

SELWOOD ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

4th July 2025 - Issue 16



DIARY DATES

July

- 4th - Year 8 Thorpe Park
- 7th - Year 6 Residential Trip
- 9th - Year 4 SEND Coffee Morning - 12.15
- 10th - Wesley Day
- 11th Year 8 Prom
- 16th - Summer Arts Festival - 5-7pm
- 17th - Year 8 Leavers Service
- 18th - End of Term 6 - Early finish 12.10pm

PAYMENT DEADLINES

- Ski Trip 2026 Deposit 3 - 4th July



IN THIS EDITION

- Reminders
- Useful info
- Recent Events

REMINDERS

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Most clubs have their last session on Friday 4th July. A few are still running as they are supporting the Summer Arts Festival. If your child attends a club, please use the following link to check the final dates - [Club List](#)

TRIP PERMISSION FORM DEADLINES

Please click the links below to complete the permission and interest forms for upcoming trips:

[Battlefields Permission Form](#)

(Current Year 7) - please complete by 11th July 2025

[Sicily Interest Form](#)

(Current Year 5 & 6) - please complete by 4th July 2025

THANK YOU

A big thank you to Alfies Ices & Cleverchefs for their amazing support during Sports Day! Together, they raised an amazing **£629.30** towards our PTA.

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

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

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REMINDERS

UNIFORM DONATION RAFFLE

Have you any washed, non-damaged school uniform items your child no longer needs? Donate them to the school by 17th July and earn a raffle ticket for each donation!



We're looking for:

Shirts

Skirts

Jumpers & Coats

Bags & Ties

School Shoes & 3G Boots

PE Kits



At the end of term, we'll draw one lucky raffle ticket for a mystery prize! Thank you for supporting our school community and helping other families!

LUNCH ACCOUNT BALANCES FOR LEAVERS

If your child is leaving Selwood Academy at the end of the Summer Term 2025 we would like to provide you with important information about using up any balance that may be left on their lunch account before their final day.

Please log in to ParentPay to check whether your child has a balance on their account.

We highly recommend that any balance is used up before your child leaves as it is not transferable to their new school.

As an alternative we do have the facility to transfer any balances to younger siblings/relatives who will be staying at Selwood Academy (this does not include new pupils starting at the school). If you would like to do so, please contact the school by Friday 11 July 2025 to request this; any requests received after that date may not be possible to action.

If you need any further help or information regarding this, please don't hesitate to email the school.

RECENT EVENTS

Battlefields

On 3rd June, pupils left bright and early for this year's Battlefields trip. Upon arrival, they visited Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery to explore the role of women in the war and medicine and medical developments through the war. The group then visited graves of different religions and a female nurse's grave—the first war placing women in forward military roles.



The second day was very moving and memorable as they continued their Battlefields tour across Belgium. It began at Langemark German Cemetery, where over 44,000 German soldiers rest, including 25,000 in a single mass grave. Next was Tyne Cot Cemetery, the largest Commonwealth site on the Western Front, with 11,953 burials and a memorial to 34,888 soldiers lost.

At the Memorial Museum Passchendaele 1917, pupils learned about one of WWI's bloodiest battles—half a million men died in 100 days. The tour continued to Essex Farm, where Colonel John McCrae wrote *In Flanders Fields* and 15-year-old Pt. V.J. Strudwick, the youngest known casualty, is buried. A visit to *In Flanders Fields* Museum deepened understanding of the human stories behind the conflict.



No visit to Belgium is complete without Leonidas Chocolate Shop—a sweet treat and hit with pupils! The day ended with the moving Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate, where pupils laid wreaths in remembrance with us all.

RECENT EVENTS

Battlefields

The third day was another moving and memorable one. First stop: Thiepval Memorial and Interpretative Centre, commemorating 73,077 British soldiers who fell at the Battle of the Somme. A poignant moment for Mrs. Ibbitson, who found a relative's name among the fallen.



Then to the Ulster Tower, marking where the 36th (Ulster) Division attacked on 1 July 1916. Next was the Beaumont-Hamel Newfoundland Memorial, honouring brave Newfoundlanders lost with no known grave.

At the Lochnagar Crater, we stood in awe at the massive scar left by 25,000 kilos of explosives—an explosion heard in London. The final stop was the striking Vimy Ridge Memorial, a tribute to all Canadians who served in WWI, especially the 60,000 who died in France. The names of 11,000 with no known grave are etched in stone.



The day ended on a lighter note with a fiercely competitive bowling match—spirits high, rivalries friendly!

Another powerful day of learning, reflection, and connection.

A huge thank you to everyone that made this special trip possible.

RECENT EVENTS

Careers Day

On Thursday 19th June we had our Careers Day! There was a real buzz around the school as pupils took part in a range of exciting activities, workshops, and talks from inspiring professionals.

