

SELWOOD ACADEMY NEWSLETTER



DIARY DATES

May

6th & 8th - Year 7 Black Country Museum Visit

6th to 9th - SATs Revision Week

14th - Battlefields Info Evening - 5pm Main Hall

19th & 20th - Year 6 Portsmouth Trip

21st & 22nd - Year 8 Wells Trip

6th May 2025 - Issue 13

IN THIS EDITION

- School News
- Subject News
- Recent Events
- Careers
- Useful info

REMINDERS

ITEMS DROPPED OFF BY PARENTS

As Selwood is a large and busy site, if forgotten items are dropped off during the school day, we may not be able to deliver items directly to your child. A message will be sent to their tutor for them to collect the item, but please note that your child may not receive the message until PM registration. Therefore, please check what time your child requires the item for. Thank you for your understanding and support.

AFTER SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS

We kindly remind all parents and carers that all after school arrangements must be made prior to the start of the school day. Except in the case of emergencies, we are unable to pass on messages regarding changes to after school plans during the school day.

Thank you for your understanding.

THANK YOU

Thank you Wainwright Aggregates who kindly donated their time, staff & machinery to sweep our play courts, bus loop and car park over the Easter break

PAYMENT DEADLINES

- Year 8 Thorpe Park - **16th May**
- Year 6 Mendip Camp - **23rd May**
- Leavers Prom Tickets - **23rd May**
- Ski Trip 2026 - (2nd Deposit) **23rd May**

SCHOOL NEWS

Updated Medication Policy

Polite reminder regarding our updated medication policy. A letter was sent in April regarding an important change to our medication policy. We can no longer accept new medication plans to administer non-prescription medication to pupils, such as paracetamol or cough syrups. If your child currently has a non-prescription medication plan in place, it will remain valid until the end of the school year in July 2025. Any pupils that require medication to be administered from September will need to have a new medication plan completed. Our handover of medication procedures and required forms remain unchanged and can be found on the following link:

Selwood Academy Medication Policy

All medication must be in its original packaging, as dispensed by the pharmacist, and include instructions for administration, dosage, and storage. A Medication Plan (short term under 1 month or long term over 1 month) must be completed by a parent/carer and handed in alongside the medication. The Academy cannot administer medication without written information and signed permission in place. **Medication can only be administered by Academy staff between 10:45am and 2:30pm during the school day.** Parent/Carers are advised to spread doses of medication (e.g. antibiotics) across the day to account for this and manage medication at home where possible. The Academy does not offer an 'as and when' provision of medicines, as we are not in a position to diagnose a child's needs. However, we are committed to working closely with parents and carers to determine an agreed process in individual cases or to facilitate a space for you to administer the medication yourself. It remains the responsibility of parents/carers to provide the correct documents required for the Academy to administer medication. The necessary forms are available on the Academy website and at reception for convenience. If parents/carers wish to complete the forms on site, we advise that plenty of time is given to do so, as our staff team is available to offer support if needed. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding of these procedures and your support in safeguarding all concerned.

SUBJECT NEWS

Year 8 Light Drawings

During recent Design Technology lessons, Year 8 pupils have been exploring the fascinating world of light drawings. Pupils then had the opportunity to design and produce their own creative light drawings using a range of tools and techniques. Pupils created their own drawings that were then laser engraved! What an exciting project!



Author Visit - Year 5 & 6

We were delighted to welcome Ash Bond to Selwood again on 3rd April. Ash has published her new book 'Peregrine Quinn and the Mask of Chaos', and spoke to the children about what inspired her, and her career as an author.



SELWOOD ACADEMY, BERKLEY ROAD, FROME, BA11 2EF 01373 462798

[HTTPS://SELWOOD.SOMERSET.SCH.UK/](https://selwood.somerset.sch.uk/)

CLICK TO FOLLOW OUR SOCIAL MEDIA: [FACEBOOK](#) & [INSTAGRAM](#)

RECENT EVENTS

Travelling Books – Book Fair

Travelling Books book fair visited Selwood recently and we are so thrilled with how many pupils visited and enjoyed the book fair!



Thank you to everyone that supported the fair! We hope you enjoy your new books!

Black Swan Arts Young Open 2025

Selwood were very proud to have many pupils' work displayed during the Black Swan Young Open 2025 Exhibition. Our very own Skye won the Young Open 2025 Exhibition for 8-11 year olds. His prize is working with an artist to create his own artwork in their studio. Well done Skye!



Well done to all our pupils who showcased their work!

