

SELBORNE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

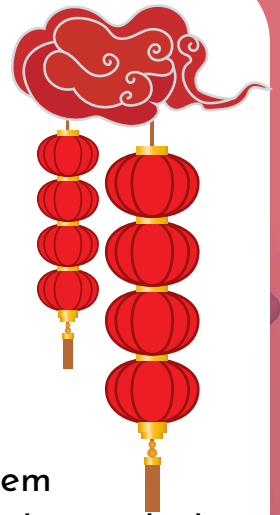
06/02/26



Dear Parents/Carers,

We have still been having lots of fun in school even though the weather has been dreary and miserable. This week we have had some Chinese students in Selborne. We always think it is so brave of primary-school-aged pupils to come on a school trip from so far, with their teachers, to see what it is like in an English School; some of their parents have saved up for years so that their child can experience the prestige of English education for the week.

Our pupils have loved showing them around our school, helping them in our lessons and teaching them about English culture. The workshops which their teachers have run for Selborne pupils have been superb and we now understand more about Chinese culture in fun activities such as paper cutting, calligraphy and lantern making. Our Chinese visitors also make a significant contribution to our school funds for hosting them so we have been able to use that money to buy new library books, Science resources and subsidise a number of forthcoming school trips. A big thank you to Miss Campbell for co-ordinating their visit so well. A successful partnership all round!



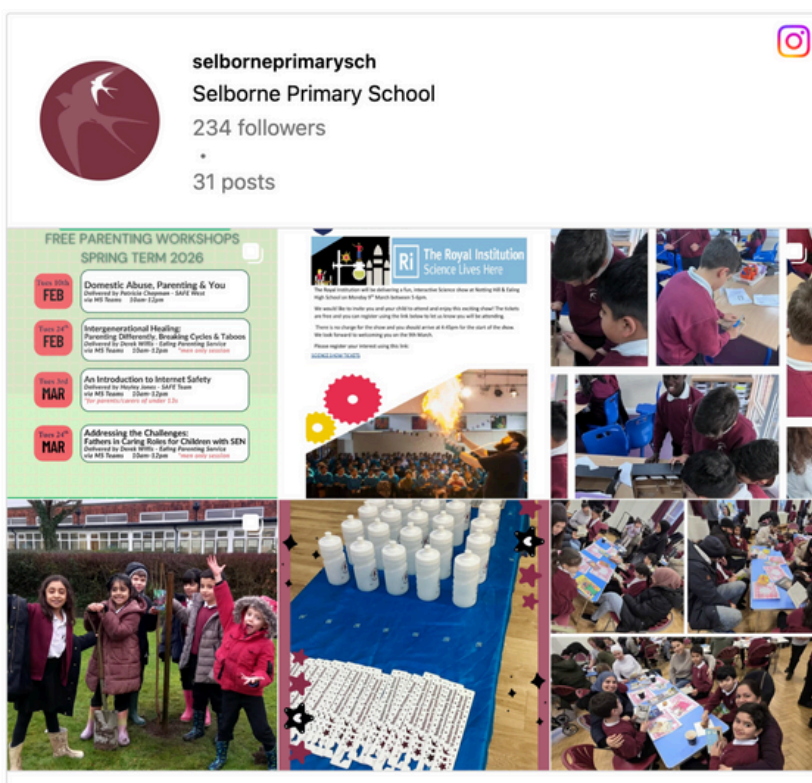
School Vacancies



Initial figures from Ealing Council indicate that our Reception classes for September 2026 will be full but if you have a friend or neighbour who has not yet applied for a Reception place then encourage them to put in a late application and they can phone our office for a school tour. We do currently have one vacancy in Year 3 and one vacancy in Year 4 so if you know anyone who wants their child to come to Selborne then please get them to register with Ealing In-Year admissions. All other year groups are full with waiting lists (including Nursery where we handle our own admissions) but we are happy to have more families join our waiting lists! Your recommendation is the best way of us promoting our school so please spread the word widely about how fantastic our school is... Thank you.

Please look out on X (previously Twitter) and Instagram for more updates and pupil photos.

Follow us on X/Twitter – (870 people already do)
Follow us on Instagram – (224 people and rising!)



