



Selwyn Primary School Newsletter

Friday 16 November 2018

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Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this has been a good week for you all.

Last term, we sent out our parent survey. Thank you to the 189 parents who took the time to respond and to share your views with us; we take your feedback seriously and are always striving to improve. The main areas that the survey highlighted were:

- the quality of school dinners;
- homework, especially in the early years;
- parents wanting more support on how to help their SEN child, or their child, without SEN in various subjects;
- communication including communication with the school office.

Every other week, we hold curriculum workshops for parents, to help them to support their child at home. So far this year, we have had: Phonics, Maths, Ready and New to Reception. We will be holding one on E-safety next week. In addition, every year group has run a workshop focusing on Personal, Social and Health Education. These have covered the following topics: Toileting, Gender Bias, and Bullying, and have been well attended. Next term, we will be holding some workshops especially for our families with children who have SEND. These will be advertised in the school newsletter.

At the start of last year, we changed our homework policy, in response to feedback from our parents. Many of you think there is too much homework but an equal number are asking for more. Head teachers across the Trust are thinking of ways to simplify it further especially for Reception and Year 1 parents. We will trial something soon and tell you more about the way forward.

We apologise that some of you feel communication is still a problem. We are using the school website, emails, texts and our information screen outside of the school to share as much information as we can in advance. Although we are a paperless communications school, we are always happy to supply a hard copy of a letter if it is requested. We know we need to get better at this and so we have appointed someone in the office to manage all communications leaving the school. We hope there will be an immediate improvement.

We continue to work closely with Waltham Forest Catering to improve our school dinners and over the year there has been a huge improvement; however, we know more can be done. We will arrange another sampling session so that parents can give feedback regarding the quality of the food. We are also planning to survey your children to understand the problem a bit more.

Thank you all for your continuing support and have a great weekend.

Lisa Bogle
Headteacher

Diary Dates

16 Nov	Quiz & Curry Night
19 Nov	Road Safety Week
	Various library visits throughout the next few weeks
20/22/ 27/29 Nov	National Gallery Trip – Yr 5 (Cedar/Teak/Cypress/Hawthorn)
22 Nov	Coffee Morning – E-safety 9.15 – 10 am
	Junk Orchestra – Yr 3
	Performance Assembly for instrumentalists & vocalists 9.15 – parents welcome
27 Nov	Piano Recital – 4 pm
28 Nov	Debate – Yr 5, parents welcome 9.15 – 9.30 am
29 Nov	Anti-bullying workshop – Yr 3
30 Nov	Dress down day – see over
1 Dec	Christmas Fair 12 – 3 pm Help urgently needed – on the day or setting up on the previous evening!
5 Dec	Shakespeare for Schools Performance – 9.15 am Parents of performers welcome
6 Dec	Coffee Morning 9 – 10 am 'Mental health & well-being'
7 Dec	Micro-musical - Yr 4 9.15 am – parents welcome
	FOSS Christmas Disco

Selwyn's Got Talent

Today, we have been treated to a great array of talent, as our children performed in their finals of Selwyn's Got Talent. At the time of writing, the results were still pending, but we will bring them to you next week.

Gruffalo

Walk



This week, Year 1 had a real treat when they went on an exciting 'Gruffalo Walk' in Thornton Park, Brentwood. A ranger took them trekking, deep in the forest, in search of characters from the famous book who had hidden themselves there.



Then, they took part in lots of fun activities, including building a mouse house with items found on the forest floor.



Needless to say, a great time was had – by adults as well as children!



At last - we found him!

Dress Down Friday

Friday 30th November

Dress down for school and donate a bottle of something lovely for the bottle tombola; bubbly, wine, pop, juice etc

Those not wishing to take part may wear school uniform as usual

siteMVP.com

Attendance

The classes with the highest and lowest attendance for the week ending 9.11.18 were:

Highest	Percentage
Palm	100%
Olive Hazel	99.6%
Lowest	Percentage
Cypress	89.7%
Willow	88.6%
Cedar	88.5%

Congratulations to Palm Class for their excellent attendance!

Well done to Olive and Hazel Classes, too, who came very close.



Writer of the Week



This week, our congratulations go to:

Lower Phase – Iris, Palm Class

Upper Phase – Angelina, Walnut Class



Mathematician of the Week



This week, our congratulations go to:

Lower Phase – Samuel, Palm Class

Upper Phase – Alwin, Walnut Class