



Saxon Wood School

Weekly Newsletter – 22nd September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well.

I will be meeting with Becky Smith from Swings and Smiles to further discuss our October half term Family Play and Stay sessions. These sessions will be open to parents and siblings and they will charge approximately £5.00 - £10.00 per session. They can accommodate around 15 children.

In the future, we then aim to offer holiday club-type sessions, where parents would not need to stay, but we are trialling our Swings and Smiles here in Basingstoke first. I am aware that many of you have attended some of these sessions in Thatcham, so it would be good to be able to offer this locally at Saxon Wood. As soon as I have met with Becky, I will provide further details.

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to two of our members of staff. Gemma Quigley, LSA in Dormouse Class, is leaving to take up a new role in a nursery setting. We thank Gemma for all her hard work with the children at Saxon Wood and we wish her the very best in her new role. Gemma will be leaving us on 29th September 2023.

We also say goodbye to Tara Copping as she is also leaving to take up an exciting new role as a Special Needs Officer at Hampshire County Council. We thank Tara for all her hard work and for the initiatives she has brought to Saxon Wood. Tara will be leaving us on 13th October and we wish her the very best in her new role.

The children have been working hard this week in their learning and I would like to take this opportunity to thank staff for all that they do each day to ensure the children's needs are met.



This week Squirrel class have been learning all about teeth. We have been looking at our faces and locating where our teeth are. Then we have been exploring how to keep them clean. The children have loved exploring our big model teeth and have all had a go at brushing them with real toothbrushes and toothpaste, we also added water and shaving foam into the mix and got really messy with some sensory play!

In maths we have been learning all about the number 2 with the help of our friends, the Numberblocks. The children have been using their fingers, number blocks, Numicon and their favourite toys to practise counting to 2. In literacy we have just finished our book 'Peace at Last'. We have been exploring all of the things that kept Mr Bear awake as well as the concept of loud and quiet and in phonics we have met two of our Monsters, Angry Red A and Miss Oh No.



Rabbit class have settled in well and we have started to establish some good routines and structures.

In phonics: We are learning the sound 'm' singing the song 'Mice are Munching' and using the action to help us. For music/phonics: We are very lucky to have a music teacher come in to us on a Thursday morning. We are learning to locate different sounds, listening to beats, to play slow, fast and stop on instructions. In bucket time: we are focusing on engaging the children to sit and focus for this activity. We are currently on stage 1 & 2. We have seen some lovely eye contact from the children, they have shown great interest in the items from the bucket, with lovely facial expressions. In stage 2 we have focused on activities about being happy and the children have made some lovely art work. In PE: The children are working on their gross motor skills. Some children pushing themselves around on special wheelie scooters, some playing catch and others making choices of what they would like to do. In our Move Momentum session the children have shown a good interest and they have enjoyed moving their bodies to different types of music, exploring different sensory activities such as popping bubbles, dancing with ribbons and their favourite is the parachute.

The children are engaging in the routine of 1-1 task boxes which help them with fine motor skills and maths.

A great week for all with some lovely interaction. Well done!



In Dormouse class we have continued our journey through the texture hierarchy, exploring wetter loose textures that don't stick to our hands. We explored resources such as Orbeez, fake snow and cooked spaghetti. Orbeez were a definite favourite!!!

We have also continued our Measure investigations exploring familiar big and small objects, used our walkers to collect some escaped Monster Phonics monsters and begun some listening walks.

We have been so impressed with how hard the children have worked and how engaged they have been despite still adjusting to being back at school!



In Badger class we have been learning about the digestive system and making our own stomach, intestines and stomach acid! We have acted as the mouth and teeth by cutting up our food, 'swallowing' it into our stomachs and then digesting it to turn it into poo! The children have loved learning our digestive process and have learnt some new words.

The children had another exciting music session with Cathleen. She has been playing the violin and seeing which children like the sound and which don't. The children have also had the opportunity to make their own racket, I mean music!

