



# Silverwood School

Building Community, Inspiring Learning

Value for Term 2 Courage



## Campus News

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of 2023, I am filled with immense pride for our school community.

Reflecting on this term, courage has been a guiding light in our school, shaping the progress and successes of our children and young people, as we strive towards our vision 'Building Community Inspiring Learning'.

Witnessing our young people display courage, in their learning and personal development, is truly inspiring. Their willingness to embrace new experiences and overcome their unique challenges embodies the spirit we strive to instill in our entire school community.



## Term Dates

### Term 2

30/10/23 – 20/12/23

Please note that the school is finishing early on the last day of term 2 –

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December  
@ 13:40

### Term 3

Teacher Development day  
04/01/24

05/01/24 – 09/02/24

## 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.

I want to express my gratitude for your unwavering support. We deeply appreciate the partnership we have with you and recognise the profound difference this makes to our young people's enjoyment and learning.

I would like to extend my heartfelt wishes for a joyous and peaceful holiday.

Warm regards,



Sean Mckeown



### Rowde Campus

Elder Class have had another exciting term with lots of learning and fun activities.

We have loved the travel training from Clare Coulson this term. We have learnt about how to be safe when travelling and put into practice our new Stop, Look and Listen Skills by going on a trip to Devizes. We took the opportunity to use money in real life situations and visited Greggs for some delicious sausage rolls and doughnuts!



We have been busy preparing crafts for the Christmas Fayre including bracelets, table decorations and much more! Thank you to everyone who came and visited on the day.





We have also looked at other celebrations from across the world including Diwali, Dia de los Muertos and Thanks Giving.



Apple class have enjoyed doing some exciting practical work this term! In LOTC, students have been working on making reindeer decorations using natural materials. They used tools safely and demonstrated a lot of courage trying out new skills. In DT, everyone really enjoyed making cartoon heads. They worked very hard from designing, to making, to adding the finishing touches. Everyone was very proud of their finished product!



Silver Birch had a great and busy term! We have written different types of poems in English, looked at time, money and shape in Math's, enjoyed making lots of tasty treats in Cooking and Nutrition and found Earth and Space really interesting in Science. We have just made festive wreaths in LOtC which was a great lesson and everyone is very excited for our fire pit. We are all very proud of all the hard work this term.

Willow Class have had a fun term in the run up to Christmas. Highlights have been Children in Need when everyone dressed up and we enjoyed a Pudsey themed Attention Autism session. In music students worked together to compose a song based on the eerie song Welcome said the Spider. They explored making different sounds using a range of instruments and worked hard to keep a steady beat. In DT, Mr Paviour helped us make some puppets with moving parts based on our favourite characters. We also made decorations for the Christmas Tree Festival at St John's Church in Devizes. We are very proud of our Silverwood Christmas Tree on display and hope lots of people will go and visit it.



Year 10 Group 2 Personal Development Class were welcomed by Sapling Class for a special festive performance.

The Year 10 students are working towards their Expressive Arts unit for their ASDAN Personal Development Certificate and were required to complete a performance alongside other artistic endeavours. The group decided that Sapling class would be the perfect audience for our puppet performance of "The Jolly Christmas Postman".

The Y10 students took roles of narrating or performing with stick puppets and Sapling class were an excellent and interactive audience who enjoyed listening to the story and following the puppets.

It was heart-warming to see some of the oldest students on the Rowde Campus interact so positively with our youngest students. Both classes enjoyed the experience and the Year 10's definitely showed the value of perseverance!





What a busy term Saplings have had, we have been focusing our learning around Owl Babies and of course Christmas. The children have embraced all of their learning opportunities and have tried lots of new activities and they have been very creative. We all really enjoyed welcoming our parents, family and friends to share our nativity songs with us and to celebrate our learning this term.



Congratulations Silverwood School- We're Platinum Status for the Green Tree Awards- Hooray and a HUGE well done to everyone!