SELWOOD ACADEMY, BERKLEY ROAD, FROME, BA11 2EF 01373 462798

[HTTPS://SELWOOD.SOMERSET.SCH.UK/](https://selwood.somerset.sch.uk/)

CLICK TO FOLLOW OUR SOCIAL MEDIA: [FACEBOOK](#) & [INSTAGRAM](#)

CAREERS DAY 2025

Our 2025 Careers Day will be happening on Thursday 19th June 2025! This is a fantastic opportunity for your company to showcase your brand, meet future candidates, and build relationships with our pupils and staff. We're looking for businesses from all industries to participate, so whether you're in tech, finance, healthcare, or anything in between, we'd love to hear from you!



YOU'RE INVITED TO SELWOOD ACADEMY CAREERS DAY 2025

Thursday 19 June

BE A PART OF INSPIRING OUR PUPILS FUTURE CAREERS

After several successful years of running our careers day, we are now seeking more individuals & companies to join us with the hopes of broadening the range of professions represented at the event.

If you are interested in finding out more or taking part please get in contact, we would love to hear from you!

ANDY ELLETT

ASSISTANT HEAD TEACHER AND CAREERS LEAD
ANDY.ELLETT@SELWOOD-ACADEMY.CO.UK

NIA PRESLEY

ASSISTANT BUSINESS MANAGER
NIA.PRESLEY@SELWOOD-ACADEMY.CO.UK



Pre loved Uniform Sales

NEW DATES!

- FRI 16 MAY, 3-3.30PM IN RECEPTION
- FRI 23 MAY, YEAR 5 COFFEE MORNING
- FRI 6 JUN, SEND COFFEE MORNING
- MON 30 JUN, INDUCTION EVENING (FROM 6PM)

CASH ONLY
PLEASE



SELWOOD ACADEMY
ANGLICAN/METHODIST FOUNDATION SCHOOL

ULTIMATE Slip n Slide

OPENING IN MAY

BOOK NOW

FOLLOW US @ultimateslipnslide

**Frome Selwood Bowls Club
presents...**

Bowls Buddies

**A fun and friendly way to play
bowls - beginners' sessions!**
Wear flat soled shoes / old trainers

Every Saturday 10-11am
From 03rd May to end of August
£1 - includes drink and snack
Bowls Green next to Tennis Courts
For 11-18 years (Year 7 upwards)
who must be accompanied by an adult

More info: chris.barker@fromeselwoodbowlsclub.org



FrOme
TOWN COUNCIL

Made differently



We are a friendly and welcoming support group for families of children with additional needs. We offer monthly meet ups offering support and advice

2025 Dates

May 9th 9am

June 13th 9am

July 11th 9am

Sept 12th 9am

Oct 10th 9am

Nov 14th 9am

@Cordero
Lounge

Come along for a cuppa, make new friends and share experiences.

We look forward to welcoming you.

Email - fromeautism.adhdparentforum@gmail.com

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MAKING FRIENDS ONLINE

In today's digital world, it's increasingly common for children to form friendships with people they've never met in person. While online connections can offer children a sense of belonging, they also carry significant risks. Around 19% of children aged 10 to 15 in England and Wales have chatted online with someone they've never met face to face. This guide offers expert advice for parents and educators on helping children navigate online friendships safely.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONLINE GROOMING THREATS

Predators can use games, chat apps or social media platforms to build relationships with children and gain their trust. This may quickly develop into grooming or exploitation. Between April 2017 and March 2023, UK police recorded nearly 34,000 online grooming offences – an 82% increase in just five years.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Children may encounter distressing or explicit material while interacting with online contacts – especially via TikTok, Instagram or Snapchat. This is evidenced in a survey by the Children's Commissioner for England, which found that 45% of children aged 8 to 17 had seen content online that made them feel uncomfortable, worried or upset.

PRIVACY AND DATA RISKS

Children and young people often overshare personal details – such as where they live or go to school – without understanding the consequences. In fact, 4.4% of 10 to 15-year-olds in the UK have met up in real life with someone they'd only spoken to online.

COMPROMISED PERSONAL SAFETY

Meeting an online 'friend' in real life risks placing a child in serious danger. From abduction to coercion, the consequences can be devastating. Reports of children being harmed after such meetings are becoming increasingly common in the UK, highlighting the need for safeguarding intervention.

PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS

Online harm – such as cyberbullying, grooming or exposure to disturbing content – can lead to long-term emotional issues, including anxiety, depression and PTSD. 'Sextortion' gangs, who threaten to release sexual information about a person unless they pay them money, have reportedly targeted children as young as 11, leaving them traumatised and ashamed.

LONG-TERM REPERCUSSIONS

Children exposed to harmful online relationships early on may develop unhealthy beliefs about relationships, consent, or self-worth. In a recent case, a 26-year-old posed as a girl on Snapchat to befriend children aged 10 to 16, manipulating them into sexual activity and causing profound emotional distress. One 12-year-old tragically died by suicide, highlighting the long-term psychological harm online friendships with strangers can cause.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TEACH SAFE ONLINE HABITS

Help children understand how to use privacy settings, protect their personal information, spot fake profiles, and report anything suspicious or concerning, like pressure tactics. Encourage them to think critically about what they share – and whom they're talking to.

