



## Value For Term 4 Perseverance

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

On our termly poster we are proud to show Brandon, who is one of our pupils who joins us once a week from a mainstream school for our Plus Programme at Silverwood-Rowde. Plus Programme pupils use our outdoor spaces to learn about Silverwood Values, and how these values can help them in school and life. Brandon wanted the bird feeder he had made to be on a very high branch because he'd seen a robin land on it. He kept trying and trying until he managed to loop it over the right branch!

We love hearing how our Silverwood pupils use our values, and we encourage you to share photos and stories with your child's tutor about how your young person uses Silverwood Values when they are with you.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **Start of Term 5 - Monday 15th April 2024**
- **Bank Holiday - Monday 6th May**
- **T.D Day - Tuesday 7th May 2024**
- **Last day of Term 5 - Friday 24th May 2024**
- **T.D Day - Monday 3rd June 2024**
- **Start of Term 6 - Tuesday 4th June 2024**

## Governors

**Written by Aileen Bates, Chair of Governors**

Welcome to the first governor contribution to the newsletter, and the opportunity to introduce ourselves to you. My background is in adult learning disability services and I have been chair of governors since the school was formed in September 2020.

Our main job as governors is to agree the school's goals with the senior leadership team. We also aim to get feedback from parents, pupils and other stakeholders. Keeping the finances under control is another part of our responsibility.

This year we have had reports on all aspects of school progress and have made a number of visits to the school. For me this has included meetings with senior leaders, classroom visits, curriculum reviews and coffee mornings. I also meet fortnightly with Sean to discuss progress.

Recently some of us visited the new classrooms being built at the Rowde campus and we look forward to welcoming pupils there. Major improvements are then planned for the Chippenham and Trowbridge campuses.



Your involvement is very important to the school and I appreciate your commitment and all the ways you give your support. If any of you are interested in joining the governing board, either as a full governor or in an associate role, please speak to one of the governors or a senior leader. Alternatively you can email me at [chairofgovernors@silverwood.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:chairofgovernors@silverwood.wilts.sch.uk).

# Chippenham College News

The last term at Silverwood Sixth Form has been a full of excitement and opportunity. On the 5th March the learners hosted a community coffee shop. This was very well supported so thank you to all who attended. Our talented sixth-formers had been working on a variety of crafts to sell in their enterprise sessions, lip balm, bath bombs, cookie jars, hair bands and much more! These were very well received.

We have also been accessing our local community, and been experiencing a variety of Post 18 opportunities. This has included visits to Mill Race Day Centre in Calne and The Meadly in Trowbridge. The students have really enjoyed these trips and it has been great to explore our learner's preferences for post Sixth Form.

In other exciting news, one of our Yr 13's has been working weekly at The Bell in Yatton Keynall. This has been a really successful work placement and the The Bell have kindly offered to keep our Student on next term!



Helping Wiltshire's children, young people and families access the right help at the right time.

All Together is here to help you find the support and information you need quickly and easily.

Meaningful human connection is really important for our happiness and wellbeing - whether it's from friends, family, or community groups. We work with local communities, bringing together a range of professionals and organisations, to ensure there is always support available when you need it. On these pages you will find information on things to do, places to go, practical tips or someone to talk to. We all need help at some point in our lives - and that's okay.

The online webinar will be held on 29 April from 6pm. Anyone can join the webinar on this link [The Family Hub](#)

# Chippenham Campus News

Written by Beth Jones, Head of Learning

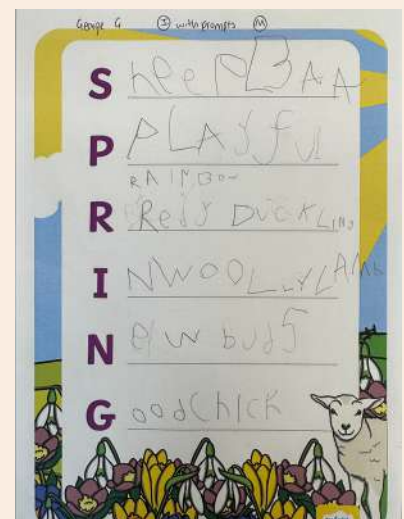
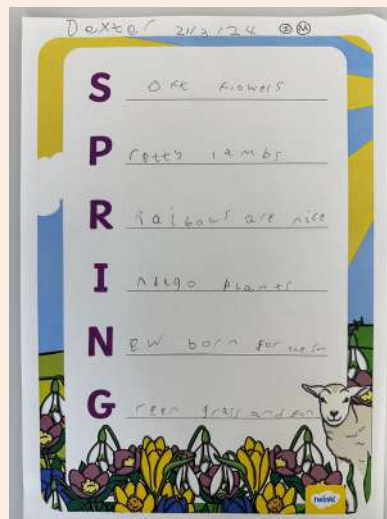


