

SELWOOD ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

6th March 2026 - Issue 10



DIARY DATES

- 9th March - 12th March - Year 6 Practice SATs
- 9th March - 12th March - Science Week
- 10th March - Year 5 College Visit
- 10th March - Rugby Mega Festival
- 13th March - Year 7 Coffee Afternoon 2:15pm
- 13th March - Year 7 First Aid
- 16th March - SEND Coffee Morning 11:15am
- 17th & 18th March - Interform
- 18th & 19th March - Bikeability
- 18th March - Year 5 & 6 Tag Rugby Festival
- 18th March - Netball Tournament
- 20th March - Easter Service
- 27th March - We Hear You Cake sale

REMINDERS

Update - School Emails



We're pleased to confirm that the issue affecting some school emails being delivered to junk or spam folders has now been resolved.

However, to help prevent this from happening again, we kindly ask all parents and carers to mark school email senders as 'safe' or 'trusted' in your email settings. This will help ensure that future messages from teachers, tutors, and the school office arrive directly in your inbox.

Thank you for your continued support.

IN THIS EDITION

- Reminders
- Recent Events
- School News
- Useful info



Forgotten Items



Polite reminder to 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 their forgotten items and messages to children throughout the day.

2026 PAYMENT DEADLINES

13/03/26 - Year 6 Portsmouth Historic Dockyard Trip - balance

16/03/26 - KS3 Geography Trip to Sicily - Instalment 3

16/03/26 - Year 8 Battlefields Trip - final balance

27/03/26 - School Production - Cast Contribution

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

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

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PARENT REMINDERS

Appropriate Conduct and Communication

At Selwood Academy, we are committed to maintaining a safe, respectful, and positive environment for pupils, staff, and the whole school community. To support this, we kindly remind all parents and carers of the following expectations when engaging with the school:

- Please ensure all interactions with staff are courteous and professional. Unnecessary or inappropriate contact with staff will not be tolerated.
- Abusive behaviour towards staff or any member of the school community is unacceptable and will be dealt with promptly in line with our visitor conduct protocols.
- Staff are unable to accept friend requests or personal contact on social media platforms. We ask parents to avoid making such requests, as refusals can sometimes cause unintended offence.
- For any concerns or queries, please use official school communication channels to ensure timely and appropriate responses.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in helping us uphold the dignity and well-being of everyone at Selwood Academy.

Somerset LA Consultation on Frome's Education System

Somerset Council has launched a public consultation on proposals regarding two-tier and three-tier education systems in Frome. The consultation and proposal documents are available via the [Citizen Hub](#), with a copy also published on the MNSP website. Two face-to-face events, led by Somerset LA, will also be held for members of the Frome community (see [Citizen Hub](#) for details).

The proposals follow extensive discussions between local education stakeholders, including Trust CEOs, Headteachers, the LA, the Diocese and the Department for Education, and are focused on securing the best outcomes for children in Frome.

As the proposed changes would affect all Frome schools, everyone is encouraged to take part in the consultation and help shape the town's future education structure. If you have questions that you would like **Dan Jefferies** to answer for you before you complete the consultation survey, he will be at the **Frome Town Hall** on **11th March 5-7pm**, one of the two drop-in sessions open to all that day and warmly invite you to attend. If this date does not work for you, please don't hesitate to contact us with your questions at enquiries@selwood.mnsp.org.uk.

RSE Consultation

Thank you to those who were able to attend the Relationship, Sex, Education consultation on Wednesday 25th February. A recording of the presentation and slides can be found on our PASHE curriculum page:

<https://selwood.somerset.sch.uk/curriculum/subjects/pashe>

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SCHOOL NEWS

Thank you again Wainwrights!



Thank you once again to Wainwrights for bringing our line markings back to life, your community support is always appreciated.

We Hear You Cake Sale

The charity We Here You is facing a £55,000 funding shortfall that must be met by the end of March 2026. Without urgent financial support, they face the very real possibility of having to close their doors.

Selwood is proud to support their fundraising efforts by hosting a **Cake Sale** on **27th March 2026**. Every slice sold will go directly towards helping this incredible charity continue their vital work.

More details will follow but for now, save the date, bring your appetite, and help us make a difference.