Over the last few months students have planted 750 trees across our campus sites, have developed a culture of recycling, have worked steadfastly towards achieving their Green Tree Awards in lessons at KS3 and have created an Eco-committee, established a council of Eco-ambassadors and have created a pledge to ensure a green commitment across Silverwood school. Students are continuing to promote planting, champion outside learning and have become a very strong advocate group for sustainability, support for local wildlife and establishment of strong ethical green values in school.

Our student Eco-ambassadors are championing everything green in school and their hard work in and out of lessons has ensured that we are recognised at a Platinum level. A massive well done to all those students involved. Thank you to all the staff that have contributed in some way and for continuing to champion LOTC across the curriculum.



## Silverwood School Rowde Campus Community Christmas Extravaganza

Total raised was an amazing £1200 for Outdoor and Community Curriculum!

This month saw the launch of our FIRST EVER Silverwood Christmas Fayre on the Rowde Campus. This was a highly anticipated event where a variety of departmental areas were showcasing just how amazing our students can be in hosting, organising and interfacing with the local community as part of their evidence towards their accreditations.

The Duke of Edinburgh students showed an incredible amount of enterprise, working towards their awards with all their help throughout the day, ensuring that everything was running smoothly; acting as traffic wardens, taking payments for goods and selling table-top items. The Plus Programme students were also equally as entrepreneurial, selling hot and cold drinks [including the very popular ice slushies] selling the various stall items and acting as incredible hosts to the many people who visited the campus on the day. The Eco-Ambassadors, strongly committed in securing the Eco-School Gold award showed a great deal of community spirit by taking charge of the raffle, organising the fair distribution of gifts from the teddy bear bazaar and in assisting with the sale of all the items on the Christmas stalls.

This whole campus event showcased and sold students' work made during Design and Technology lessons and on the last Enterprise day and these amazing, quality products sold out by lunchtime. Plus students made Christmas wreaths, mini Christmas trees and lots of outdoorsy things and families, parents, carers and community members all joined us in their droves to listen to the Christmas music, peruse the stalls bursting with decorations, toys, gifts, sweets, chocolates, cakes and lots of Christmas cheer.







It wouldn't have been Christmas without a visit from Santa himself- who turned up outside of his busy schedule to drop into the Rowde campus to check out whether everyone was behaving themselves ready for Christmas! He checked his naughty list and EVERYONE had been good-phew! Santa absolutely loved the Christmas fayre and thought all of our helpers were "fantastic". Santa even visited Saplings to check-in on our Early Years Foundation Stage who had been really good this year. Santa read *Twas a Night Before Christmas* to the group who were enthralled and loved ringing Santa's bell! Even Santa LOVES READING!



## Christmas lunch at Silverwood

We would just like to say a huge thank you to our school kitchen teams for all their hard work and for making the Christmas lunch so delicious. It was such a lovely day and great to see everyone in their Christmas jumpers enjoying a delicious lunch and Christmas activities.



MERRY  
*Christmas*



# Reading Is Fundamental.

A huge “thank you” from the Literacy team for fully embracing this initiative that will certainly engage our students’ parents with their child’s reading at home. Reading is absolutely fundamental and is a foundational point from which students can access all the rest of their curriculum subjects/ methods of personal progress.

It is important to remember that at Silverwood School reading looks very different depending on age and stage. Students might not be necessarily engaging with a physical book at home but they can access a range of other audio/ kinaesthetic and visual opportunities to demonstrate their reading. What is fantastic is that all students are able to engage with a mascot.

