church Hall, Trinity Street, Frome BA11 3DN
<b>Thursday 15th February*</b>	10am to 1pm	<b>Window Wanderland workshop - make a fabulous picture for display in your window</b>	Football Club, Berkley Road, Frome BA11 2EH
<b>Friday 16th February*</b>	1pm to 4pm	<b>Fun Science workshop - chemical reactions, slime, popping text tubes and more!</b>	The Key Centre, Feltham Lane, Frome BA11 5AJ

**Suggested donation of £2 per child**

**\*Free Fair Frome hot meal served one hour before end of session!**

**BOOKING ESSENTIAL - contact [rebeccaharrison@purpleelephant.org.uk](mailto:rebeccaharrison@purpleelephant.org.uk) to book a place or ask your school or support worker to refer you**

**Adults to accompany and remain responsible for their children at all times.**



**Family support workers available at all sessions.**

**[www.PurpleElephant.org.uk](http://www.PurpleElephant.org.uk)**





# YOUNG PEOPLE'S WELLBEING DROP-IN



AN INFORMAL DROP-IN SPACE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO HAVE A  
CUPPA AND A CHAT WITH AN EXPERIENCED COUNSELLOR

13-19 YEAR OLDS  
THURSDAYS 3-5PM  
THE GOOD HEART

7 PALMER STREET, FROME

LED BY FOCUS FROME



# FROME WINDOW WANDER LAND

A FUN FESTIVAL ANYONE CAN DO

LET'S CREATE A MAGICAL OUTDOOR GALLERY • COMMUNITY SPARKLE



GET OUTDOORS, SEE THE LIGHTS • DECORATE YOUR WINDOWS

1ST- 4TH MARCH 2024  
FROME



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