Pupil School Equipment

Part of being well organised means bringing all of the equipment needed for the school day. It is important to check the timetable and ensure that the correct equipment for the next day is all packed the night before. Your child will need:

- **Mandatory equipment:**
- **Pens** - 2 blue and 2 black ink
- A **pencil, ruler, sharpener** and **eraser**
- **Reading book** - we encourage reading at every opportunity
- Suggested equipment:
- **Glue stick**
- **Whiteboard pen**
- A set of **colouring pencils**
- Sensible bag, ideally a **rucksack** with two shoulder straps so that the load can be spread evenly.
- *We recommend that PE kit is brought in a separate bag.*



SKI TRIP

Our Year 7 and 8 pupils have returned from an unforgettable skiing adventure, and what a fantastic trip it was! From first-time skiers bravely taking on the beginner slopes to more experienced pupils confidently carving their way down the mountain, the progress, resilience, and enthusiasm on display were truly impressive.

Each day brought new challenges and achievements. There were plenty of proud moments as pupils mastered new skills, supported one another, and built confidence on the snow. Beyond the slopes, the trip was filled with laughter, teamwork, and memories that will last a lifetime.

A huge well done to all pupils for representing the school so brilliantly, and thank you to the staff who supported and encouraged them every step (and slide!) of the way.



Excited already? So are we!

Plans are underway for our 2027 Ski Trip, and it promises to be another incredible opportunity packed with adventure, skill-building, friendship, and fun. Whether your child is a complete beginner or already loves the slopes, this trip is designed to inspire confidence, independence, and unforgettable experiences.

Full details including dates, destination, and how to secure a place will be released soon. Be sure to keep an eye on upcoming communications so you don't miss out. The 2027 trip is sure to be popular, and we can't wait to share more information with you!

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WORLD BOOK DAY



Ahead of our World Book Week celebrations, we were thrilled to welcome author Nat Harrison on Tuesday 24th February. Nat gave our Year 5 and 6 pupils a preview of her new book 'The Girl Who Raced the World', as well as providing a masterclass in how to become a writer.

World Book Day saw our pupils fully immerse themselves in the wonderful world of literature. From imaginative costumes inspired by their favourite characters to an array of creative book-themed projects, the day was a true celebration of reading.



Pupils brought stories to life through detailed sketches, beautifully crafted shoebox scenes, and even some wonderfully inventive vegetable creations!



The overall winners for each year group were:

Year 5 - Adrianna (diorama of Charlie and the chocolate factory)

Year 6 - Isaac (drawing of 'Stuck')

Year 7 - Fletcher - (drawing from 'Leviathan' by David Scott)

Year 8 - Olivia (3d model of Marvin the Paranoid Android from 'Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy')

The pupil's enthusiasm, creativity and love of books were on full display, making it a memorable day for everyone involved.



The pop-up book stall from Winstone's Hunting Raven also ensured pupils could purchase books to enjoy at home long after the World Book Day ends, helping to keep the excitement of reading alive.

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SCHOOL NEWS



English Update

For this term, our concept in English is '**setting**'. We are exploring the importance of an effective setting in KS2 and how setting can alter and affect characters in KS3.

Year 5 are continuing their reading of 'Podkin One Ear' by Kieran Larwood. Last term they explore the characters and how they were presented, this term they are exploring how effective settings are created.

Year 6. In addition to preparing for the revision weeks and practice SATs, year 6 are continuing to explore 'Windrush Child' by Benjamin Zephaniah. Moving on from looking at the character of Leonard in the story, they are exploring how the move from the Caribbean to England is presented and may affect the character.

Year 7 continue to read 'Can You See Me?' and have been working on understanding the importance of the settings of school and home on the character of Tally.

Year 8 have begun to study George Orwell's 'Animal Farm', they are looking at how the setting is used as a metaphor and allegory for political events unfolding at the time.

Year 5 & 6 Spanish



Year 5 and 6 have been learning Spanish with Miss Collins and Mrs Pitts. Here, they are making posters about food likes and dislikes. They even got to try churros!



SCHOOL NEWS

GOVERNOR VACANCIES

Bring your skills and passion to our school. Help guide key decisions and champion the best education for every child.

Apply today and make a difference that matters.

For more details, contact the school office.