Cygnets Class enjoyed their first trip to Forest School – a wonderful opportunity to take our learning outside of the classroom!

Chippenham site celebrated Science Week by conducting experiments to see what conditions cress needs in order to grow.

We all used cotton wool, water and seeds. Some seeds were planted without water, and some were put in the dark to see what would happen. Pupils made predictions as to how the seeds would grow or not grow.

The results were not quite as we expected: It seems that cress will grow anywhere! Everyone had great fun being scientists for the week.



# Rowde Campus News

Written by Terri Chard, Head of Learning

We were really pleased to be able to invite the new team of Local Authority Family School Support Workers to come and have a day at Silverwood school and meet our amazing children.

The team spent time at all three campuses and in a variety of lessons. They were amazed at the individual and bespoke provision offered to all children and could see the children flourishing in the love, care and education they received. The team commented on how confident and communicative the children were and could see how children progress throughout their time at the School.

World Book Day was a massive success, everyone enjoyed dressing up in their favourite characters. I don't know who enjoyed themselves more - staff or pupils!



# Trowbridge Campus News

Written by Siobhan Cheadle, Head of Learning



## Wow! What a busy term it has been!

At the very end of last term we had a team of dancers take part in an amazing performance at the West Wiltshire Dance Festival. One of the event organisers said 'It was great! So powerful, so emotional – can I just say a massive well done and thank you! The reaction to both the pupils and those watching when the white coats came off was brilliant. There were well over 200 people in the audience taking part in a standing ovation!!!'

World Book Day was a lot of fun! The children had a lot of fun dressing up as a character from a favourite book, or wearing comfy clothes for reading. There was a whole school book swap – each class passed on a book that they had chosen for their partner class. The children enjoyed choosing a book for their friends in other classes to enjoy, and it was lovely for each class to get a new story to try.

There was also a book trail around the school, which was fun to follow. It led to the library – where there are lots of books for the children to choose and enjoy!

We opened a Book Café in the Nest, with menus of books, where the children could enjoy a story, a drink and a biscuit.

It was a lot of fun and was a great way to focus on how sharing books together is a wonderful way to develop attention, communication and social skills.

A huge thanks to all the staff who helped and supported with the day.

A team of 6 pupils from Swans and Parrots showed off their skills when they took part in the New Age Kurling Festival at Clarendon school. Well done!

Owls have been taking part in some community visits. They were very lucky to have been given a tour of Palmer Gardens. Owls have also joined Bluebirds for a Forest School taster session in the Yurt.

As part of our school Science week Swifts Class planted cress heads in cotton wool. They watched it grow over the week and when it was long enough they all had haircuts and then tasted the cress. Some of them liked it, but most of them didn't!

It was great to see so many parents involved in our recent Parent Meetings. Thank you for your ongoing support and enjoy a lovely Easter break!



# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## Medication



Any medication coming into school please could you pass onto the Driver or PA with the correct paperwork. This will then get passed onto the adults in school.

Please see our [Silverwood School website](#) for copies of this form.



### 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.



### Nut Free School

Please remember if you are providing a snack for your child to bring into school we are nut free, this is extremely important as we have pupils with allergies.



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

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



### Sarah and Clare's Law



Sarah's Law, or the Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme allows parents, carers and guardians to ask the police to tell them if someone has a criminal record for child sexual offences.

Clare's Law, also known as the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS) is a police policy giving people the right to know if their current or ex-partner has any previous history of violence or abuse.

Please see our website for more information.

### Silverwood School

Please see our Facebook page for current news, updates and parent information regarding Trowbridge, Chippenham and Rowde campuses.