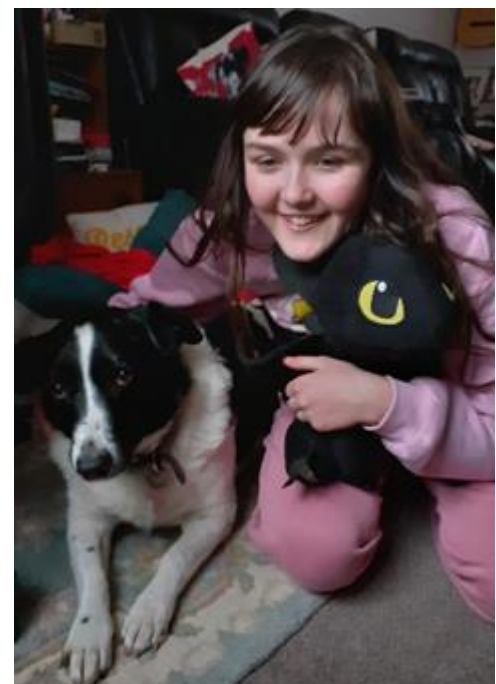
It has been great seeing some of the mascot’s that classes have adopted.

Parents/Carers are really embracing the opportunity to snap a picture of their child reading which is opening up conversations between our students and their adults at home about reading and this is always a productive thing!

A HUGE shout out for this week’s champion tutor groups are Pine & Oak.



Miss Simmons at home reading with toothless & her handsome doggie Fletcher!



## Trowbridge Campus

**We have had a busy couple of weeks on the Trowbridge Campus...**

On Monday the 11th of December, Finches and Swans class were invited to watch the Year 1 Nativity at **Staverton Primary School**. It was lovely to join one of our community schools, and the pupils and staff really enjoyed watching their Born in a Barn performance.

On Tuesday 12th **Phunkyfoods** had its final session for the term making yogurt and oat muffins. The course has helped to introduce pupils to different food tastes and textures and have fun with foods. It's been lovely to see the cooperation between pupils and see some parents too sharing the experience with them.

### CHRISTMAS EVENTS

It was lovely to see so many parents and carers coming into school for our **Christmas Performances** and **Stay and Plays** with all classes. Thank you, as always, for your support.

Swans, Parrots, Bluebirds and Owls had a wonderful Christmas performance on Tuesday. It was lovely to see so many parents as we sung our Christmas songs. The pupils were so confident singing and signing it was a lovely Christmas celebration.







Hummingbirds Class have been really enjoying taking part in their Christmas Nativity story. It was so lovely to welcome our parents to our Nativity Stay and Play where we told the Christmas Story and then enjoyed some lovely sensory play activities with all our lovely parents who came to join in with the festive fun!

We are also very proud of our Christmas door over at Hummingbirds Class – it's a wonderful Christmassy welcome to us all each day!

Swifts class had a very Christmassy stay and play. We decorated chocolate baubles, made marshmallow snowmen, coloured snowflake tree ornaments and listened to the story of the Nativity. We had lots of fun.



Parrots, Owls and Swans class had a trip to Bath on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December to see **Midnight Mole** at the Egg theatre. It was a wonderful experience to visit the theatre and engage with a performance, the first for many of our pupils. The tickets were gifted as part of the Wonder Fund run by Bath Theatre Royal. It was a lovely end to our Entertainment topic, we had an amazing time.



On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December, we have been lucky enough to be involved in a sensory performance of **The Snowman**, performed by 'Music for Miniatures'. It was also a perfect opportunity to involve our friends at our neighbouring primary school, Paxcroft, who came to share in the experience with us.



### TROWBRIDGE CAMPUS BOOK SWAP!

The Book Swap Book Shop at the Trowbridge Campus has been doing a roaring trade. Children have been really enjoying the opportunity to explore and choose different books. Pupils have been visiting the Book Swap Shop in groups of 1 or 2 in order to ensure that they have the best opportunity to engage with the books and have time to browse and make a considered choice of book. Every child should have a new book to bring home with them to enjoy with you over the Christmas.

Thank you to everyone who sent in books – we have really appreciated your support.

Caeden in Bluebirds class enjoyed going to choose a book at the book swap stall. He went back to class and shared his book with his friend Daisy.



As well as all of these exciting things we have been doing in the build up to Christmas, we also have some not so exciting news. At the end of term, Paige McLoughlin, Julie Yeats, Sharon Butler, Emily Kitson and Karen Mawdsley will be leaving the Trowbridge Campus to focus on new adventures. We are very sorry to see them leave and thank them for all the hard work they have done over the months and years whilst working within the school. Good luck for your future!