Online Safety Webinars for Parents

The National College will cease to be available to staff and parents from the end of the 25/26 academic year. Parents who use this for online safety information are now invited to join alternative training sessions.

RM is hosting two free webinars on **Monday 9 March** to help parents better engage with their children on safe use of technology.

If you would like to join the webinar for Primary Parents at 17:00 please click the following link:

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/9894c0d8-1360-42ac-a603-9e94fdeab412@3a4af158-b8a5-4bc8-833c-d973205f2bc2>

If you would like to join the webinar for Secondary Parents at 18:30 please click the following link:

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/3d25c788-10d7-46d6-a831-a96e1653ae10@3a4af158-b8a5-4bc8-833c-d973205f2bc2>

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CAREERS ADVICE



Dentist

What do they do?

A dentist plays a vital role in keeping our teeth and gums healthy. From routine check-ups and fillings to more complex procedures, dentists help prevent, diagnose and treat oral health problems—supporting patients of all ages to maintain confident, healthy smiles.

Key skills needed:

Strong communication and people skills

Attention to detail

Good hand-eye coordination

Problem-solving abilities

A caring and reassuring manner



What do dentists do day to day?

Examine teeth and gums

Diagnose oral health issues

Carry out treatments such as fillings, extractions and crowns

Provide preventative advice on brushing, flossing and diet

Work closely with dental nurses and hygienists

How do you become one?

To become a dentist in the UK, you must complete a five-year degree in dentistry that is approved by the General Dental Council. Entry is competitive and usually requires strong A-levels (or equivalent) in science subjects such as Biology and Chemistry. After graduating, dentists complete foundation training before practising independently.

Why choose dentistry?

Dentistry offers a rewarding career combining science, healthcare and hands-on practical skills. It provides opportunities to specialise (for example, in orthodontics or oral surgery), work in a variety of settings, and make a real difference to people's health and confidence. If you're interested in science, enjoy working with people, and want a career where no two days are the same, dentistry could be the perfect path for you!





Selwood
Academy

LIONEL BART'S

Oliver!

JR!



BOOK, MUSIC AND LYRICS
BY
LIONEL BART

25TH - 28TH MARCH, 7PM

THE MERLIN THEATRE

TICKETS SELLING FAST CLICK BELOW:

BOOK NOW



WISE UP WORKSHOPS

Empowering Parent
Carers to succeed



March Wise Workshops



2nd- Communication through play-

Presented by SPCF @ 10am Yeovil

6th- Help your Neurodivergent child manage their anxiety-

Presented by CYPNP Team @ 12.30 Glastonbury & Online

9th- When siblings needs clash-

Presented by Platypus @ 10am Taunton & Online

12th- How visuals can help support your SEND child-

Presented by SPCF @ 12.30 Wincanton & Online

16th- Emotional based school avoidance EBSA-

Presented by SPCF @ 12.30 Frome & Online

Book now:

www.somersetparentcarerforum.org.uk/home/wise-up-workshops/





WISE UP WORKSHOPS

Empowering Parent Carers to succeed



March Wise Workshops



17th- How to talk to your young person about Neurodiversity-
Presented by CYPNP Team @ 10am Online

19th- Low demand parenting-
Presented by NeuroConnect @ 12pm Online

23rd- AuDHD: Understanding those with co-occurring ADHD & Autism-
Presented by Platypus @ 10am Taunton & Online

25th- Introduction into SEND-
Presented by SPCF @ 12.30 Minehead & Online

Book now:
www.somersetparentcarerforum.org.uk/home/wise-up-workshops/



Could you tell if your child was being exploited?



Join one of our free online sessions led by Child Exploitation Prevention Officer **Andri Nicolaou**