A huge thank you to the amazing providers who came to our Careers Day! Your time and dedication truly inspired our pupils. We appreciate your efforts in shaping their futures and opening their eyes to endless possibilities!



It was fantastic to see so much curiosity and enthusiasm as everyone explored the many paths their futures could take. Please click the links below for some further career inspiration including videos featuring real people talking about the roles they love.

[Get Career Confident](#)

[iCould](#)

[My Path - Careers](#)

[BBC Bitesize Careers](#)

RECENT EVENTS



The English Novice Schools Gymnastics Event

On 19th June 2025, some of our very own pupils took part in The English Novice Schools Gymnastics Event.

We are delighted to share that four Selwood pupils represented our school brilliantly, earning 3rd place as a team in the Under 14s category. They also brought home a trophy for being the highest performing new school at the event. They worked exceptionally well together as a team and performed some amazing vaults, individual floor routines, and pairs. Mrs Phillips proudly presented their certificates and the shield during assembly last week.



Congratulations to Eloise, Gracie, Matilda and Ellis!

Year 3 - Taster Days

On the 24th and 25th June we held our Year 3 Taster Days. During their day with us, the children had the opportunity to participate in a range of activities from Design and Technology, Science, Forest School, Art, Music and PE. This gave all the children a broad and diverse experience of the daily life at day.



Thank you to all the staff and pupils involved, we hope all the children had a rewarding and fulfilling day.

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RECENT EVENTS

Generation 2 Generation presentation

On 24th June, Selwood Academy hosted Peter Kammerling, whose Mother and Father came to Britain in 1939 as part of the Jewish 'Kinder transports' escaping Nazi Germany.

Generation 2 generation is a company that employs the children of those that survived the Holocaust to come into schools and educate by telling their own personal stories.



Peter gave a heartwarming and sometimes harrowing account of his parents' survival, while 17 of his extended great Uncles, Aunts, cousins and all his Gran-parents were murdered during the Holocaust.

Year 8 pupils sat respectfully silent throughout and some were visible moved by the story. The message of standing up to bullying and persecution and respect for all human beings, was delivered passionately and with great skill.

Peter's late Father Walter Kammerling, served in the British Army during the war and devoted his life after to educating young people about the Holocaust. In 1996, he received a British Empire Medal from Prince Charles (Now King Charles)

Peter was thanked at the end and questioned by inspired pupils.



JOIN US FOR OUR SUMMER FESTIVAL

Come along and enjoy an unforgettable evening of music, theatre, art, and dance — all performed by our incredibly talented pupils!

Wednesday 16 July - 5:00 – 7:00 PM

Refreshments available!

Exciting raffle with a chance to win a ticket for the Slip 'n Slide!

Bring your friends and family — it's going to be a fun-filled celebration of creativity, community, and summer vibes. We can't wait to see you there!





PREMIER HOLIDAY CLUBS



more fun, more friendships, more smiles
DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS!



Book today
premier-education.com



Premier
Education

★ Trustpilot



Based on 20,000 reviews

YOUR NEAREST MULTI-ACTIVITY CAMP

Venue: Selwood Academy, Berkley Road, Frome, BA11 2EF

Dates: Tuesday 26th Aug until Fri 29th of Aug 2025

Times: 9-3pm full day (4 year olds 9-1pm)

Price: Full day £22.82 (4 year olds £13.84)

Ages: Reception to Year 7

Additional info: Remember to bring hats and suncream



Mix it up this Summer with our multi-activity holiday camps!

These camps are a perfect blend of activities for all ages, combining different sports with a variety of team games.

Every day is different, with a mix of fun activities – from archery to fencing, dodgeball to cricket, plus much more!

Book now for a Summer full of fun!

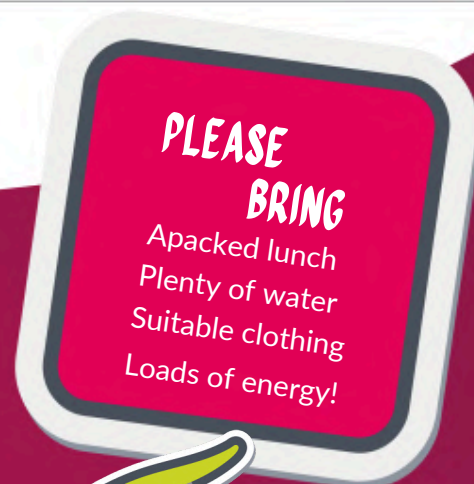
[CLICK HERE TO BOOK](#)

**CAMPS ARE BETTER
WITH FRIENDS!**



**TREAT YOUR FRIENDS
TO 20% OFF...AND GET
20% OFF TOO!**

*Ts&Cs apply. Refer a friend discount on new bookings only.