## Chippenham Campus

Thank you to everyone who supported the Chippenham Campus Christingle Service at St Paul's on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December - the children shared their singing and signing so well and seeing so many smiles started off the festive period beautifully.



## Christingle





Yellowhammer class have enjoyed getting ready for Christmas.

We made no cook chocolate and mint coconut snowball biscuits- otherwise known as Mint surprises!



We set up an igloo for a reading den and everyone enjoyed time to look at books sat inside.





In Early Years Cygnet class have been very busy exploring a 'Sensory Christmas', we have enjoyed our Velcro Christmas tree and all our light up Christmas toys. We have had great fun and been really engaged.



Bullfinch Class have been hard at work this term. In science they have been exploring sound and engaging in different experiments. The class specifically enjoyed testing different materials to see which one would be the best to use to make ear defenders.



### Sparkle with Sound

Silverwood students along with their families from across our campuses have been involved in making a wonderful music video with Sparkle with soundabout, which brings so much joy to all. If you would like to watch it the link has been added below.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-qzFG\\_clkzq](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-qzFG_clkzq)





## What's on:



**SEN Christmas Party**  
**Thursday 21st December**  
Westwood Social Club, BA15 2AP

**£15 per child** 12-1.30pm  
(Adults must stay & supervise) **OR**  
**£10 per child** 2.30-4pm  
(Adults must stay & supervise)

**Exclusive to SEN & siblings**  
Advanced booking to ensure gift,  
via [kayossevents@gmail.com](mailto:kayossevents@gmail.com) (0-16 years)

- Ticket added to lucky raffle draw.
- Hot Chocolate or Grinch Juice on arrival.
- Pretend snow balls & Sensory trays.
- Magic reindeer food station.
- Gingerbread decorating.
- (Second half) Mini Disco
- A visit into Santa's Grotto & present.

Watch out for the Grinch trying to steal your present!

