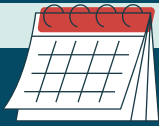


SELWOOD ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

14th February 2025 Issue 9



DIARY DATES

FEBRUARY 2025

24th - Start of Term 4 -
Week 2

24th & 28th - Year 5 Church
Visit

25th & 26th - Spring Inter-
form

27th - Year 7 Parents
Evening - Online

MARCH 2025

5th - Battlefields
Information Evening - 5pm

6th - World Book Day

IN THIS EDITION

- Sports News
- Subject News
- Recent Events
- Sponsored Swim
- Easter Bingo
- Wizard of Oz
- Useful info

REMINDERS

END OF TERM 3

The last day of term will be Friday 14th February. Term 4 will begin on **Monday 24th February** and we will return on **WEEK 2**

YEAR 8 LEAVERS CELEBRATIONS 2025

The Year 8 Leavers celebration preparations are in full swing! Please see the links below to register interest in the Leavers Prom and to order Leavers Hoodies.

Celebration Prom - Expression of interest

To be completed by **28th February 2025**
<https://forms.gle/ra5NosZXc6iAHzKj9>

Leavers Hoodies - Order form

To be completed by **21st February 2025** and
payment due by **14th March 2025**
<https://forms.gle/FMQnzHWdoDY1vqjw7>

FORGOTTEN ITEMS

Please ensure that your 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.

PAYMENT DEADLINES

- Black Country Museum -
14th March
- Year 6 Portsmouth Historic
Dockyards Trip - **28th March**
- School Production Cast
Contribution - **29th March**



SPORTS NEWS

Year 6 girls County Finals

On Thursday 16th January, our Year 6 girls' football team competed in the County Finals after qualifying by winning the Area Finals in November. They faced some tough competition, but their hard work and dedication were showcased throughout. It was an exciting day for everyone involved, and the team should be incredibly proud of how they represented the school. Well done, girls!



Year 7 boys vs Oakfield

On Wednesday 29th January, two of our Year 7 boys' football teams played against two teams from Oakfield. Both of the Selwood teams came out on top, winning their respective matches in impressive fashion. The boys displayed fantastic teamwork, skill, and determination throughout the games. It was a brilliant display of football, and both teams should be incredibly proud of their performances. Well done to all the players!



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](#)

SPORTS NEWS

Year 8 Netball Team

Massive congratulations to the Year 8 Netball team for placing 3rd in the U13 B Netball Tournament at Millfield on Wednesday 29th January 2025. The girls played some exceptional netball winning 3 games against Millfield Prep School, Gillingham and Blundells. They drew 1 game against Redmaids, losing 2 games against Wells and Taunton.



Selwood was placed 3rd overall which is a fantastic result and showing off their new Netball kit too. Well, done to all our netballers who work hard in training each week and in club netball too.

Player of the matches - Delilah, Ava, Amelia, Meredith and Jasmin.

Spring Inter-form

We are excited to announce Selwood's Spring Inter-form event for 2025 will take place on the 25th & 26th February.

Year 5 Tuesday 25th February, Lessons 3 & 4

Year 6 Wednesday 26th February, Lessons 3 & 4

Year 7 Tuesday 25th February, Lessons 1 & 2

Year 8 Wednesday 26th February, Lessons 1 & 2

On the above dates, your child will be representing their tutor group in either a football, basketball or dance competition. On the relevant day, pupils will need to attend school in PE kit, including warm layers, coats and 3G boots, long football socks and shin pads (for football). Pupils should also bring a water bottle and personal medication (i.e. asthma pump) if required.

Jewellery is not permitted to be worn during PE activities, can you please make sure earrings are removed on this day.

We look forward to updating you all in the next edition!

SUBJECT NEWS

Author Visit - Year 7 & 8

On **Tuesday 18th March**, we are thrilled to be hosting an event for Year 7 and 8 with young adult author Monique Turner. Monique will talk about her new nail-biting teen thriller that explores the negatives and positives of internet culture and influencers. The talk will take place during the school day for pupils in Year 7 and 8 and there will be an opportunity for questions and book signings as part of the event. Copies of *Island of Influencers* will be also be available to buy at the specially discounted rate of £7.99 for Selwood pupils thanks to Winstone's Hunting Raven bookshop.

