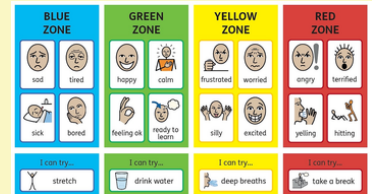


Message from Mrs Milburn

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to all the families who joined us in school this week to look at children's books ahead of our parent and carer consultations next week. It has been lovely to hear children talk so enthusiastically about their work and proudly share their learning so far.

At Sele First, we help children understand their emotions and develop strategies to support their mental health and wellbeing. We teach children that it is okay to experience different feelings and help them find positive ways to manage challenges.



Across school, we use Zones of Regulation to help children recognise how they are feeling and identify strategies that can help them feel calm, regulated and ready to learn.

Every classroom also has a 'Helping Hand Toolkit' with resources that children can choose to use when they need them. These include fidget tools, overlays, movement and breathing activities and ear defenders. By making these resources available to everyone, we help children understand what they need and develop the confidence to choose strategies that support their wellbeing and learning.

Miss Shovlin, Mrs Mills and Mrs Crozier are all Emotional Literacy Support Assistants (ELSAs) and provide targeted support for children across school through one-to-one and small-group interventions.

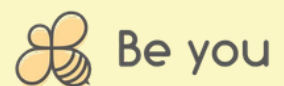
We feel very lucky to have this additional support available to our children and families at Sele First.

This week, 24 of our KS2 children visited Temple Park in South Shields to compete in the Northumberland Schools Athletic Association Cross Country County Championships. Our Year 3 boys finished in 2nd place, while our Year 3 girls finished in 3rd place, with many individual top-ten finishers. Well done to all of our runners!

Have a wonderful weekend, Steph Milburn

Young People's Mental Health Support and Local Support Services

Today we took part in Hello Yellow Day to help raise awareness of children and young people's mental health, working alongside YoungMinds.



At Sele First, we want every child to know that their feelings matter and that it is always okay to talk to a trusted adult when something is worrying them.



We are also proud to work with and support Be You Northumberland, helping children and families to build positive mental health, resilience and wellbeing.

To access a wide range of helpful information for parents/carers and children, and links to further support and resources, click here; <https://www.beyounorthumberland.nhs.uk/>

Attendance Stars

Each week will share and celebrate the three classes in school with the highest attendance. This weeks' top classes are:

1st place — RM/1P 2nd place - 3S 3rd place - RH



Take One Picture Open Day - Wednesday 21 October 2026

This year's Take One Picture is in full swing and Mr Watson is working with children in our very own Art Studio in the Movement Lab over the next few weeks.

Each year group will take a theme from this year's painting; A Muse (Calliope?), as well as there being a cross year group collaborative art project.

We look forward to having the opportunity to share this fantastic work with families; we welcome you to come into school for our Open Day on Wednesday 20 October, between 9.00-10.00am and again from 2.00-3.00pm.



There is no need to book for the Open Day, families will be asked to sign in on arrival. Due to space, we kindly ask that pushchairs and prams are left at the Main Entrance.

Take One Picture Art Sale

This year, we are delighted to invite parents and carers to our Take One Picture Art Sale, giving you the wonderful opportunity to take home a special piece of your child's artwork while helping to support future Take One Picture projects.



Your child's artwork is a unique celebration of their creativity, imagination and hard work. We hope you will enjoy the opportunity to treasure a piece of their art at home and, at the same time, help us continue to provide exciting artistic experiences for our children.

We kindly invite parents and carers to make a donation of whatever they feel able to give in return for their child's artwork. Donations will go towards future Take One Picture projects, helping us provide artists, creative resources and inspiring opportunities for our children.

Where artwork is sold with a frame, there will be a minimum charge of £3 to help cover the cost of the frame.

When can I visit the Art Shop?