@selborneprimariesch



@selborne_pri

Target Setting Day



We cannot wait to welcome all parents into school on Tuesday 10th February for target setting day. You will get 15 minutes to meet your child's teacher and find out how they are doing in class and learn about their new targets for the remainder of the academic year. Mainstream pupils should come into school with you to meet with their teacher but they do not have to wear school uniform (save your washing and ironing!). There is no normal school that day. Some of Selborne's Governors will be in school on that day meeting parents and finding out what you like about Selborne and what we could do to be even better. We are really fortunate to have an experienced and diverse Governing Board at Selborne. Thank you for engaging with them if you get an opportunity to speak to them. Revision guides will NOT be on sale that day as we sold out of them in the Autumn parents' evening. You can pick them up at any good bookshop though or order them online if you still need them. Mrs Ismail has already completed her target setting day with 1 Oak parents as she is going to have her baby anytime soon and we did not want her parents to miss out on finding out about their child's progress! When the day comes, we wish Mrs Ismail a very happy maternity leave for her to welcome her first baby. We have already appointed a familiar teacher as maternity cover in 1 Oak and Miss O'Flynn will continue to support/teach the class as usual after a short teaching practice placement at Petts Hill Primary.

Safer Internet Day 2026

Read the report at
saferinternetday.org.uk

 UK Safer Internet Centre

Supported by Nominet 

Find More on: www.selborne.ealing.sch.uk

Selborne's Results



We were so delighted to receive the letter of commendation from Bridget Phillipson last week (see separate email). Our school's attainment at the end of the 2024/25 academic year placed our school among the very best nationally! Thank you for all your congratulations to us too - we feel so proud of our school and could not do it without working in partnership with you. We really do want your child to fulfil their potential and many teachers offer booster classes, after school, free of charge to you and they give up their own time to prepare, plan and run these, teaching beyond their contractual hours. If your child is selected to attend one of these extra classes, please support them by making sure your child attends each week, completes any extra homework and collect them exactly on time at 4:15pm. Again, in April this year, the Year 6 team will be offering two Saturday morning sessions for our Year 6 pupils to 'revise' before their KS2 national SATs tests. Year 6 parents have received information about these sessions so that they can prioritise them in their diaries.



A message from Bridget Phillipson

Secretary of State for Education



Dear Mrs Shilling,

Congratulations to you and your team on the excellent outcomes the disadvantaged pupils at Selborne Primary School achieved at the end of the 2024/25 academic year. Your school's performance places it among the very best nationally, and this is a significant achievement.

This success reflects the dedication of your staff and the hard work of your pupils. It shows what can be achieved when ambition and commitment come together. Thank you for everything you do to give children the best possible opportunities to succeed.

Your school's achievements demonstrate what is possible, and I hope you will continue to share your experience and best practice with others. Even the strongest schools can go further. We encourage you to lead the way as a system leader - sharing effective practice, championing networks, supporting collaboration, and helping raise standards across the sector.

Please pass on my thanks and congratulations to your staff and pupils. I look forward to working with you as we strive together to raise standards for all.