Island of Influencers:

Harper wants to be an influencer. Badly. She'll do anything to be like her famous Tubeify-star cousin, Belle. When Belle is the latest victim in a string of influencer kidnappings, Harper discovers the kidnappings are fake – 'victims' are put on an island for a new reality show. *Island of Influencers* pits the greatest internet talents against each other, and Harper is added at the last minute. With the constant pressure of a live audience judging their every move, it's not long before cracks begin to appear in the influencers' shiny veneers ...



Author Visit - Whole School

Ash Bond, author of *Peregrine Quinn and The Cosmic Realm* will be back on **April 3rd** to celebrate the launch of the second *Peregrine Quinn* adventure, *Peregrine Quinn and the Mask Of Chaos*, and the release of the first book in paperback. More details to come soon. **A Games. A thief. A mechanical lioness. It's just another week in the Cosmic Realm!** The city of Cosmopolis is buzzing with excitement. The Cosmic Games are fast approaching, and eight champions are about to compete for a magical golden apple and a lifetime of glory. It's the event of a generation! But behind the scenes tensions within Olympus Inc. are running high as they struggle to hide signs of a rebellion, and the fact that a mysterious figure is trying to sabotage the Games. Who are they, and what do they want?

SUBJECT NEWS

Topics for next term in English

The focus for the term will be on: Novels - Setting

Year 5 will be continuing their reading of 'Podkin One Ear', switching their focus from exploring characters to exploring the setting of the story.

Year 6 will be continuing 'Windrush Child' and exploring the change in setting from Jamaica to England.

Year 7 will be completing their novel study of 'Can You See Me?' written by the fantastic Libby Scott and focusing on Tally, an autistic year 7 student who is starting at a new school.

Year 8, having completed their study of 'Sherlock Holmes' will now be focussing on George Orwell's 'Animal Farm'.

Suggested reads - Years 5 & 6

For each term, we will be curating a special list of recommended reads for both KS2 & KS3. We are also working with Hunting Raven books to make these recommended reads available as part of a specially discounted bundle - more details coming soon.

Year 5 and 6:

'Peregrine Quinn and The Cosmic Realm' by Ash Bond Peregrine Quinn has always loved hearing her godfather Daedalus Bloom's stories about his life as an immortal, but that's all they were - stories.

'Jamie' by L D Lapinski Jamie Rambeau is a happy 11-year-old non-binary kid who likes nothing better than hanging out with their two best friends Daisy and Ash. But when the trio find out that in Year 7 they will be separated into one school for boys and another for girls, their friendship suddenly seems at risk.

'Bringing Back Kay-Kay' by Dev Kothari When Lena's beloved older brother goes missing at the end of summer camp, the bottom drops out of Lena's world. The police dismiss Kay-Kay's disappearance as that of just another teenage runaway, but Lena knows they are wrong.

SUBJECT NEWS

Suggested reads - Years 7 & 8

Year 7 and 8:

'Keedie' by Elle McNicoll As Keedie and her twin Nina approach their fourteenth birthday, they seem to only be growing further apart. Keedie instead feels drawn to, and fiercely protective of, their quiet younger sister Addie – who on the surface is the opposite of loud and fiery Keedie, but in fact they have more in common than anyone knows.

'Murder at Wintertide' by Fleur Hitchcock George and his family are celebrating Christmas by the sea. But when a body washes up on the beach, George can't stop thinking about the strange lights he saw on the cliff top...

'The Fights That Make Us' by Sarah Hagger-Holt - perfect to celebrate LGBT+ history month Jesse has recently come out as non-binary, and is struggling to find their place at school, and ideas for their project on lost stories from history. Thirty-five years earlier, Jesse's cousin Lisa is falling for her best friend, but with new laws being introduced to restrict LGBT people's rights, they'll have to fight for the world to accept who they are.

World Book Day - 6th March 2025

Thursday 6th March 2025 is World Book Day. Selwood will once again be dressing up as popular book characters to celebrate the event. Pupils are encouraged to model the outfits of their favourite characters and bring along the book that their character is taken from.

Look out for other World Book Week themed activities throughout the week.



RECENT EVENTS

Selwood celebrates E-Safety Day

At Selwood, we are committed to keeping our pupils safe online. On E-Safety Day, February 11th, we marked the occasion with a special assembly during tutor time, reinforcing the importance of responsible internet use. Pupils will also take part in an engaging e-safety lesson during their weekly computing class, exploring key topics such as online privacy, digital footprints, and staying safe on social media. By equipping our pupils with essential e-safety knowledge, we empower them to navigate the online world with confidence and care.