**Mount Crumpit**  
**Jungle of No!**  
**Grinch's Lair**  
**Whooville**



**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

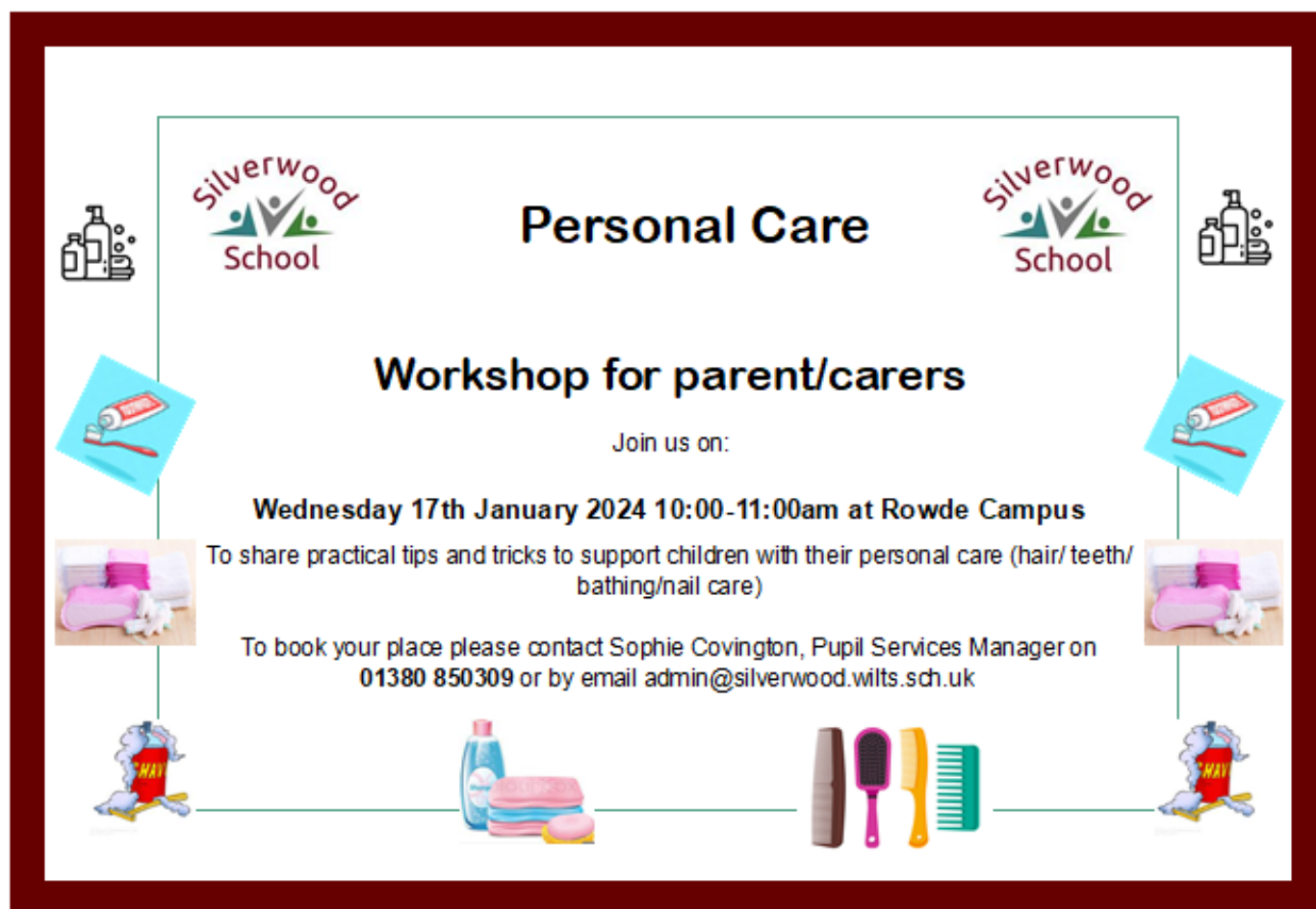
**2023 Pre-New Year SEN Disco**  
**Thursday 28th December 2-3.30 pm**  
Westwood Social Club, BA15 2AP

**£10 per attending Child**  
(Parents must stay and supervise)

**SEN inspired, but all welcome.**  
**Be KIND.** Please note, SEN means the music won't be too loud, it's a shorter disco, and unpredictable.

(Under 2s free, BUT must still be counted in the booking.)

**Simple party food provided.**  
Booking is required, email  
[kayossevents@gmail.com](mailto:kayossevents@gmail.com) or scan our QR code  
and follow us on Facebook.



**Silverwood School**

**Personal Care**

**Workshop for parent/carers**

Join us on:

**Wednesday 17th January 2024 10:00-11:00am at Rowde Campus**

To share practical tips and tricks to support children with their personal care (hair/ teeth/ bathing/nail care)

To book your place please contact Sophie Covington, Pupil Services Manager on  
**01380 850309** or by email [admin@silverwood.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@silverwood.wilts.sch.uk)

## Information:

**ParentPay** - our online payment service.

You should have received a letter with an activation code for the new online ParentPay system.

Once registered you will be able to pay for items such as lunches & school trips online using your credit / debit card. Please refer to the school website for further information & guidance.



Pupil Services team will be on hand to help you register if you are experiencing difficulties, so please do get in touch if you require some support.

**Young Carers** - A Young Carer is a child under 18 who regularly helps to look after a family member or friend who is disabled, ill, has a mental health condition or addiction problem.



Children can engage in:

- Practical tasks (cooking, housework and shopping)
- Physical care (lifting or helping someone use the stairs)
- Personal care (dressing, washing, helping with toilet needs)
- Managing the family budget (collecting benefits and prescriptions)
- Managing medication
- Looking after younger siblings
- Helping someone communicate

Silverwood can support young carers. If you, or a family member, needs support please contact the school office or your child's teacher.







