

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a wonderful and busy week at Selwyn Primary, filled with learning, creativity and memorable experiences for our pupils. Year 3 had an enjoyable trip to Suntrap- The Hive, where they explored nature and deepened their understanding of the environment. Our Year 6 pupils in Juniper Class also had an inspiring visit to the Imperial War Museum, which supported their learning in history and encouraged thoughtful reflection.

The whole school greatly enjoyed the pantomime this week, which brought lots of laughter and excitement. In addition, our Selwyn Choir visited Spinney Care Home, sharing music and joy with the residents. We are very proud of how beautifully they represented our school.

Our pupils have also taken part in a number of competitions. We were pleased to participate in the Arbor Inter-school Spelling Bee, and we are delighted to share that Year 5 and Year 6 won the inter-school football tournament, while Year 3 and Year 4 were runners-up. A huge well done to all the children involved for their teamwork and determination.

Next week promises to be just as exciting. We are looking forward to the Year 2 and Year 4 musicals, which we know will be wonderful celebrations of the pupils' hard work and talent. We will also be marking Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday 11th December, and we hope to see many festive jumpers across the school.

We will end the week with our Carol Concert at 4.00 p.m., where all members of our school community are warmly invited to attend. It is always a special event, and we look forward to sharing this celebration with you.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It makes such a positive difference to the children and to our school community.

Kind regards,
Patrick Mbanga
Head of School



Diary Dates

- 9th December:** Flu vaccine catch up. Reception—Year 6
- 9th December:** Museum of Childhood Trip—Year 1 Classes
- 9th December:** Reception 2026/27 intake prospective parent tour (9.30-10.30am)
- 9th December:** Year 2 Micro Musical
- 10th December:** Imperial War museum Trip—Maple Class
- 10th December:** Year 4 Micro Musical at 9.20am
- 10th December:** Reception 2026/27 intake prospective parent tour (9.30-10.30am)
- 11th December:** Imperial War Museum Trip—Redwood Class
- 11th December:** Christmas Jumper Day—£1 donation
- 12th December:** Carol concert 4pm—5pm (parents welcome to attend)
- 15th December:** Nursery Nativity (10.30am—11.10am) Parents welcome to attend
- 15th December:** Nursery Nativity (2.30pm—3pm) Parents welcome to attend
- 16th December:** Christmas Story: Reception at 9.30am Parents welcome to attend
- 17th December:** Attendance lunch (class with highest attendance wins a lunch at school)
- 18th December:** Class parties (PM)
- 19th December:** Last day of school. **School closes at 2pm**

Absences

If your child is going to be absent, please inform the office by 9.30am on the day of absence.

Absences can now also be reported using the MCAS app.

Breakfast club and Acorn club

For parents who wish to contact Breakfast club and Acorn club please use this number:

07716791490

The phone should be available from 7.15 - 8.45am & 3.30-6pm.

Parent reminder: All wraparound payments should be made in advance of the club commencing.

Class attendance % week ending 5th December 2025.
Well done to Hawthorn class who have 99% attendance this week.!

| Class | % | Class | % |
|----------|------|----------|------|
| Ash | 95.3 | Teak | 95.4 |
| Magnolia | 94.3 | Cedar | 97.3 |
| Sycamore | 98.7 | Cypress | 98 |
| Fir | 95.3 | Hawthorn | 99 |
| Larch | 89.3 | Aspen | 95.2 |
| Rowan | 97 | Beech | 97.2 |
| Lime | 95 | Hazel | 98.6 |
| Pine | 94.2 | Juniper | 96.2 |
| Poplar | 98 | Maple | 96.4 |
| Elder | 97.5 | Redwood | 92.7 |
| Olive | 98.7 | | |

Our Communication Strategy

Monday - Office Communication day - office will send reminders and updates to parents, highlighting key dates in the school calendar.

Tuesday - Teachers' communication day about trips or events. This will have at least 7 days' notification. The office will send information on behalf of teachers. Teachers will still respond to parents via emails.

Wednesday- Phase leaders' communication regarding major phase events or reinforcing school policy or procedures.

Thursday - Leadership information to parents for items intended to stand out and away from newsletter

Friday - Newsletter, flyers and office letters

| Class | Caught being kind | Star of the week | Researcher |
|----------|-------------------|------------------|------------|
| Ash | Ahmed | Muskaan | Sophia |
| Magnolia | Filip | Efran | Grace |
| Sycamore | Hussain | Alfie | Angus |
| Fir | Tierra | Arion | William |
| Larch | Isaac | Antosh | Fionn |
| Rowan | Idrees | Bezaleel | Maheera |
| Lime | Elijah | Kevin | Freda |
| Pine | Mahmoona | Ayana | Jack |
| Poplar | Siana | Murphie | George |
| Olive | Aiden | Adrian | Olivia |
| Elder | Amina | Adam | Aadil |
| Teak | Khizar | Maja | Jessica |
| Hawthorn | Abeera | Flora | Ben |
| Cedar | Bella | Luke | Mateo |
| Cypress | Jacques | Orla | Matilda |
| Aspen | Fatima | Nathan | Cass |
| Beech | Nia | Darcy | Imene |
| Hazel | Sara | Zahira | Maryam |
| Juniper | Robin | Asher | Juwariah |
| Maple | Zara | Morgan | Thalia |
| Redwood | Joselyn | Hanna | Sarah D |

School Term dates 2025 -2026

Autumn Term:

Christmas Holiday Monday 22nd December 2025 to Friday 2nd January 2025

Spring Term:

Monday 5th January 2026 to Friday 27th March 2026.