Ava is Number 1

On the 9th February, Ava competed at the South West Qualifiers in DMT (double mini tramp). Ava was absolutely amazing and she placed 1st in the 13-14 age group.

What an absolutely incredible achievement and sending huge congratulations to Ava. Everyone is so proud of you!



SPONSORED SWIM

On 16th March 2025, Selwood Academy will proudly enter two teams in the Lions Sponsored Swim. One team consists of six dedicated pupils, while the other is made up of six passionate staff members. Together, we are swimming not just for fun, but to support two vital causes that impact our community deeply.



Fifty percent of the funds raised will go directly to Selwood Academy, helping us enhance our educational programs and resources. The other fifty percent will support Frome Birth Talk, a charity that provides essential services and support for families in our area during one of the most important times in their lives.

Your support can make a real difference! By donating through JustGiving, you are contributing to these meaningful initiatives in a simple, fast, and secure way. Your details are safe with JustGiving; they prioritize your privacy and will never sell your information or send unwanted emails.

SPONSORED SWIM EVENT



Please see the link below to visit our JustGiving page and thank you for considering supporting this cause. Together, we can create positive change in our community.

[DONATE HERE](#)

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](#)

EASTER BINGO



Our Annual Easter Bingo will be held at the school on **Friday 21st March 2025** from **6pm**. Be sure to save the date and spread the word to your family and friends – it's going to be a fun filled evening for everyone to enjoy! Any donations of Easter Eggs, vouchers, and items for hampers would be greatly appreciated. All proceeds will go towards supporting projects that benefit our pupils in our school. We hope to see you there!



EASTER BINGO!

FOR ALL THE FAMILY!

FRIDAY 21 MARCH
6PM

**SELWOOD ACADEMY
BERKLEY ROAD
FROME BA11 2EF**

WIZARD OF OZ

TICKET WARNING! With under 120 tickets left and some performances already sold out, make sure you get your tickets by clicking on the link below!

[BOOK TICKETS HERE](#)

Selwood Academy presents

THE WIZARD of OZ

By L. Frank Baum
With Music and Lyrics by
Harold Arlen and E. Y. Harburg
Background Music by
Herbert Stothart
Dance and Vocal Arrangements
by Peter Howard
Orchestration by Larry Wilcox
Adapted by John Kane
for the Royal Shakespeare Company
Based upon the Classic Motion
Picture owned by Turner
Entertainment Co. and distributed in
all media by Warner Bros.

YOUTH EDITION

26th - 29th March 2025

The Merlin Theatre

Frome

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SCAMS AND FAKE NEWS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

"Fake news" refers to falsified or misleading material presented as a legitimate account of events. It's often used by malicious actors online to push an agenda, or even by criminals as a way of making scams more persuasive. Scammers can trick us into handing over personal information, security details and even our hard-earned cash.

"CLICKBAIT" PHISHING SCAMS

A message arrives saying "Have you seen this video of yourself?" or you might be sent an attention-grabbing headline about a celebrity that's been shared on social media. This kind of "bait" is produced by scammers to drive us to click on an unsafe link, where malware could be downloaded to our devices. These scams rely on our curiosity and our "need-to-know" instinct.

SALES, DEALS & DISCOUNTS

Some scams appear as adverts, offering a chance to buy something – such as designer products, expensive gadgets or tickets to a popular show – at a reduced price. Such plays often include a time limit or countdown, urging us to hurry so we don't miss out on the deal. This pressure encourages us to input personal details or payment information before pausing to check if it's legitimate.

YOU'RE A WINNER!

This kind of scam involves fake giveaways, opportunities or freebies. It could be a message saying we've won a prize draw or competition. Or it could be a gift, free trial, bonus credit, and suchlike. It might claim that a package or refund is waiting. All these techniques are used to prompt us to share our personal information, thinking that there's something to be gained by doing so.

FALSE FRIENDSHIPS

Scammers often pretend to be someone they're not to gain their victims' trust. They might attempt to convince any children they connect with that they're a child of similar age with shared interests. Warning signs include a high volume of messages (often with an intense tone), secrecy, inappropriate levels of intimacy, guilt tripping, emotional manipulation, threats or blackmail.

