



Saxon Wood School

Weekly Newsletter – 3rd March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well.

First of all, I would like to say a big THANK YOU for providing such wonderful costumes on our dressing up day for World Book week. The children look amazing. A big thank you to staff for their costumes too. They looked fantastic. These events are always so much fun, so thank you for supporting us.

Last half term, I introduced a new reward system, using 'golden coins.' When a child has a 'wow' moment, such as working hard during therapy, or listening well or producing good work, a member of staff gives them a golden coin. The golden coin is then placed in a central box near the office. This is similar to the green tokens we would get at a supermarket where we choose which charity to support. When our golden coin box is filled, the children are given a whole school treat.

You wouldn't believe it, but in a short period of time, our amazing children have filled the box with gold coins!!! As a reward, they will have their treat this afternoon. They can choose between a cinema experience in school, watching Matilda to mark Book week. Popcorn and other treats will be provided too or they can choose the disco in the hall. It just highlights how hard they have been working!!

Today we have move momentum in school again for their regular Friday slot. The children are gaining so much from this. It is fantastic to have an all-inclusive dance company that caters for the needs of all our children. We hope to offer this every year at Saxon Wood as a regular weekly session.

We also have our Relax Kids session today. There was some wonderful feedback form the children involved and the staff member who attended the session with the children. We aim to provide this to all children this year. If it proves to be successful, we can continue with this in the future.

Recently I organised for some staff to attend Lego Therapy training. This has been used in schools for many years. We look forward to launching this soon. More details to follow.

Despite it being a fun-packed week, the children have still been busy working hard.



Rabbit class this week have been basing their activities around the story of 'The Three Little Pigs'. Enjoying a sensory story. Exploring the different textures of houses then making their own houses using straw, sticks and bricks and having lots of fun trying to blow their houses down! In Maths they have continued looking at and finding numbers 1 - 5 in different sensory trays, also looking at place value. The children have enjoyed listening to the sounds beaters make on all different surfaces inside and outside as well. In PE they have been exploring making different patterns in dance using ribbons and scarfs, liking the different patterns made and the feel of them across our face and bodies.

For world book day we made a story den to relax and enjoy a story. We listened to the story of 'The Gingerbread Man' and enjoyed exploring the different ingredients to make play dough, we then made the characters from the story using this.



This week Squirrel Class have been enjoying a book a day as part of World Book Week. We have then enjoyed lots of different literacy and maths activities based around each of these books as well as making some fun arts and crafts along the way.

On Monday we read The Very Hungry Caterpillar and had fun counting the foods and posting them into the caterpillar's mouth, Tuesday was 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. The children worked collaboratively to make a bear hunt map for our class display. On Wednesday we enjoyed 'Dear Zoo' and we all wrote letters to the zoo, posted them in our post box and during bucket time our parcels turned up and the children watched in amazement as we opened each one revealing a different animal. On Thursday we enjoyed the book 'Superworm' and used PlayDoh to make worms of different lengths, comparing 'long' and 'short'. Friday is all about 'The Tiger who came to Tea' and we will be painting the tiger stripes on the tiger and enjoying a tea party together.

We wanted to also thank some of the children in Hedgehog who came to read to the Squirrel Class children this week. The Hedgehog children selected some very appropriate touchy-feely books for the children in our class. They read their books beautifully to the class and interacted with all of the Squirrel children during the read along who all listened so intently to the Hedgehog children. It was a really lovely session. Well Done Hedgehogs!



This week Dormouse Class have been working incredibly hard on our physical skills. Some of us have used the eyegaze while positioned and working on leg stretches on the bed while others have worked hard sitting while wearing gaiters. Our sit to stand group continues to be a lot of fun and we have been excited to see some real progress with pupils working on their Positive Looking skills. Children have been demonstrating their skills in Visual Awareness, Transferring Gaze, Scanning, Tracking and Fixation.



