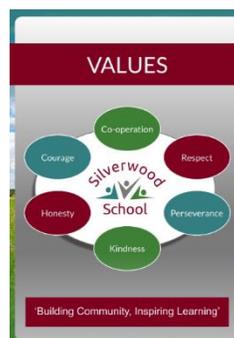


Silverwood School

Building Community, Inspiring Learning

Value for term 4 Perseverance

Trying our best again and again, even when it is hard or things go wrong.



Dear Parents and Carers

The Spring term has been a positive one, our children and young people have been incredible, overflowing with energy and enthusiasm. The learning this term has been amazing and we are very proud of all our learners.

Of course, you will be aware, as with all schools nationally, staffing has been difficult at times but I believe with the exceptional efforts of an incredible staff team we have managed this with minimal disruption. I certainly hope that has been the case for you and my sense is we are now moving forwards away from these challenges.

Our vision: 'Building Community, Inspiring Learning' underscores the work we do together at Silverwood and this term we held a parent engagement meeting. This provided an opportunity for you to give your view on what success looks like at Silverwood for your child and your family. The work will continue as we co-produce a meaningful parent engagement strategy so that we can identify what works well, what needs improving and what is missing.

As always, you can keep up to date with school news by following us on Twitter, visiting our Facebook account or information on our website.

Thank you for your ongoing support, if you have any comments or queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I wish all of you a wonderful Easter break with your family and friends.

Mr Sean McKeown - Executive Head teacher

Term Dates

Term 4

28/02/2022 – 08/04/2022

Please note that the school is finishing early on the last day of term – Friday 8th April at 1.45pm taxis will collect students from school at this time

Term 5

25/04/2022 – 27/05/2022

May 2nd - Bank Holiday

May 3rd - TD day

Term 6

June 6th - TD day
(previously advertised as 22nd July)

07/06/2022 – 22/07/2022

Absence

If your child is going to be absent from school please ensure you inform the school before 9.30am. You will need to let us know the reason and the expected return date.

If your child is **unwell** with sickness or diarrhoea, the school policy is that they can only return to school when they have been clear of symptoms for **48** hours.

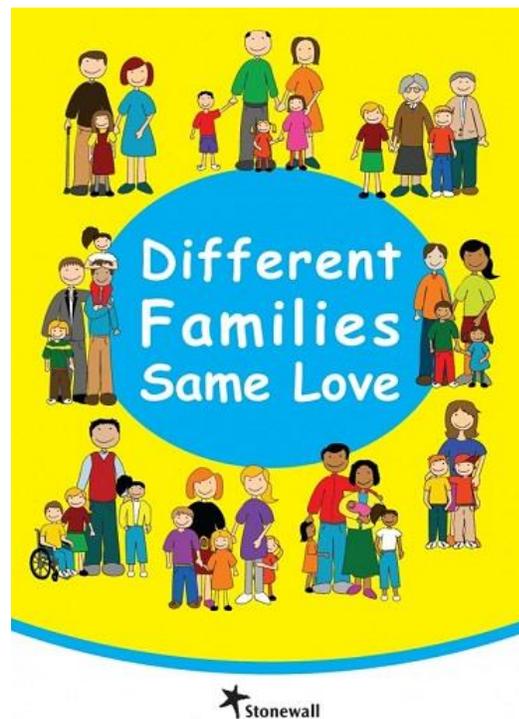


Safeguarding

At Silverwood School we think it is important to create an inclusive environment for all children so they will feel safe, happy, and fulfil their potential.

- We celebrate difference and allow children to explore their own identity
- Take a whole school approach to tackling bullying and discriminatory language
- Challenge gender stereotypes from an early age
- Ensure LGBT people and different families form part of inclusive PSHRE and other curriculum areas
- Make LGBT people visible in aspects of school life including library books, positive posters and special events
- Work with other schools and organisations to meet the needs of pupils, including the provision of information and support

If you would like more information on this topic then please contact the school or Healthy Schools Wiltshire who can signpost parents to more support.