*Your sincerely,
Bridget*

Bridget Phillipson

Secretary of State for Education

Find More on: www.selborne.ealing.sch.uk

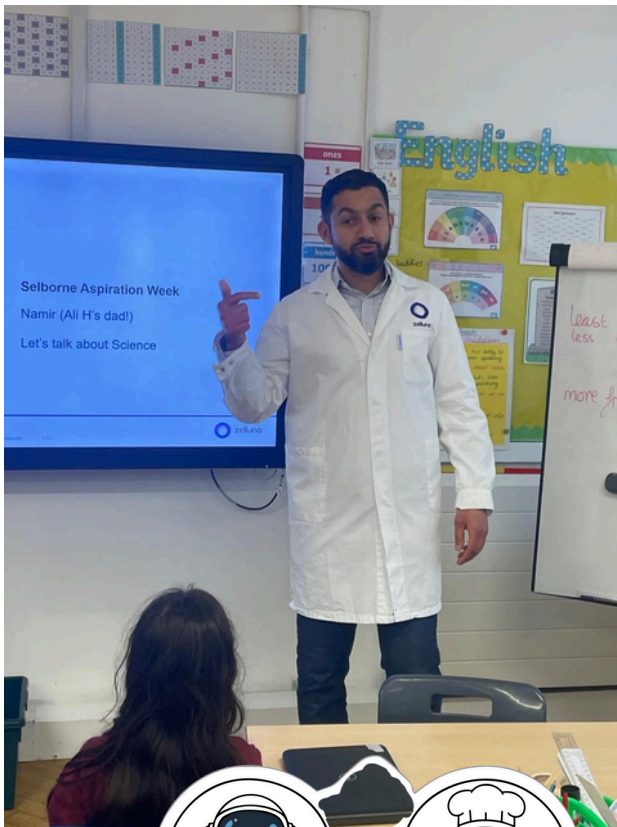
Parent workshops

It was amazing to see so many parents in school last week for the Year 3 Reading Café. Your children loved sharing their reading books with you. We offer so many workshops for parents over this Spring term so please check out the list on the school website and just come along - no need to book. At most workshops this term, you get the opportunity to go back to your child's classroom and see them in action so please do not miss out on a sneak peak of their school day...

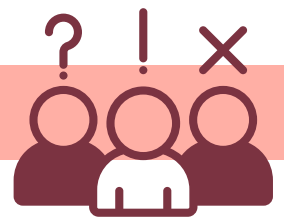


Aspirations Week

We have been encouraging all the pupils to 'aim high' this week and aspire to be whatever they want when they grow up! Selborne is a school with high expectations in all areas of a child's education and we also hope that we inspire pupils to have great aspirations for the future. A massive thank you to all the parents who gave up their time this week to inspire our pupils. We have heard from doctors, artists, museum curators and nurses this week to name a few. We have also encouraged the pupils to challenge typical career stereotypes (early years pupils have met a male top ballet dancer before) and this year, pupils heard from a top female basketball player. The highlight of the week of course is Friday's dress-up event.



Parental Enquiries/Issues



This week we have had parents contact the office for an appointment with Mrs Shilling for a lost PE top and because of a spelling mistake on a piece of set homework (teachers are human!). These are inappropriate reasons to contact the Headteacher of your child's school for an appointment. If you have an issue with your child in school then the first point of contact is your child's classteacher followed by your child's Year leader. We have listed the Year Leaders for each year group below for ease of reference for you. If your issue cannot be solved by your child's teacher or a member of the middle leadership team, then they can pass it on to a senior leader in our school as we have two Assistant Headteachers and two Deputy Headteachers. The Headteacher can ultimately resolve issues followed by the Governing Board. Mrs Shilling would love to have time to get involved to track down lost library books and switched PE kits but she does not physically have capacity for this and also has a very capable team to assist you. As you are aware, she continues to be a Cluster Lead for Ealing Learning Partnership (co-ordinating collaboration between 14 primary and special schools in the Ealing Borough) so at times she is in other local schools supporting them to achieve high standards (especially when schools are in the run up to their Ofsted inspection window). Selborne receives significant additional funding from Ealing Council (or other local schools) for her to complete this role so it really benefits our school and the provision we can offer our pupils. There is always a Deputy headteacher on site when she is off site for an occasional day but parents need to manage their expectations as we are a large school with lots of pupils. We always endeavour to resolve your issues but at times, this will not be through an instant appointment/response from the Headteacher. Clearly, parents' concerns are prioritised and Mrs Yates (Deputy Headteacher and Safeguarding Lead) would always endeavour to act as quickly as possible if a parental concern involved the safeguarding of a pupil (including outside of school). Please remember that if you email into the school office then we endeavour to respond to your enquiry within 48 hours.



admin@selborne.ealing.sch.uk

Continued... Parental Enquiries/Issues

At times, this means setting up a meeting/phone call to discuss your concern later that week. If you do not hear any response after 48 hours then please do call into the school office to check as emails do go astray at times. Please do not email into the school office asking for an appointment with your child's classteacher or raise an issue and then phone school an hour later expecting a response/resolution. Teachers and school leaders are working with pupils all day and may not check their email until after clubs finish that day (ie. 4:45pm) so please be reasonable. We want to all work together, respectfully, for the benefit of your child - both academically and pastorally.

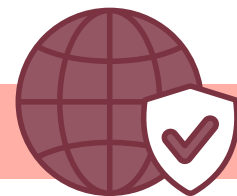
Selborne Year Leaders:

- Reception - Mrs Shahid (*also Assistant Headteacher*)
- Year 1 - Miss Digel
- Year 2 - Mrs Thomas
- Year 3 - Miss Lonergan
- Year 4 - Mr Cox (*also Assistant Headteacher*)
- Year 5 - Miss Uddin
- Year 6 - Miss Behiri.