Monday 5th January 2026 INSET day

Half term holiday Monday 16th February 2026 to Friday 20th February 2026.

Easter holiday Monday 30th March 2026 to Friday 10th April 2026.

Summer Term:

Monday 13th April 2026 to Monday 20th July 2026

Monday 13th April 2026 INSET day

Half term holiday Monday 25th May 2026 to Friday 29th May 2026

Summer holiday Tuesday 21st July

Selwyn Primary School's term dates align with the LB of Waltham Forest term dates.

Reception Admissions 2026

If you have a child born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022, your child is eligible to start school in September 2026.

To apply for a Reception place for your child, please use the following link to apply before the 15th January 2026.

<https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/>



School Term dates 2026 -2027

Autumn Term: (73 days)

- Wednesday 2nd September 2026 to Friday 18th December 2026
- Wednesday 2nd September 2026 INSET day
- Thursday 3rd September 2026 INSET day
- Friday 23rd October 2026 INSET day
- Half term holiday Monday 26th October 2026 to Friday 30th October 2026
- Christmas Holiday Monday 21st December 2026 to Friday 1st January 2027

Spring Term: (54 days)

- Monday 4th January 2027 to Thursday 25th March 2027.
- Monday 4th January 2027 INSET day
- Half term holiday Monday 15th February 2027 to Friday 19th February 2027.
- Easter holiday Friday 26th March 2027 to Friday 9th April 2027.

Summer Term: (68 days)

- Monday 12th April 2027 to Thursday 22nd July 2027
- Monday 12th April 2027 INSET day
- Half term holiday Monday 31st May 2027 to Friday 4th June 2027
- Summer holiday Friday 23rd July

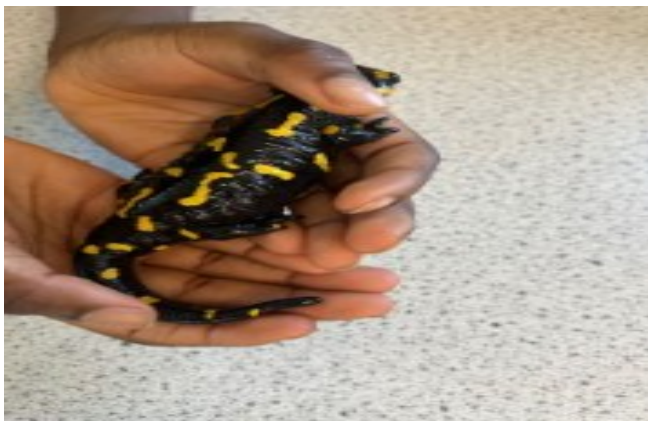
Public holidays

- Friday 25th December 2026 (Christmas Day)
- Monday 28th December 2026 (Boxing Day)
- Friday 1st January 2027 (New Year's Day)
- Friday 26th March 2027 (Good Friday)
- Monday 29th March 2027 (Easter Monday)
- Monday 3rd May 2027
- Monday 31st May 2027
- Monday 30th August 2027

Year 4 Hawthorn Class visited The Hive. We used hands-on experiences to enhance our learning.