# SEND



## #YourVoiceMatters

Are you a parent of a child with special educational needs or disabilities?

Is your child in alternative provision?

If so we want to hear from you.



Be part of positive change in Wiltshire by sharing your views as we plan SEND and Alternative Provision for the future.



**Join our interactive sessions at:**

**Face to face on these dates with a break for coffee and cake.**

- 10 January Calne Town Hall 10am – 1pm
- 16 January St John's Parish Centre Trowbridge 10am – 1pm
- 26 January Guildhall Salisbury 10am-1pm

**Book online here:** [surveymonkey.com](https://surveymonkey.com)

**Wiltshire Council**

## Feedback request:

Dear parent/carer,

At Silverwood School we are committed to listening to the views and opinions of our parent/carers by conducting parent surveys. These provide us with a general and broad picture of feedback from the parent/carer body and questions typically cover:

- Satisfaction with the school curriculum, teaching, behaviour and communication with parents
- Effectiveness of the school's approaches on key issues such as anti-bullying and homework
- Perceptions of how well the school encourages children to work hard at school, be healthy and treat others with respect
- Perceptions on progression, standard of teaching, happiness of child and support when joining the school
  - Satisfaction with how the school creates a safe environment
    - Effectiveness of school leaders
    - Overall satisfaction with the school
  - Open responses to what is good and what could be improved in the school

Please find below a link to a Survey Monkey Questionnaire to gather your feedback and any additional comments you may have. I would be grateful if you could please take a few minutes to complete the survey by clicking on the link below.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/VDM56C9>

If you would like a paper copy of the survey please contact the Pupil Services Team on 01380 850309 and a member of the team will be happy to arrange this for you.





## **Pupil permissions**

Can we remind parent/carers to complete the consent form for Pupil photo permissions at your nearest opportunity please. Below is a link which will take you directly to it.

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Y6ViQfoLFUq0yECeBtox\\_5X8ac4XX1ZKm9STqkUdid1UMUs4QkpURzBKS0pNT09PQ0c4TE5ON1dRVC4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Y6ViQfoLFUq0yECeBtox_5X8ac4XX1ZKm9STqkUdid1UMUs4QkpURzBKS0pNT09PQ0c4TE5ON1dRVC4u)

## **School Dinner Ordering**

Can we remind parent/carers to let pupil services know if you require any pre-booked school lunches to be cancelled in advance, for occasions where you are aware of any upcoming appointments due to arise or if your child will be off poorly for the upcoming days ahead.

If you require any support with this please contact a member of the Pupil Services Team via email [pupilservices@silverwood.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:pupilservices@silverwood.wilts.sch.uk) and they will be more than happy to help.

## **Allergy Information Questionnaire**

We are in the process of updating our records to ensure all pupils allergy information is accurate.

Please could I ask that you spend a couple of minutes to complete the online questionnaire you will have received via email.

Alternatively scan the QR code below.



Allergy Information - Trowbridge



Allergy Information - Rowde



Allergy Information - Chippenham



## **Dates for your diary**

- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 – Last day of Term 2

*Please note that the school is finishing early on the last day of term 2 – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 13:40. Taxis will collect students from school at this time.*

- Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – TD Day No students in school
  - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – Start of Term 3
  - Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – Parent/Carer workshop Personal Care 10-11am Rowde Campus
  - Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024 – Coffee Shop at Chippenham College Campus 10:30-11:30am
  - Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – Last Day of Term 3
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### **Student Photo Permissions**

**Please note that this newsletter is circulated to 400+ student parent/carers families fortnightly. If you would like to change your child's photograph permissions and remove them from appearing in any photographs in the Silverwood School newsletter please email [admin@silverwood.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@silverwood.wilts.sch.uk).**

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](http://www.silverwood.wilts.sch.uk)

Telephone - 01380 850309

Email - [admin@silverwood.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@silverwood.wilts.sch.uk)

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