Terri Chard is the safeguarding lead for Silverwood School. If you have any concerns for our pupils please contact her at terrichard@silverwood.wilts.sch.uk

There is also information available on our website: <https://www.silverwood.wilts.sch.uk/our-school-articles/category/safeguarding-statement>

Online Safety Update

Please take the time to look at this link for useful information about a frightening new horror game called Poppy Playtime which we have been made aware is available and can be accessed by children.

WARNING: This contains images and details some people may find disturbing. This should not be shared with young children.

<https://oursaferschools.co.uk/2021/12/03/poppy-playtime-online-safety-review/>

At Silverwood School, we have noticed that a short film, called Siren Head, has been trending online recently. Siren Head is a fictional character, first created in 2018 by Trevor Henderson. Siren Head is a 40-foot tall, humanoid monster with an air raid siren for a head. It communicates by emitting air raid siren noises, or an amalgamation of old radio broadcasts.

As Siren Head has been receiving more attention, it is trending online. People are taking advantage of this popularity and creating games and talking about it on various platforms. This means that young people are able to come across this content, even if they weren't looking for it. Similar has happened with other trends, such as Squid Game and MOMO.

As a parent or carer, please keep a watchful eye on the content that your children are viewing. Speak openly to them about how they spend their time on the devices. Use parental controls on devices and set up age-restricted child profiles to prevent inappropriate content being streamed.

Finance

ParentPay - our new online payment service

We are pleased to announce that we will shortly be accepting payments online for items such as dinner money, school trips and uniform. Using a secure website called ParentPay you will be able to pay online using your credit / debit card or continue to make cash payments at PayPoint stores. ParentPay will soon be our preferred method of making payments to school. Please see attached leaflet for more information.



This will be rolled out one site at a time between now and September. For Trowbridge parents from the end of term 4 (Easter holidays) Tucasi will no longer be available. Any credit or debt will be transferred onto the new system in due course. ParentPay will be up and running for the return to school after Easter. The link will be sent out to parents.

Trowbridge Parent /Carers Only – School Meals

Moving to the new online payment platform has meant that you will no longer be able to book and pay for meals via Tucasi / Schools Cash Office as all accounts have been removed.

All debt and credit balances will be transferred to the new ParentPay platform. If you have recently topped up your account and booked meals for terms 5 & 6, these will be moved to your new account once you have activated it.

You will receive a new activation letter week commencing 25th April.

Although you will be unable to pay for meals via Tucasi / Schools Cash Office or via ParentPay until you have activated your new account, you will be able to pay direct to Silverwood School' bank account details as follows;

Account Name: Silverwood School

Sort Code: 30-91-99

Account Number: 47769060

We hope and encourage you to register your new ParentPay account as soon as you receive the activation letter as you will then be able to make and pay for meal choices and importantly see the status of your account.

As mentioned elsewhere the Finance and Pupil Services team will be on hand to help you register if you are experiencing difficulties.

National Open Youth Orchestra musicians call-out (11-25 year olds)

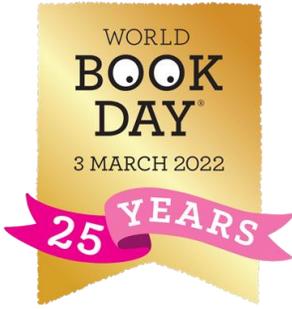
Apply for an audition with the National Open Youth Orchestra (NOYO) at noyo.org.uk until 31 March 2022. NOYO is a pioneering inclusive ensemble where talented 11-25 year old disabled and non-disabled musicians rehearse and perform together. Join rehearsals from September 2022 at the Bristol NOYO Centre, run in partnership with Bristol Beacon. NOYO takes on Trainees alongside Members, so is inviting applications from disabled musicians on acoustic or electronic instruments, as well as from young disabled people who don't yet play an instrument but have musical potential, and use EyeGaze or other assistive technology with a degree of control that could translate to playing an electronic instrument. Joining this high-profile, hugely creative orchestra is free for successful candidates. Visit the website to find out more or see the attached flyer.

