

Fri 9<sup>th</sup> OctoberMenu (w/c 12 Oct)

Week 1

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October

Year 3 &amp; 4 Swim

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October9am Early Years  
Harvest Assembly2.45pm Year 1 Harvest  
AssemblyWednesday 14<sup>th</sup>  
October9am Elephant Class  
Matrths WorkshopRed Squirrels Forest  
School

Year 2 Swim

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October9am Year 2 Harvest  
FestivalHarvest Donations to be  
brought in**Just a reminder squads  
begin at 8.15am.****Please be punctual.  
We cannot admit  
children who arrive  
late.****You will need to stay  
with your child until  
school starts if you  
arrive late.**

Dear Parents,

**This week in school:**

Year 2 had a fantastic time at Colchester Zoo this week. They enjoyed exploring the zoo and seeing a wide variety of animals as well as attending a workshop in the education centre. Here they learnt all about different habitats and got to stroke real leopard fur and see a real elephant tooth! The children particularly enjoyed seeing the meerkats after reading the book Meerkat Mail in class and this was a real highlight of the day as well as visiting animals that live in 'hot' and 'cold' habitats, linking to other topics this term. The children behaved amazingly all day and all the staff are very proud of them.

**Parent Consultations**

If you have not yet made your booking for parents evening please do asap. Reminders will be sent out today. Please see the office if you need any assistance in making your booking.

**Welcome to Mr Cinque**

We are delighted to let you know that next week our new Sports Coach, Mr Cinque, will be visiting Katherine Semar ahead of joining us permanently on 19th October.

Mr Cinque holds a Sports Coaching Degree through Manchester Metropolitan University in partnership with Manchester City Football Club and brings valuable experience working both in a local primary school and at holiday clubs in the area, where he has coached children across a wide range of sports. His enthusiasm for sport, combined with his experience of working with young people, will be a fantastic addition to our school community.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming Mr Cinque to the Katherine Semar team and know that the children will enjoy getting to know him.

**Children Cycling or Scooting to school**

We have received reports that some older children are cycling or scooting to school in large groups and are not always being road safe. A parent recently reported a near miss, and the children involved appeared unaware of how close the incident was.

Please help reinforce the importance of safe and responsible behaviour when travelling to and from school. Thank you.

**Harvest Festival Assemblies**Early Years – Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 9amYear 1 – Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October at 2.45amYear 2 – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 9am

Parents are welcome to attend the Harvest Festival Assembly for their child's year group. Pre-school children are also welcome, but we ask that any prams/pushchairs are left outside each school hall, due to space restrictions inside school. Assemblies last between 15-25 minutes.

As we usually do at this time of year, we are asking parents to donate food to our local Foodbank. We have asked for specific donations from each year group as the foodbank is supplying crates for each classroom as it reduces the number of volunteers needed. If you can donate from the appropriate year group that is great however anything is greatly appreciated. **Please could you bring items into your child's classroom on the morning of Friday 16th October (there will be crates in each classroom)**

|             |                                                               |
|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Early Years | Cereal & Oats                                                 |
| Year 1      | Tinned Vegetables & Tinned Fruit                              |
| Year 2      | Tinned Rice Pudding & Custards                                |
| Year 3      | Cooking and Pasta sauces                                      |
| Year 4      | Rice (including Microwave) and Noodles                        |
| Year 5      | Fruit Squash and Long-life juice or UHT milk                  |
| Year 6      | Toilet Rolls & Sanitary items such as toothpaste or deodorant |



## Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages at SWCHS – Full Time

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and inspiring Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages to join our successful and supportive department. The successful candidate will be an excellent classroom practitioner with a passion for languages and the ability to engage, motivate and inspire students of all abilities. Applicants should be able to teach at least two of the following languages: **French, German and Spanish.**

This is an exciting opportunity for either an experienced teacher or an Early Career Teacher to join a thriving school community, contribute to a dynamic curriculum and help students develop a lifelong love of language learning.

**Start Date:** January 2027

**Application Closing Date:** 9am Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2026

**Interviews:** W/C Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2026

**Salary:** MPS / UPS

**Hours:** Full Time

### **How to Apply:**

To apply, please complete the online form found on our website [www.swchs.net](http://www.swchs.net)

Your supporting statement should address and evidence the selection criteria detailed in the Person Specification.

For any questions about the application process please contact our HR Administrator, Mrs Sykes: [applications@swchs.net](mailto:applications@swchs.net)

## Office

If you are planning to stay and enjoy the Musical Maze after school, please ask your child to use the toilet in their classroom before the end of the school day, rather than coming to the office afterwards. At the end of the day, the office is not always staffed as staff may be delivering messages or supporting children and teachers around the school. Thank you for your understanding and support. If your child desperately needs to use the toilet then a parent should accompany them to the office – they should not be coming in alone to ask to use the toilet.