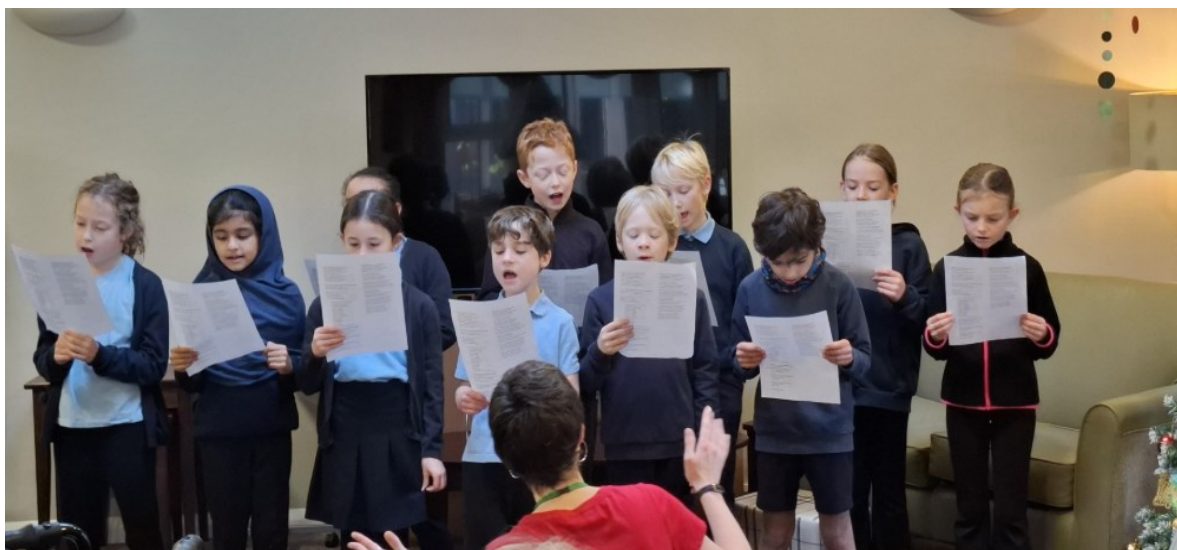
Year 4 Cedar Class recently had the pleasure of visiting The Hive too, where they demonstrated remarkable knowledge and attentiveness towards the animals. The students embraced brave challenges, supporting one another throughout the experience. Additionally, during their exploration of Epping Forest, they engaged in a study of invertebrates, thoughtfully considering the importance of preserving their precious environment. This excursion not only enriched their understanding of biodiversity but also fostered a sense of responsibility towards nature. The enthusiasm and collaboration exhibited by the students were commendable, reflecting their commitment to both learning and environmental stewardship.



Y6 enjoyed making tomato soup in their Design and Technology lesson.



Some of the Y3,4 choir members went to The Spinney care home to perform for the residents. Their singing was very much appreciated; some of the audience joined in singing their favourite Christmas songs! You will have the chance to hear this wonderful choir sing at the Carol Concert next Friday, 4pm - 4:45pm. You and your family are welcome to come along. Refreshments will be served.



The Arbor Academy Samba band entertaining the community at the Christmas Fayre. Well done !



Year 4 Cypress Class enjoyed an exciting and engaging trip to The Hive, where we were surrounded by nature. Using our curiosity to explore the environment, we thoroughly enjoyed meeting snakes and other amazing reptiles!



Arbor Choir drew a huge crowd when they sang at the Winter Fayre at St Mary's Church, Walthamstow on Saturday. The choir sang a short programme of songs including 'Carol of the Bells'. The duet rendition of 'O Holy Night' in harmony was very impressive. The choir also had the opportunity to make a guest appearance with 'On That Note' acapella group for 'Silent Night'. The children took the lead on the last verse - some were moved to tears by their soulful singing. We will be holding another audition session on 8th January for pupils in Y3 - Y6 who are interested in joining the choir. Rehearsals take place at Northwold Primary School every Thursday 4:30pm - 5:30pm.



FOSS WINTER FESTIVAL

What a WONDERFUL Winter Festival!

We hope everyone had a fabulous time!

We toasted over 250 marshmallows, painted countless cute faces and enjoyed plenty of warming mulled wine!

A huge thank you to all our amazing volunteers for the hours of work that make events like this possible.

Together, we raised an incredible **£4,958.27** helping us fund extra enrichment for all the children, including yesterday's pantomime visit made possible by FOSS fundraising!



Kindly sponsored by:



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS



Podcast Club - Year 4-6 - Wednesday

The Podcast Club is open to all Year 4, 5, and 6 students who love talking, storytelling, or discovering and sharing interesting new things. In this club, they'll get the chance to create their very own podcasts, whether that means sharing fun stories, interviewing friends or teachers, or talking about cool topics!

Mad Science KS1 (Tue), KS2 (Thur)

Particle Physics & Astrophysics
In this module, pupils will learn how matter works on a microscopic level, exploring atoms, molecules and particles through hands-on experiments with balloons, bubbles and slime. They will also investigate the wonders of space, including black holes, the solar system and human space exploration, developing a strong understanding of both the tiny building blocks of our world and the vast universe and beyond.

Coding Year 1 & 2 - Monday

KS1 - Tynker Adventures
Young coders set off on exciting journeys through mystical worlds while learning the core foundations of programming, sequences, events, loops, conditionals, and booleans. Through interactive games and problem-solving challenges, pupils build creativity, logical thinking, and resilience as they bring their code to life one adventure at a time.

Coding Year 3-6 - Tue & Fri

KS2 - JavaScript Explorers
As pupils advance, they dive into one of the world's most powerful and widely used coding languages, JavaScript. They'll learn to write real lines of code, explore complex syntax, and create interactive digital projects that mirror what real programmers do.

Creative Me - Reception Year 1&2 - Mon

Our Creative Me club is aimed at younger children who want to have fun and get creative. We'll be mainly doing Baker Ross style arts & crafts and mixing in some drama, fine art and computational creative art.

**Clubs will start on w/c 12th of January till w/c 16th of March
(excluding half-term)**

Sign up for our clubs at www.innovationpod.co.uk/signup. It's £7.50 per session which is paid via the one off direct debit. All clubs will take place in school premises.