School Council Meeting

We had a fantastic whole school council meeting on March 30th which was attended by students from all campus' and college, Ben Silsby and Helen Ruddell. After a shared lunch and tour of the campus we looked at different types of bug hotels and chose the designs we liked the best.

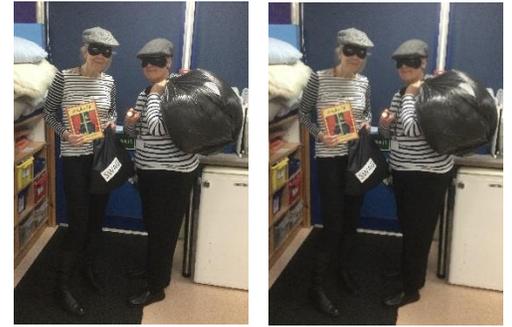


World Book Day



Hello everyone!

March 3rd was World Book Day. Pupils and Staff at Silverwood had great fun dressing up as characters from our favourite books in order to celebrate our love of stories and reading!



Chippenham and Trowbridge took part in a week-long reading challenge to see which class could read the most amount of books. Thank you to all the families who got involved with this by encouraging their child to read and to share books with them at home. A BIG Well Done to Yellowhammer Class at our Chippenham Campus, and to Parrot Class in Trowbridge for reading an impressive amount of books and becoming our very first Silverwood School Reading Champions!



Classes also got involved with some fun craft activities during the week and you may have seen some familiar faces on FaceBook as staff very kindly read some lovely bedtime stories for pupils to enjoy at home!

We would just like to say a very BIG thank you to all the staff who worked so hard to make sure that World Book Day was a really special event for pupils.

Happy World Book Day Everyone! And Happy Reading!

Lucy Hannaford and Rachel Humphrey



Dates for your diary

Please note that the school is finishing early on the last day of term 4 – Friday 8th April at 1.45pm. Taxis will collect students from school at this time.

Term 5 – Starts Monday 25th April

Monday May 2nd - Bank Holiday

Tuesday May 3rd - Teacher Training Day – no students in school

Wednesday 4th May – Students return

Term 5 - Ends Friday 27th May

Monday 6th June – Teacher Training Day – no students in school

Term 6 – Starts Tuesday 7th June – students return

Term 6 – Ends Friday 22nd July

Sixth Form

New email address: sixthform@silverwood.wilts.sch.uk

At Silverwood Sixth form we enjoy celebrating different special days and festivals. Here we have celebrated Chinese New Year where we listened to stories, made lanterns and cooked Chinese food.



For Valentines day we also enjoyed a hot chocolate tasting session, making hearts and having a dance.



We are really enjoying going out into the community once again to shop and visit our local coffee shop. We hope to have our own coffee shop at the end of term here at college.

Chippenham

Yellowhammer Class

Yellowhammer class has really enjoyed the topic of Colours.

We have listened to lots of stories, including 'The Little Red Hen', 'The Blue Balloon' and 'The Princess and the Pea'.

We have been tasting different coloured foods each week: we especially liked blue week when we decorated cakes and biscuits with blue icing and blue sprinkles!



Chaffinch Class

Chaffinch Class, Chippenham Campus enjoyed a sunny visit to Langley Nurseries where we explored the different colours and smells of all the lovely plants. We are hoping to return in term 5 to purchase plants to grow in our Forest School garden. If anyone has any plants that they would like to donate for us to grow in our garden then please drop them off at the Chippenham Campus.



Chaffinch Class have been enjoying weekly visits to the Rowde Campus as a part of our learning outside the classroom curriculum. We spend time with our friends in Pine Class, having snack together and playing on the trim trail. We enjoy our lunch in the Yurt before exploring the woods and then planting seeds and bulbs with Di. One week, we planted tulip bulbs and looked after them carefully before sending them home for our lovely mummies for Mother's Day. As if by magic, the flowers all bloomed on Mothering Sunday.