Based on over 20,000 reviews



Frome CHILDREN'S Festival



SUNDAY



27th JULY

FREE!
FAMILY FUN &
ACCESSIBLE
ACTIVITIES

10 am - 2 pm

DONATIONS
WELCOMED
PLEASE



at



THE CHEESE & GRAIN

through to

WELSHMILL PARK



For further information and to book please see the link below:
[Frome Children's Festival](#)

why... proudly presents

we hear you



BEACH PARTY SPECIAL



ONLY £5 PER HEAD

£30 FOR A TABLE OF UP TO 6

Saturday 12th July – from 7pm

Rook Lane Chapel, Bath Street, Frome BA11 1DN



WE HEAR YOU PRESENTS

THE BLACK, WHITE & SILVER BALL

**Saturday
6 December 2025**



ELMHAY PARK

ORCHARDLEIGH ESTATE

£45 pp

**Includes drinks reception, canapés,
meal & entertainment**

TICKETS ON SALE NOW

Frome Festival is taking place between Friday 4th July and Sunday 13th July. There are a number of amazing events happening around the town over this period including events targeted at families and kids of all ages, including free and low-cost events! Please follow the links below for further information:

[Family Friendly](#)
[Free/Low Cost Events](#)



**FROME
FESTIVAL**

Take Flight ~ Music of the Air

Saturday 5th July 2025

Christ Church

Christ Church Street West, Frome BA11 1EH

at 11.00am

FREE ADMISSION

*Refreshments & Raffle -
available before the concert*

*f facebook.com/fromeyouthchoir
e youthchoirfrome@gmail.com*



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about APPLE IPADS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Tablets remain a staple of children's digital lives – and Apple's iPad is by far the most popular model. According to Ofcom, over half of younger children regularly use a tablet to play games, watch online content or access apps. With their broad functionality, iPads can be helpful tools, but without supervision, they may expose children to risks ranging from inappropriate content to screen overuse.

COSTLY TO REPAIR

Unlike some child-friendly tablets, the iPad is not built for rough handling. Its slim design and high cost mean that a drop or spill can result in a costly repair. If a child is using the device regularly, a sturdy case and screen protector are strongly recommended to help prevent accidental damage.

DATA PRIVACY

While Apple is known for strong privacy protections, a recent study found that many iOS apps aimed at children still share personal data. Over 40% of the tested apps sent at least one piece of user information to third parties, raising concerns about advertising and analytics being targeted at underage users.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The App Store and Safari browser provide almost unrestricted access to online material. Children may stumble upon age-inappropriate content, whether through apps, advertisements or online searches. Even recommended content algorithms can surface unsuitable material.

BYPASSING RESTRICTIONS

Siri – Apple's voice assistant – can potentially override restrictions, especially with the newer text-based commands introduced through Apple Intelligence. Without safeguards in place, children may inadvertently access inappropriate topics simply by asking a question, bypassing certain filters previously set by adults.

SCREEN ADDICTION

iPads can be highly immersive, and excessive screen time may affect a child's emotional and behavioural development. Signs of overuse might include mood swings, irritability, and difficulty focusing on non-digital activities.

REDUCED ATTENTION & COGNITIVE IMPACT

Prolonged use of tablets has been linked with reduced memory, slower processing speeds and difficulties in concentrating. Research shows that children who spend excessive time gaming or consuming media on tablets may struggle with language development and executive functioning over time.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Family Sharing allows you to create a dedicated Apple ID for your child and manage their activity. You can approve purchases, control what content they can access, and set time limits – all done remotely from your own device. It's a simple but powerful way to maintain oversight.

FILTER APPS, WEBSITES & IN-APP PURCHASES

Parental controls in iOS let you block explicit content in Safari, restrict app downloads, and manage in-app purchase permissions. You can also filter websites automatically to prevent access to adult material and disable the installation of certain app types completely.

USE SCREEN TIME FEATURES EFFECTIVELY

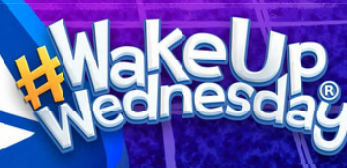
Tools like Downtime and App Limits can reduce device overuse. Downtime allows you to block access during key times – such as before bed or during homework – while App Limits sets daily time caps on specific games or apps. Alerts help children anticipate when their time is almost up.

PREVENT UNAPPROVED SPENDING

Children can accidentally (or intentionally) make purchases within apps. Activating Ask to Buy under Family Sharing ensures you receive a notification to approve any app or in-app purchase. This stops surprise charges and allows you to discuss purchases together before they're made.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is a seasoned technology journalist with over a decade of experience. Formerly a senior cybersecurity reporter at TechCrunch, Carly now writes for publications including WIRED, Forbes, TechRadar, and Tes. With a deep understanding of online safety, she brings a valuable perspective to parenting in the digital age.



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