In maths we have continued to look at capacity using non-standard measures. The children have been predicting how many cups will fill the bucket and then tested our predictions. They have been amazed at how the shape of the container can be very deceiving and tall and thin container may not hold more than short and wide container.

In phonics we have been on environmental sounds walks and listened to the noises we might hear at the supermarket and the farm. When you are out and about get the children to pause and see if they can name some of the sounds they can hear. We have also explored the sounds 'ir' and 'ur', the children are getting quicker at sounding out and recognising digraphs.

In PSHE we have looked at emotions and listened to stories about children and adults feeling different emotions. The adults in school have shared when they have felt happy/sad/upset/angry and how they tackle it. We had an assembly on 'try something new' and encouraged the children to be brave and have a go at doing something they have never done before. This could be trying a new food, riding a bike, meeting a new person or touching a new texture. See if you can take on the challenge and 'try something new' at home too. Please send in any pictures to share with the class.



In Hedgehog class we have joined together with Badger class to learn about the digestive system and making poo! And also for our maths sessions measuring with litres and millilitres whilst counting in 2's and 5's. In phonics we have been doing really well recapping some of our learnt sounds. In PE we have created our own exercise circuits and in RE have thought about thankfulness.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend which is hopefully not too wet. We have certainly had all four seasons this week!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Take care
Jakki



Flu immunisation clinic in school Thursday 28th September

If you would like your child to receive the vaccination, please follow the following link and use school code **SH116634** to give your consent.

[Winter Flu Vaccination programme : Hampshire Healthy Families](#)



Please bear with us during pick up and drop off times

The carpark does become very busy

If you are driving to school then we ask that you please stay with your vehicle and a member of staff will come out to collect your child. This will enable us to keep the carpark flowing as efficiently as possible and allows the parents to leave in the order that they are parked.

Please note that In the right and middle lanes we can only unload the front vehicle. In the left hand lane we can unload the front three vehicles

Please do not walk your child down the carpark

Thank you for your cooperation at this time

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





ATTENTION PARENTS

**All email correspondence, not just absences,
must be sent directly to the office at:**

parentcomms@saxonwood.hants.sch.uk

(Please only use this email address)

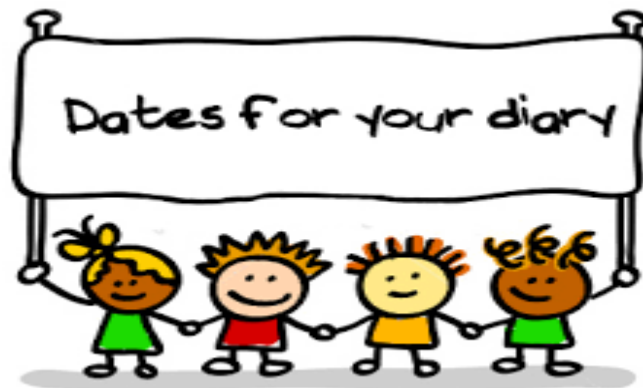
Emails will be monitored between 8:00am – 3:45pm, Monday – Friday
during term time only by admin staff

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**



September

- Flu Immunisation clinic in school – Thursday 28th September

October

- Parents Evening – Wednesday 11th October (3.30-5.30)
- Harvest Assembly – Friday 13th at 2pm
- Half Term – 23rd – 27th October (Children return to school Monday 30th October)

November

- M&M Productions in school to perform Beauty and the Beast Monday 13th November (from 9.30)

December

- Christmas Performance – Monday 11th at 2pm
- Christmas Performance – Tuesday 12th at 10am
- Christmas Dinner and Party Day – Wednesday 13th
- Last Day of Term – Friday 15th (1.30pm finish)
- Inset Day – Tuesday 2nd January
(Children return to school on Wednesday 3rd January)

Letters to be sent home in due course