KEEP CONVERSATIONS OPEN

Let children know they can talk to you about their online life. Avoid reacting with anger or judgement, as this may prevent them from opening up in the future. A child who feels listened to is more likely to disclose problems before they escalate.

ENCOURAGE REAL-WORLD CONNECTIONS

Support children in building friendships through school, clubs, hobbies and activities in the real world. Strong offline relationships help reduce children's reliance on online platforms for social interaction, and can help them develop resilience and social confidence.

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Parental control settings on devices, games and apps can help manage screen time, filter out inappropriate content, and monitor activity. While no system is perfect, they provide a valuable layer of protection as children explore digital spaces.

Meet Our Expert

Gabriella Russo is a safeguarding consultant with over 30 years' experience in supporting children, families, and adults across education, local authority, and mental health settings – both in the UK (including at Parliamentary level) and internationally.



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SAFETY ON THE ROAD

Traffic-related incidents are a significant risk for young pedestrians and cyclists, so understanding road safety is crucial for children's wellbeing. While all road users share responsibility for keeping one another safe, this guide offers strategies for empowering young people to navigate the roads confidently and responsibly.

1 TAKE PRACTICE JOURNEYS

Making 'practice' journeys with children is a great way to help them stay safe, thereby modelling responsible behaviours and having road safety conversations as they prepare to travel independently. Add hazard perception activities like spotting electric vehicles – which may have a green number plate – and point out how quiet they are. Children learn by watching others; remind them that their peers might not always be the best role models.

2 BE BRIGHT, BE SEEN

Visibility is lower during darker winter days, and drivers need to take extra care to look out for pedestrians. Wearing bright and reflective clothing can help make children more visible to drivers near roads. In poor daylight conditions, encourage children to wear light, bright or fluorescent clothing. When it's dark, wear reflective clothing or materials such as a reflective armband or jacket.

3 EYES UP

Encourage children to look up and keep their eyes on the road. Teach them to constantly watch for traffic and practise double-checking the road before crossing – looking right, left and then right again.

4 LIMIT DISTRACTIONS

Where possible, devices like phones should be kept away from children while out and about near roads. If they're carrying devices, these should be put away until they've reached their destination. Children must also avoid playing with toys or being distracted by friends. If a friend wants to show them something funny on their phone, there'll be time for that once they've safely arrived.

5 SLOW DOWN

Discuss the importance of waiting instead of crossing immediately. It can be tricky to judge the speed of traffic and spot obstacles that could cause a trip or a fall. For safety, children must stop and think before they get to the kerb and should always walk – not run – when crossing the road. They should avoid crossing until they're certain they have plenty of time. Even if traffic seems a long way off, it could still be approaching very quickly.

6 STOP BEFORE THE KERB

Teach children to stop before reaching the kerb – not right at the edge of it. Halting before they get to the kerb allows them to see if anything's coming, whereas getting too close to traffic is dangerous. If there's no pavement, children should stand back from the road edge to ensure they can still see approaching vehicles.

7 CROSS SAFELY

Children should always find a safe place to cross the road, prioritising zebra crossings, footbridges and subways. Find a place where they can see traffic coming from both directions. Avoid crossing near junctions, bends in the road, or obstacles that block their view. Instead moving to somewhere they can see and be seen. Remind them to use their eyes and ears together when checking the road, as sometimes they can hear traffic before they can see it. Looking and listening while crossing helps them quickly spot traffic, including cyclists and motorcyclists driving between other vehicles.

8 PARKED VEHICLES

Crossing between parked vehicles is very dangerous. Teach children to use extra caution if crossing in this way, and, ideally, avoid it altogether. They should use the outside edge of a vehicle as if it were the kerb, waiting and checking for traffic before moving. They should ensure vehicles aren't about to move, by looking for drivers in the vehicles and listening for engines running – but remember that electric vehicles may move off silently. They should always make sure there is a gap between any parked vehicles on the other side, so they can reach the pavement.

9 REVERSING VEHICLES

Children must never cross behind a reversing vehicle – it's extremely dangerous. Remind them to look for white reversing lights and listen out for warning sounds. Can they hear the engine sound or a radio playing inside the vehicle?

10 WAIT FOR THE BUS TO LEAVE

When getting off a bus, children must wait for it to leave before crossing so they can have a clear view of the road in both directions. This also allows them to see and be seen by other road users. Crossing near large vehicles is particularly dangerous and should be avoided.

Meet Our Expert

THINK! is a year-round national campaign that aims to encourage safe road behaviours – whether we're driving, cycling, horse riding or walking – with the aim of reducing the number of people killed and injured on the UK's roads each year. Find out more at: <https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/>

