September 15th 2023 Newsletter

Silverwood School

Building Community, Inspiring Learning

Value for Term 1 Co-operation



Campus News

Rowde Campus

Great start to the Term at Rowde Campus.

The term has started off very well at Rowde campus with our transition week. This week solely with their tutors, helps children to familiarise themselves with the site and new staff before moving to their proper timetable.

There has been a lot of changes to get used to. Over the summer holidays we have had two new mobile classrooms put onto site either side of the drive way. This is to accommodate our extra classes including our new Early Years Class - Saplings.

The back of the house has had some additional scaffolding ready for its renovation, and the new build has now got its windows and is now water tight.

Another new change has been to our suite of Taxis. We now have over 50 taxis/minibuses transporting children to and from school. This has been a major undertaking of local authority and school ensuring that the journey to and from school is as positive an experience as the actual time in school.

The pupils have really taken all these changes in their stride and we have had a happy, calm and rather hot week back at school.

Term Dates

Term 1

Fri 1st September – TD Day

<u>Mon 4th September – TD</u> <u>Day</u>

05/09/23 - 17/10/23

Wed 18th October - TD Day

<u>Term 2</u>

30/10/23 - 20/12/23

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

Wednesday 20th December @ 13:40

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.



A special shout out goes to our new classes; Silver Birch, Lime, Pear Cherry and Sapling who have already settled into the routine of the school. Please can parents look out for Seesaw messages from tutors as the pupils are all excited to share pictures, and stories from their day.







Chippenham Campus

We are excited to have welcomed everyone back to school! Bullfinch have moved into their new classroom and are enjoying making the space their own.



Chloe's Mobile Farm are visiting the site on Wednesday - predominantly to work with Kingfisher, Woodpecker, Blackbird and Wagtail Class, but the animals being on site is welcomed by all!





Page 2 of 11

Trowbridge Campus

Trowbridge Campus has had a very positive start to the new school year. It is always fantastic to see all of our pupils returning, as well as welcoming our new intake. Robins Class have had an amazing first week in their new satellite classroom at Paxcroft School. They have already made friends with some children from the wider Paxcroft School community and they have played well together. They are looking forward to joining more classes for further learning and play opportunities soon.



We would also like to welcome our new staff and wish a very happy retirement to Irene Mills, who has worked at the school as a wonderful Teaching Assistant for over 20 years. Her experience and dedication to the children will be sadly missed.

What's on:



https://mailchi.mp/cd985112e6a8/latest-news-and-advice-on-covid-562054?e=[UNIQID]

Want to help shape SEND services for the future? Join us this September.

We are asking parents and carers of children and young people with special educational needs and or disabilities (SEND) to help shape how services are provided in the future.

We regularly review the way we work to ensure the support and advice is the best it can be. Feedback from families is one of the key factors in making sure it's effective. Please join us for a face-to-face event on 18 September at the Devizes Corn Exchange in Devizes from 10am to 2pm. This will be the first step in the process to ensure the SEND strategy for 2024 and beyond is ready and fit for purpose.

More information here – Families invited to get involved in shaping the future of SEND services in Wiltshire - Wiltshire Council

Page 3 of 11

Growing Up and Moving On - book your place

Book your place at the Civic Centre in Trowbridge on Friday 13 October for a special event to promote further independence and support for young people in Wiltshire.

For young people from year 9 upwards with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) or My Support plans.

There will be a market place available throughout the day with representatives from education, health, social care, (as well as many more) providing young people with further information when considering moving onto adult life. Workshops will be running in the morning with sign up to the workshops available on the day. We will also be welcoming some guest speakers to open the event.

Use the link below to sign up to attend this session.

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/growing-up-and-moving-on-event-tickets-643697485507?aff=oddtdtcreator

Meet the Wiltshire Parent Carer Council

The Wiltshire Parent Carer Council (WPCC) is Wiltshire's parent carer forum. It is an independent organisation, run by parent carers for parent carers and it strives to enable parent carers to work as partners with services to positively inform decisions about the SEND services their children and young people access.

Additional to their participation and coproduction work, they provide a number of other services, including their popular and highly regarded SEND Information Service (SENDIS) which supports parent carers and those working to support them, to find the information and support they need, when they need it.

The WPCC is a unique and highly regarded parent carer forum, and it seeks to work in partnership with as many services and agencies as possible.

The WPCC produces two weekly SEND newsletters; one for parent carers and a separate one for professionals. You can sign up to receive a copy of the WPCC weekly newsletter by visiting their website, as well as to see previous newsletters and a host of information and support for parent carers of children and young people with SEND in Wiltshire.

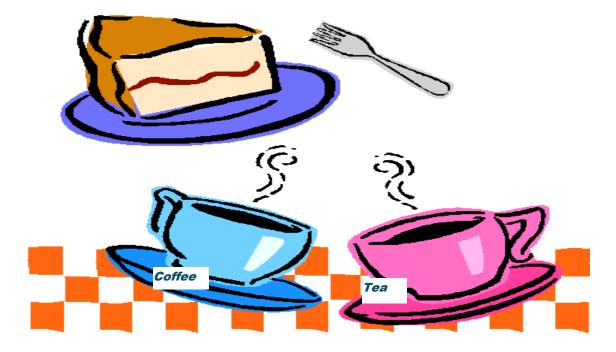
Visit the Wiltshire Parent Carer council website with the link below.

https://www.wiltshireparentcarercouncil.co.uk/en/Home_Page

Drop in for a Coffee and a Chat at Silverwood School Trowbridge Campus

Wednesday 20th of September

9:30 am - 11:30am Everyone welcome



There will be an opportunity to Speak to the Family School Support Worker about any issues or concerns that you might need support with.