18 March 7:00 - 8:30pm

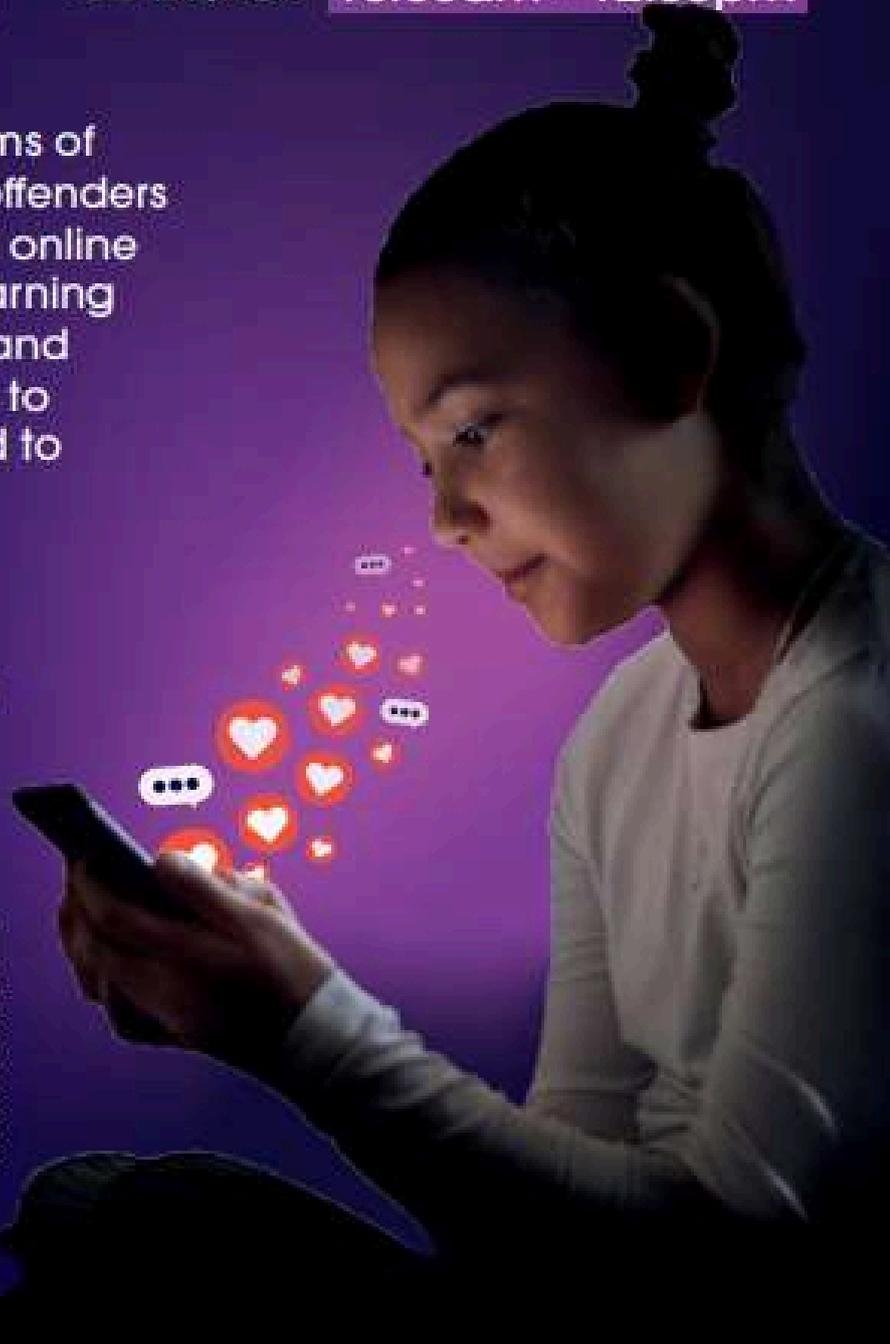
30 March 10:30am - 12:00pm

Learn about the different forms of child exploitation and how offenders groom/exploit children both online and offline. We'll highlight warning signs a child may be at risk and practical steps you can take to keep them safe and respond to any concerns.

Visit the **Avon and Somerset Police Eventbrite page** or scan the QR codes below

18 March

30 March



HAPPY HEALTHY HOLIDAYS... IS BACK FOR EASTER!

Exciting activity clubs for children aged 5 - 16, who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals across Somerset

4 SESSIONS PER CHILD ONLY



GET A BOOKING CODE FROM YOUR SCHOOL

BOOKINGS OPEN ON 2ND MARCH

FOOD INCLUDED!

Find and book FREE local activities by visiting:
www.sasp.co.uk/happy-healthy-holidays
or scan the QR code!