Bullfinch Class

At Silverwood School we have gotten new high-vis jackets for when we are out in the community. Bullfinch class loved the new jackets, and were very excited to wear them out on their local walk."



Bullfinch have been focusing on the Holi festival this term as part of their topic. They have been exploring the significance of the Holi festival, as well as learning more about Indian culture. They have really enjoyed making some Henna designs and taking part in some Indian food tasting activities, as well as learning the story of Holi through some dance activities.



Woodpecker Class

Woodpecker Class have been enjoying accessing the local community during the week.

On Wednesdays we have been going to the café at Hope Nature centre and on a Friday we go shopping before going to the bungalow.

On both days the class are able to practise their communication skills and skills with money, and in the shop the class often buys ingredients which they then cook at the bungalow.



Woodpecker Class would like to thank everyone for their support in buying the dog biscuits and Easter cards that the class made.

We look forward to making and selling more crafts in the future 😊

Rowde

Chestnut class

Chestnut class have had a very exciting term since Christmas.

In literacy we have been looking at Mr Stink, he stank! We found his shed in the woods, left him some letters and a towel by the pond for his bath—it was very dirty when we got it back with a letter from Mr Stink himself.

In D.T we made some fantastic gliders—thank you Mr.P we love flying them.

In Science we have been looking at the seasons and have enjoyed the sensory opportunities this has given us along with some fun experiments.

We have really grown in confidence this term and made some brilliant friendships which we work hard on maintaining whilst doing fun things together such as singing, signing, rebound and cosmic yoga.

Well done Chestnut class, Miss Nottingham, Miss Stubbings and Mrs Carter are very proud of you.



Allotment

Rowde campus has just taken on a new allotment in Rowde which will allow the students to get involved with the local community. It will mean that we will be able to produce more vegetables for use in school meals and in cooking lessons.

Here is a picture of Y10 DofE group on a wet day helping to prepare the allotment for growing.



Ash Class

Peter Fletcher of Ash class, Rowde campus, brought one of his amazing Diamond Art creations to school to show us.

Peter said, "I do lots of Diamond Art at home. I find it relaxing."



Plane Class

Plane Class took a trip to WH Smith to use their World Book Day tokens. We practiced being polite at the till and how to be sensible in the bookshop.

We had a brilliant time!



Work Experience

The year 11 students at Rowde have been on work experience placements. They had a great time and really enjoyed being involved in all sorts of experiences.



Apple Class

It's been a fun and productive term here in Apple class! Swimming has been a huge success for the pupils, allowing them to develop their skills in the pool and improve their resilience and self-confidence. The children were a credit to Silverwood, interacting politely and respectfully with the staff at the Leisure Centre. These experiences are so important for our pupils. They learn so much from a trip out of school.

Now that the weather has improved, we have been enjoying nature walks and treasure hunts around the site. We have also been pond-dipping! Jack even found some newts!

The pupils decided that they wanted to enter the BBC Young Reporter of the Year competition, as seen on Newsround. We filmed a report about construction of the new school. We've submitted the film to the BBC and we all have our fingers crossed!

It's been a real pleasure and privilege to work with the pupils in Apple Class. They never cease to amaze us with their resilience, unique insights into the world around them, and of course their fantastic sense of humour!

Happy Easter, everyone!



Elder Class

Elder class have been learning about Shakespeare and The Tempest. Here is our artwork based on the storm.

We also had a fantastic visit from the Devizes Museum who showed us lots of Roman artefacts to help us with our Roman Humanities topic.



Kitchen Staff

The photo shows the lovely new uniforms worn by the kitchen staff at the Rowde campus. They are always smiley and helpful the pupils love coming in and having chats with them.



Plus Programme

The Plus Programme has continue to enjoy the wonders of the natural environment at Silverwood, right through the deepest darkest parts of Winter into the wonderful Spring weather. We have walked barefoot though the squelchy mud, cooked bolognaise and other treats on open fires, taken part in Winter woodland Olympics, enjoyed animal care, made bows and arrows, undertaken woodland management creating paths and reusing trees from the development site, even surviving in the woodland with dens and cooking sausages with trangias. We have welcomed our new Plus Programme Lead into the fold, Mr Richard Squire, who has taken the reins and brought new ideas and loads of enthusiasm to the team.