PANIC MODE

To trigger a sense of panic, scammers may claim that a child's account has been hacked, or a virus has been installed on their device, or any number of other scary scenarios. They may claim to be able to fix the problem or offer a solution – if the child hands over control of the device or sensitive information. Similar scams involve impersonating a friend or relative, claiming that they're in trouble and need help.

FAKE CELEBRITY ENDORSEMENTS

Impersonating influential people online is a common tactic for scammers, who can use technology to create fake photos, audio and even videos that look authentic. These can be used to convince us, for example, to buy products, sign up for so-called "business opportunities" or invest in cryptocurrency schemes – all of which are fake or otherwise malicious. Many scams also involve the impersonation of popular companies' social media accounts, as well as those of individuals.

Advice for Parents & Educators

STAY INFORMED

Stay up to date with the latest information and best practice on cyber-security. See what scam stories are reported in the news and make note of what tactics were used. Keep up with young people's digital lives: talk about what they're doing online and use properly endorsed resources to learn what risks certain sites and apps pose to their younger users.

ENCOURAGE HEALTHY SCEPTICISM

Most scams rely on emotional or psychological manipulation, tapping into our human instincts – whether that's to keep ourselves safe, help others, find answers, make friends, avoid losing out or to secure something we really want. Encourage children to recognise that pressure to act and to always consult with an adult – especially if what's on offer sounds too good to be true.

TALK TOGETHER

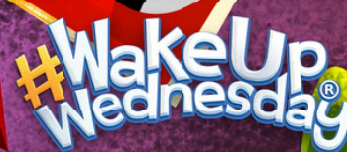
Chat often and openly with young people about fake news, online scams and how they both work. Encourage them to talk to you about anything they're unsure of or worried about online. If a child claims to have been scammed, don't pass judgement. Blaming the victim may deter young people from asking you for help. Remember: adults are scammed just as often, if not more.

BE PROACTIVE

Children increasingly use digital devices for education, socialising, shopping and play. Don't wait for a problem to arise before you discuss the risk of scams, false information and fake news. Highlight what to look out for and clearly communicate under what circumstances the child ought to speak to an adult. Finally, ensure that they're aware of the support services that are available to them (such as Childline).

Meet Our Expert

Dr Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading expert in digital safety, media law and young people. Her PhD investigates children's understandings of risk online. She works with schools, businesses, and universities to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal and ethical considerations for the digital age. Visit OnlineMediaLaw.co.uk for more.



The National College®

FROME YOUNG WRITER COMPETITION 2025

Free Entry

£50 1st prizes
WOW!

This year's prompt is

FLIGHT

Deadline: Friday 31 May

Are you a young writer?

Will you be 11-16 or 17-21 on 31 May 2025?

Enter a short story of under 2K words

to win one of our 2 x £50 1st prizes.

Cash prizes for runners-up.

One entry per person.



Competition
info here

Email entries to fromewriterscollective@gmail.com

Frome Writers' Collective

a welcoming network for local writers

<https://fromefestival.co.uk/>



**FROME
FESTIVAL**



Make a Difference with WHY

Three Things You Can do



We're excited to be in touch more regularly and share how you can support We Hear You (WHY) in 2025. Your kindness makes our work possible, and today, we're inviting you to take action in three simple ways.

1) Give Monthly – Help Us Support More People

A monthly gift of £10 or more could provide essential counselling and therapy for those affected by cancer and life-threatening conditions. It's the price of a few cups of coffee but makes a life-changing difference. If you're able to, please consider setting up a regular donation today.

👉 [Set up your monthly donation](#)

2) Help Us Reach More People

We'd love for you to share WHY with your friends and family! The more people we can reach, the more support we can offer. Encourage them to sign up for our newsletter, so they too can hear about the impact of their support and ways to get involved.

👉 [Sign up for the WHY newsletter](#)

3) Host a Street Party for WHY 🎉

Thinking of hosting a street party in 2025? Frome Town Council is urging anyone planning an event that requires a road closure to apply before Friday 14th February to avoid a new £200 fee. WHY would love to be part of your celebration—whether it's a community gathering, fundraiser, or just a fun day with neighbours!

More details here: [Frome Town Council Street Party Info](#)

Thanks for being part of our WHY community. We can't wait to share more updates with you soon!

With gratitude,
Your Friends at We Hear You ❤️