SCAN ME





WE'VE
DESIGNED A NEW
SKATEPARK FOR

FROME

MARY BAILY PLAYING FIELD

& WE'D LIKE
YOUR INPUT

SCAN
ME



WHERE ONLINE

frometowncouncil.gov.uk/skatepark

WHEN FROM NOW UNTIL 13th MARCH 2026

We also have an in person consultation where you can meet the Maverick team, share your ideas, and help shape the new design.

DATE: Friday 13th March 2026

TIME: 3:00 pm - 7:30 pm

VENUE: The Council Chamber, Frome, BA11 1EB



FrOme
TOWN COUNCIL

OPEN DOOR FAMILY LAW



Confused about family law or court? Drop in for clear advice and pathways forward.

WHERE?: Key Centre, Feltham Ln, Frome BA11 5AJ

WHEN? Every other Tuesday in term time starting from Tuesday 24th of February 10am till 12pm

For more information goto: www.voicescharity.org,
email: info@voicescharity.org or call 01225 984189

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

CREATIVE WAYS TO ENCOURAGE READING

Reading regularly has a life-long impact, yet recent data from the National Literacy Trust shows a decline in reading for pleasure among 8- to 18-year-olds, with just 32.7% enjoying it in 2025. Despite growing distractions, there are practical ways adults can spark a love of reading. This guide offers strategies and resources to help inspire young readers.

1 VALUE ALL READING

When we think about reading, it's very easy to picture a young person reading a fictional novel; however, reading is so much more than this. To help them understand, why not show them how to create a 24-hour reading diary? Jot down all reading and then discuss this with them. By doing this, you can demonstrate the many ways we turn to reading.

2 WIDEN THE SELECTION

Once we know reading can be varied, we need to think about the selection of reading material they can access. Visit a shop selling magazines, the library and a bookshop, and consider the range of material that is available within them. Then consider how you might broaden their reading choices, so all young people have access to a wide and varied selection.

3 GIFT A BOOK

One simple way to encourage reading is to make books feel special. Gifting a book adds value and shows it's something to be treasured. Whether it's as a reward or for a celebration like a birthday, let the young person choose a title or pick one you know they will enjoy. You could also include a personal note inside.

4 CONNECT WITH AUTHORS

Meeting authors can certainly spark an interest in their reading material. This might be through a live event in a school/bookshop or by using the wealth of online material that is now available. Encourage young people to look at ways to connect with authors using free resources such as Authorfy and Just Imagine's Children's Authors Live.

5 BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Access training about reading for pleasure to widen your understanding of this topic and, more importantly, how to develop it. Explore a wide range of free resources that can be found online. The more you know, the better placed you are to inspire a love of reading in others.

6 TALK BOOKS

There are times when we need silence to read and focus on our book; however, we know that reading is a social experience, so we must also factor in discussion time. Reading the same book gives two people a connection and the opportunity to voice their thoughts and questions about it. Why not buy two copies of a book and read it together? Start the connection.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

As well as talking about the content of books, we can share what we're reading or have read recently. This can often act as a trigger for someone else to explore it. How often have you watched a film or series because someone else has recommended it? It's the same with books. If you know the young person well, you can tailor your recommendations and share why you think they'll enjoy it.

8 GO DIGITAL

With the rise in online digital material, we can easily focus on the negatives; however, it also brings a wealth of opportunities. Resources can aid and enhance the reading experience for young people. They can read along with audiobooks, translate, and track their reading goals with resources like PolyIno and apps like Goodreads for older children. Augmented reality books also bring books to life and offer a great way for engagement.

9 RECONNECT

There can come a time when a love of reading seems to disappear. It does not mean it's gone forever; it generally means they have lost the connection. How do we get it back? Find the next piece of reading material that sparks their current interests. The National Year of Reading focus of 'Go All In' captures this well as it is their key theme. As children grow and change, so do their interests. A visit to the local library is a great way to support the reconnection.

10 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let them see you reading. If you make time to read, you send a strong message to children: reading matters. Share why you enjoy it. Is it to relax, escape the world, learn something new or to be entertained? When children see reading as a normal and valued part of everyday life, they are more likely to adopt it themselves.

Meet Our Expert

Carl Pattison is a literacy advisor and early reading expert at The National College. Through his programmes, he supports schools to enhance reading and writing. In addition to his independent work, he also works for a large academy trust in the East Midlands as the strategic lead for their English Hub and Literacy Excellence Centre.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website