Ealing Music Festival

If your child plays a musical instrument then why not enter them for Ealing's Music Festival? A local Ealing independent school organises this. Ealing Music Festival is a really great opportunity to perform in public and get professional feedback on your playing. Pupils perform a short, well-prepared piece in front of a small and friendly audience, made up of the families of the competitors, so it feels supportive rather than daunting. A professional adjudicator listens carefully and then provides written feedback that focuses on what has gone well as well as clear, practical suggestions for next steps. The emphasis is on encouragement and progress, helping give musical advice as well as taking part in a real musical event. Parents can sign their child up through the following link: [Instrumental | ealingfestival](#) Let us know how they get on!

Safety on the Internet



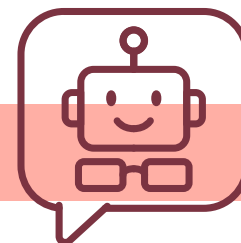
Mrs Kadri, our computing Leader, ran a superb online workshop at the start of term for Selborne parents on keeping your child safe online. At working parents' request, we ran this at 6pm. 28 parents managed to attend but we had hoped that this number would be higher. The content of the workshop was NOT suitable for pupils as Mrs Kadri shared some of the shocking content which your children can easily access. However, she gave invaluable tips to make sure that you can keep your child safe when they are on the internet at home. Please remember that all primary school pupils should have limited time online and it should be fully supervised (even for Year 6). Children should not be accessing apps such as Whatsapp or Snapchat until they are 13 years old so this is not applicable at primary school. Mrs Kadri recorded the online workshop so you can catch up and you can access it at: <https://youtu.be/usOedJwVEuw>



Please remember not to watch this workshop with your child. Mrs Kadri teaches them internet safety at school in an age-appropriate way and is also taking the assembly next Monday to reiterate important messages as it approaches National Internet Safety Day.

We also heard this week that when Ofsted inspects a school, they will be checking our pupil mobile phone policy (and they will be pleased with ours...). Just a reminder to parents that Selborne (like the majority of Ealing schools) is Smartphone free and no pupil is allowed a Smartphone (having access to a camera or internet) on our school site. Only Year 6 pupils, who walk to school alone, can bring a 'brick' type phone into school but must hand it in to the school office on arrival and parents must sign the policy to agree to this. Nationally, there is lots of pressure for a future ban for under 16s on social media (many other countries have already adopted this) and as a school, we think this is an excellent idea as internet usage can have such a detrimental effect on children's development and wellbeing.

Artificial Intelligence (AI)



As part of our Computing and E-Safety curriculum, pupils are being introduced to age-appropriate learning about Artificial Intelligence (AI). Children explore AI through online safety lessons, where they learn how to spot fake or misleading images and think critically about whether information is reliable. Linked to this year's Safer Internet Day theme, Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI, pupils will take part in a dedicated assembly led by Selborne's Digital Leaders, and all year groups will also take part in focused computing lessons. Upper Key Stage 2 pupils will also receive a simple introduction to machine learning as part of their learning in Computing, helping them understand how some digital systems learn from information, while emphasising safe and responsible use.

We're supporting
**Safer
Internet
Day 2026**

UK Safer
Internet
Centre

Supported
by Nominet

nominet

Parental controls & privacy settings guides

Learn how to set up parental controls and privacy settings on devices, apps, and platforms to help keep your child safe online.

Internet Matters

Find step-by-step guides to help you layer up parental controls across networks, devices and apps, so children can have safer online experiences as they grow.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>

Future Dates

Please remember that we break up for half term at 3:15pm on Friday 13th February and all pupils must be in school for 8:35am on Monday 23rd February. Our current whole school attendance is at 96% and we have ranked 10th in best attendance out of all 65 Ealing primary schools. Please do not keep your child off school for any reason other than genuine illness. A special well done to Year 5 whose attendance last week was collectively 98.5% - you are amazing! Reception is the year group whose attendance needs the most improvement; you can do it, Reception!

Next half term, the certificate assembly for Y4, Y5 and Y6 is on Wednesday 25th March; the certificate assembly for Y1, Y2 and Y3 is on Thursday 26th March. We hope parents can put these dates in their diary and attend as we love sharing this assembly with you.



Friday 13th February 3:15pm
February Half-term



Monday 23rd February
Spring 2 - Students back to school



Wednesday 25th March
Certificate assembly for Y4, Y5 and Y6



Thursday 26th March
Certificate assembly for Y1, Y2 and Y3