Our WJEC Group have been very busy getting all their coursework up to date, excelling in all units and enjoying their time together. Three of our WJEC team are entered into their final assessments, so we wish them all the best.

The Primary Plus have been busy looking after the animals, happily digging in the garden and even unearthing an old land drainage system in the enclosure ... which they have re-used to grow carrots in and been relocated into the walled garden. The group enjoy all of the wonderful outdoor activities, benefitting wholeheartedly from re-connecting with nature and the friends they make here at Silverwood.

If you have any questions about the Plus Programme, please do not hesitate to contact Richard Squire on richardsquire@silverwood.wilts.sch.uk



Trowbridge

Owls Class

Owl class have been busy extending and working on transferring their skills when out and about in the community. The youngsters always seem to amaze and surprise as they rise to the challenge.

Making informed choices is a really complex activity but I hope you can all share and appreciate a snapshot of our successes this term.



Peacock Class

Peacock Class have been making colour pictures using edible puffy paint.

They mixed the ingredients, before spreading and microwaving the pictures to make them 'puff' up.



We learnt about Holi, the festival of colour. We created Holi t-shirts by printing paint with cotton wool balls



New Age Kurling competition

Nine of our key stage 2/3 pupils attended the Wiltshire and Swindon School Games, New Age Kurling competition.

At the initial competition we entered Orreon, Rikasha, Dolly, Sam Shrey, Ashton, Leo, Oliver and Leon who made up 2 teams.

They all played incredibly well and Team 1 – Rikasha, Orreon, Shrey, Ashton and Oliver made it through to the County Finals at Devizes School.

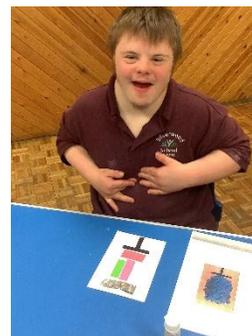
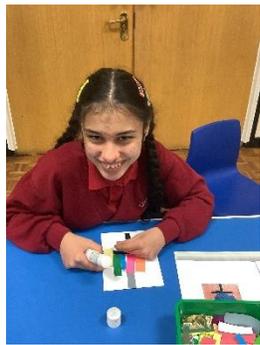
Congratulations!



Swans Class

Swans class have been lucky enough to have Bath Rugby Foundation come in on a Friday to teach us Rugby skills. The strategy games are fun and we have been getting really good at the skills learning how to throw and catch accurately. Swans class have been really enjoying the lessons and are really sad that the lessons have now finished.

Swans class had an art day with Becky at the Trowbridge campus. We learnt about three artists using different mediums to create pieces of art linked to our colour theme. Swans worked hard all day first of all mixing colours whilst becoming the colour and creating play dough to imitate the artwork of Jeff Koon, then looking at the work of David Bachelor and finally Liliane Lijn making disco cones based on her sparkly sculptures.



West Wiltshire Dance Festival 2022

Miss Cheadle, Mrs Humphreys and Miss Bell took six Key Stage 2/3 pupils from the Trowbridge campus to perform at the Forum in Bath. The theme this year was 'Back to the Future' and our pupils went back in time to the 70's to take part in the 1974 Eurovision Song Contest with ABBA's Waterloo. They were hoping not to get nil point with their dance routine and excelled themselves with an amazing performance. Well done to Orreon, Calisa, Lexi-Dawn, Ronnie, Zoe and Shrey 😊



Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter.

We hope that you will find this informative.

If you have any questions regarding the content of the newsletter or about school, you should contact your child's site or use the 'contact us' form found on the school website.

Website - www.silverwood.wilts.sch.uk

Telephone - 01380 850309

Email - admin@silverwood.wilts.sch.uk