Vanessa Richardson – Family School Support Worker

Page 5 of 11



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.

Website - www.silverwood.wilts.sch.uk

Page 6 of 11

Could we please request if there are any concerns Parent/Carers would like the school to be aware of or support with, that these are communicated directly to school and not through PA's on Taxi's.

This is especially important when there is any digital contact concerns such as pictures, social media, Tik Toc messages etc...

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.

Here at Silverwood we have a family support team who are able to help with lots of different Silverwood Family Support Workers We offer a range of support to our parent/carers throughout Silverwood School. For more details about our School Family Support Workers follow this link:

https://www.silverwood.wilts.sch.uk/our-school-articles/parent-support

Family Support

We offer a range of support to our parent/carers throughout Silverwood School. You can contact our School Family Support Workers who will be able to assist and sign post you.



Website - www.silverwood.wilts.sch.uk





Page 7 of 11



SeeSaw



SeeSaw is a digital student portfio that gives students an audience for their work. It gives parent/carers a windo into what's going on every day in their childs classroom.

Teachers can add posts to the pupils journal to showcase creative projects they have been working on in the classroom and also communicate directly with parent/carers concerning their child.

Families are notified when there are new posts in their childs journal. They can view posts and add likes and comments.

Sign up An invite is sent to the parent/carer via email from yur childs teacher in order to sign up. If you do not have a link contact your childs teacher. Up to 10 fmily memebrs can connect to one child's journal.

App. There is a SeeSaw App which can be downloaded at the Apple App Store or Google Play, simply search 'SeeSaw'.

Steps to Connect

Look for a printed, email, or text invite and follow instructions!



- Download the **Seesaw app** or go to
- app.seesaw.me on a computer
- Olick 'I'm a Family Member'
- Printed Invites: Scan the QR code Text/Email Invites: Click the link

Follow the prompts to create an account or sign in

How to Use Seesaw



Adjust **Account Settings** and connect to Seesaw Journals for additional children View and engage with all recent posts from all of your children using Seesaw View posts from one child or class (vs. all recent posts in the Home tab)



Ose Messages to Communicate with teachers

Connected family members see only their own child's learning Learn more at web.seesaw.me/privacy

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_5X8ac4XX1ZKm9STqkU did1UMUs4QkpURzBKS0pNT09PQ0c4TE5ON1dRVC4u

School Dinner Ordering

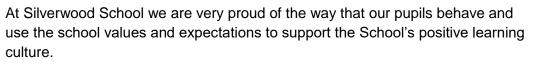
Can we remind parent/carers to let pupil services know if you require any pre-booked school lunches to be cancelled in advance, for occasions where you are aware of any upcoming appointments due to arise or if your child will be off poorly for the upcoming days ahead.

If you require any support with this please contact a member of the Pupil Services Team via email <u>pupilservices@silverwood.wilts.sch.uk</u> 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.



The School's and staff believe strongly in the ethos that "All behaviour is communication". We would like to take the opportunity to share with you the School's Inclusion Support (Behaviour) Policy



https://www.silverwood.wilts.sch.uk/uploads/1/3/6/5/136583151/behaviour_for_learning_policy_2023a.pdf

Please click on the link or alternately visit our website where it can be found in the Policies section. If you have any queries of feedback regarding the policy please contact Terri Chard.



With the current warmer weather please can you ensure your child has a hat in school, they wear sun cream or bring some into school to apply. Please note if your child has sun cream in their school bag you are consenting for this to be applied by a member of staff if they are unable to do this themselves.



Funding Information Request

Pupil Premium

Schools will receive additional funding for each child who is in receipt of free school meals (FSM). If you believe you may be entitled to free school meals for your child and have not yet made a claim please click on the link to see how you qualify - <u>http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-free-school-meals</u>

Registering does not mean that your child has to have school meals, but it does mean we can access further funding towards your child's education from the government, this also means some activities which incur a payment are less for children who receive frees school meals. Please enquire at school if you need further information or a form to complete.



Armed Forces

As a school, we gain extra funding for children's education if parents/carers are a member of the armed forces. If you are a military family please could you email <u>admin@silverwood.wilts.sch.uk</u> to confirm and we will update our school records accordingly.

Dates for your diary

- Monday 18th September 2023 Individual school photos (Rowde)
- Monday 9th October 2023 Individual school photos (Chippenham)
- Thursday 12th October 2023 Support for Restricted Diets Workshop for Parent/Carers 10-11am Location - Trowbridge Campus
- Tuesday 17th October 2023 Last Day of Term 1
- Wednesday 18th October 2023 TD Day No students in school
- Monday 30th October 2023 First Day back Term 2
- Monday 30th October 2023 Individual school photos (Trowbridge)
- Friday 17th November 2023 Children in Need Day
- Wednesday 20th December 2023 Last day of Term 2

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

Website - www.silverwood.wilts.sch.uk

Page 10 of 11

Student Photo Permissions

Please note that this newsletter is circulated to 400+ student parent/carer 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.

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 - <u>www.silverwood.wilts.sch.uk</u> Telephone - 01380 850309 Email - <u>admin@silverwood.wilts.sch.uk</u>