Hedgehog class have continued with their topic on Ancient Greece and had lots of fun acting out myths and describing Greek Mythical creatures and then designing their own Greek creatures. In phonics they have focussed on the split diagraphs i-e and o-e. In Maths they have practised telling the time to the half hour and in PE have practised their basketball skills together with Hedgehog class using their new basketball hoop. Lots of fun was had dribbling, passing and improving their shooting skills!



In Badger class this week we have had a big focus on books! We have been looking at traditional tales, freeze framing our favourite scenes from books and dressing up as some of the characters. We have explored some alternative traditional tales such as Prince Cinders https://www.google.com/search?q=prince+cinders&rlz=1C1GCEB_enGB1002GB1002&source=lnms&tbm=vid&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjzIPqWL39AhUFhFwKHVBkAYcQ_AUoAnoECAEQBA&biw=1242&bih=568&dpr=1.1#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:3af4e767,vid:SOaEliHT4tl

In maths we have begun to explore time on an analogue clock. We have read the book 'What's the time Mr Wolf' <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0chQnVZIQcQ> and played the game using clocks to show different times on the hour and half past. To look closely at how things change over time we have planted some cress seeds in school and every day we will record what has happened. The children have made a guess of long they think it will take the seeds to fully grow.

On Wednesday and Thursday afternoons the hall has been full of cheers as the children have been working with Hedgehog class to learn skills in basketball. We have our very own basketball net up and the children have been learning, dribbling, passing and shooting skills. In just 2 sessions they have already improved their scores.

We started our topic on travel and transport this week looking at early transport compared to what transport we use now. The children couldn't believe there was a time when there were not any cars! At the beginning of next term we are hoping to make a trip to Milestones so we can see some old cars first hand.

In phonics we are looking at brown owl 'ow' sound and practicing sounding and blending CVCC words. We had our new Monster phonics flash cards delivered this week so the children will be bringing a few home next week to practice reading with you at home.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Take care

Jakki



Friday 17th March

Wear red to support Red Nose Day



All email correspondence, not just absences, must be sent directly to the office at parentcomms@saxonwood.hants.sch.uk

Emails will be monitored between 8:00am – 3:45pm, Monday – Friday during term time only by admin staff

This email address will be used for incoming emails only

Your email will then be forwarded to the relevant member of staff and you will receive a response either by phone call, or email via the office

If you send an email in the evening, please be reassured that this will be read the following school day and you will then receive a response

If you do not wish to divulge information to the admin staff, then please email to request a telephone call from the relevant member staff. If the member of staff is in class, they will contact you at the earliest convenient time

Teachers and support staff will not respond to direct emails from parents



IMPORTANT REMINDER



Please **do not** send your child into school if they have a high temperature
As is always the case we will ask you to collect your child if we feel they are
too unwell to be in school

Below is a link launched from the NHS through Healthier Together which
gives helpful advice on symptoms and also when children can attend
school

<https://www.what0-18.nhs.uk/parentscarers/worried-your-child-unwell/child-unwell-ok-go-nurseryschool>



As you may know, as a school we are working towards The Wellbeing Award
This is being led by Tara and Katie but we are building a team of Ambassadors to help
with the changes that the school will be making as part of the award

We are looking for 1 or 2 parents who would like to be involved in this process

If you are interested, please speak to Tara or Katie or email

parentcomms@saxonwood.hants.sch.uk

The school nurse team are available in school all day and can be contacted directly on 01256 262097 or by email SaxonwoodNursingTeam@hhft.nhs.uk



Dates for the Diary



- Friday 17th March – Red Nose Day (wear red)
- Friday 31st March – Last day of school (1.30 finish)
- Monday 17th April – Children return to school
- Monday 1st May – May day bank holiday (school closed)
- Monday 8th May – Coronation bank holiday (school closed)
- Friday 26th May – Last day of school (normal finish time)
- Monday 12th June – Children return to school