The Take One Picture Art Shop will be open throughout our Take One Picture Open Day, with an extra opportunity to visit after school until 4pm.

Our wonderful Year 4 Ambassadors will also be helping to support the Art Shop. They will be on hand to welcome families, help with the sale and share their enthusiasm for the fantastic artwork our children have created. We are very proud of them for taking on this special role and helping to make the event a success.

Card payments will be available, making it quick and easy for families to make their donation and purchase their child's artwork.

All orders will be taken during the Open Day. Artwork will then be given to parents and carers after half term, once the frames have been purchased.

Most importantly, every child will receive their artwork back, regardless of whether a donation has been made. We want every child to feel proud of their creativity and have the chance to keep a special reminder of their Take One Picture experience.

Thank you for helping us celebrate our children's creativity and for supporting the future of Take One Picture. Every contribution, however big or small, helps us to continue providing inspiring artists, resources and creative experiences for our children.

We can't wait to see you at the Art Shop and hope you enjoy choosing a very special piece of your child's artwork to treasure!

The Big Future - Have Your Say!

Dame Rachel de Souza, the Children's Commissioner for England, wants to hear what children think about their lives, their communities and their hopes for the future.



The Big Future survey gives children and young people the opportunity to have their voices heard and help shape what life could look like for children in the future. It takes around 5 minutes to complete.

The deadline is Friday 23 October 2026 at 11.59pm.

We would really encourage our families to support their children to take part and have their say.

[Complete The Big Future survey here](#)

Harvest Festival - West Northumberland Food Bank Collection

This year, KS1 and KS2 will celebrate Harvest with a short assembly at Trinity Methodist Church on Wednesday 14 October. This event is for school only and will be led by school staff.



During the assembly, children will listen to a story and sing songs they have been practising. Reception will hold their own Harvest celebration in the school hall, where they will come together to talk about the meaning of Harvest.

Each year, we like to give a little something to support the West Northumberland Food Bank at this time. If you are able to contribute, please send in one of the following items: tinned food, pasta, or rice. There will be a red donation bin on the school yard.

For more information about the Food Bank, <https://www.westnorthumberlandfoodbank>



Y4 Reminder - No Swimming Next Week

A reminder that due to school photographs in school on Monday, there will be no swimming lessons next week for all Y4 classes.

Children should arrive at school for normal time.



Sele First Job Vacancies



We have vacancies for Catering Assistants and a Teaching Assistant.

To find out more click here.

[Sele First Vacancies](#)

Parent/Carer Consultations Reminder

If you have not yet booked your parent/carers consultation, please book here.

<https://selefirst.schoolcloud.co.uk/>



Next Week

Monday - Tempest Individual and In-School Sibling Photos

Monday - Parent / Carer Consultations (Nursery and R-Y4)

Tuesday - Nursery Consultations

Wednesday - Parent / Carer Consultations (Nursery and R-Y4)

Key Dates can be found here

<https://www.selefirst.org/>

Nursery Admissions 2027

Nursery Admissions 2027

Apply from 1 September

Sele First Nursery offers a nurturing, stimulating environment where children learn through play, build friendships and develop confidence and independence.

Our Nursery children benefit from a teacher-led, dedicated EY Team and a varied curriculum using our indoor and outdoor spaces at Sele First.

FIND OUT MORE AND DOWNLOAD APPLICATION FORM HERE

www.selefirst.org admin@sele.northumberland.sch.uk 01434 602808

Sele First Open Day

SELE FIRST SCHOOL

OPEN MORNING FOR PROSPECTIVE FAMILIES

For children from Nursery to Year 4

SATURDAY 17 OCTOBER
10.00AM - 12.00PM

Situated in the heart of Hexham surrounded by the beautiful Sele Park and the historic buildings of Hexham Abbey, we aim to provide an exciting, motivating and high quality education for every child through effective organisation, committed knowledgeable staff, challenging expectations and high standards.

Scan the QR code to book