## School Lunches

We offer the option for parents to come in and have lunch with their child. It's a wonderful opportunity for parents to see how delicious of school lunches are. To book please call or email the office advising which day you would like to come and which meal option you would like (yellow or green). Once we have confirmed availability for your chosen day, we will add the cost to your SchoolMoney account. (The cost is £6 for a 2-course meal). **We will offer this for parents with children in the infant school in a few weeks once all the children are settled and used to the routine. We will pop a note on here when we are ready to take bookings for infants.** The lunch starts at 11.55am for infants & 12.05 for Juniors. Just a polite reminder that mobile phones should not be used whilst in the dinner hall and once you & your child have finished eating your child will go out to play with their friends – parents are unable to join them in the playground. Please also advise at the time of booking if you have any allergies.

## *JUNIOR SCHOOL*

## Wet Weather & Squads

If it is raining the following squad & clubs will not run:

- Monday – Football Y5/6
- Tuesday – Netball squad & Y3/4 Hockey OR Y5/6 Tag Rugby
- Wednesday – Netball squad & Tag Rugby Squad (after school)
- Thursday – Football Y3/4 & Y3/4 Archery Squad (after school)
- Friday – Cross Country Squad, Netball squad & Y5/6 Hockey club.

This is because these squads take place outside and we do not have space to move them inside on rainy days due to other squads already taking place in the hall. If it is raining please do not send your child to these squads – they should come to school at the normal time. **The office is not open early enough to send out an email informing you of the cancellation – however if you are unsure you can call the office from 8am.**

**If we have to cancel any after school clubs due to bad weather, we will send an email out by 2pm informing you of the cancellation, please do check your inbox if the weather is bad.**

## Year 6 Secondary Applications & Open Evenings

If your child is in year 6, you can apply for a secondary school (year 7) place between 12 September 2026 and 31 October 2026. You **MUST NOT** miss the application deadline! Here is the link to apply. [Secondary school places | Essex County Council](#)

Saffron Walden County High are holding their open evening on Thursday 1st October 2026 from 4:30pm - 7:30pm. You do not need to book to attend but do need to book for the Headteacher presentation – please see their website for more details. [Saffron Walden County High School - Open Evenings](#)

Joyce Frankland has not yet got information on their website relating to their open evening but this is the link to their website [About Us – Joyce Frankland Academy](#)

Please speak to the office if you need assistance in applying for your place.



## Year 4 Maths Workshops – last chance to sign up!

We are writing to add details to the Year 4 Maths workshops we informed you about in the termly dates you received at the start of term. We are delighted to be able to invite you to our parent workshop and hope you are able to take the opportunity to come into school and work alongside your child in Maths.

Please note that **unfortunately we are not able to invite pre-school children to these workshops** as it would be distracting for our children during the lesson demonstrations.

For more information and to sign up please click on this link - [Maths Workshops Year 4 - Autumn 2026 – Fill out form](#)

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## PE TIMETABLE

Please find below the timetable for PE for the first half of the autumn term:

| Autumn Term – first half | PE                                                           | Swimming  | Forest School                                                   |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| EARLY YEARS              | Tuesday & Thursday/Friday *<br>(changed from original email) | n/a       | n/a                                                             |
| YEAR 1                   | Tuesday                                                      | n/a       | Skylarks – 9/16/23 September<br>Red Squirrels – 30 Sep/7/14 Oct |
| YEAR 2                   | Friday                                                       | Wednesday | n/a                                                             |
| YEAR 3                   | Thursday                                                     | Monday    | n/a                                                             |
| YEAR 4                   | Tuesday                                                      | Monday    | n/a                                                             |
| YEAR 5                   | Monday & Thursday* (changed<br>from original email)          | n/a       | n/a                                                             |
| YEAR 6                   | Wednesday & Friday                                           | n/a       | n/a                                                             |

- Children should come to school wearing their PE kit on their PE days.
- Year 2 children should also wear their PE kit to school with their swimming costume on underneath on swimming days.
- Year 3/4 children should wear their school uniform on Swimming days and bring their swimwear to change into at the pool.

## FUNDRAISING

### Christmas Festive Events as KSS

We understand it is very early to be thinking about Christmas however planning festive events for over 450 children is quite time consuming so please see the attached documents for more information relating to our plans – some of which need to be booked before half term!

### Pre-Loved Uniform

If you ever need any preloved uniform please contact [preloved@katherinesemar.net](mailto:preloved@katherinesemar.net).

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Julie Puxley - Executive Headteacher



