



# Saxon Wood School

Weekly Newsletter – 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well.

It is hard to believe that we have come to the end of another half term!

As you may be aware, over a year ago I introduced a golden coin reward system in school. Children receive a golden coin from staff when they have had a wow moment. They add the golden coin to the box near the office. When this has been filled, we have a whole school treat.

The children have worked very hard and managed to fill the golden coin box this half term, which definitely deserves a special whole school treat.

As we are in school during Halloween, we will have a big Monster Phonics Halloween party, focusing around our Monster Phonics Characters. Children can dress up as a Monster Phonics character, a superhero or Disney character. They could even dress up as a pumpkin. However, I do need to emphasise that costumes should be child-friendly and not 'gory' as we do not want to frighten the children. If any child does arrive at school with a costume, we feel is inappropriate, they will not be able to wear it.

The children are very excited about the party and some have been planning it already!



I have thoroughly enjoyed walking around school this week to see what the children are learning. I even got some beautiful autumn-themed artwork for my office from Badger Class and Squirrel class. A big thank you to the children. The artwork has pride of place in my office. And it doesn't stop there: Dormouse class went on an autumn walk yesterday. When they returned one of the children presented me with a pumpkin. Everyone in school knows how much I love pumpkins, so that was a wonderful surprise. Thank you, Dormouse Class!



In Squirrel class this week, the children have been recapping their knowledge of the numbers 1-5 from the past 6 weeks and looking at how these numbers follow an order. In literacy we have continued with our Goldilocks story, exploring 'hard and soft' by going on a hunt around the school and exploring different materials and textures that we find. We have also been looking at 'big and small' comparing the toys in our classroom.

During topic time we have been looking at all things Autumn and have had lots of fun painting pumpkins and making our rice crispy pumpkins that we will share with our friends in Badger and Hedgehog class on Friday as we all come together under the Sukkahs to share our 'harvest'.



In Rabbit class we are continuing with our daily routines, which the children are adapting to well. In Phonics we have been singing and completing the actions for our sound 'M'. The children have had their music session with Kat and our dance session with Move Movement. We have worked well on our 1:1 task boxes, sitting well and being very focussed. Our story this week has been "Brown bear, Brown bear, what do you see." The children have really enjoyed this story and have loved exploring the sensory box alongside this story.



This week Dormouse Class have continued to work hard on their physical skills and have tried putting them into practise across other contexts, for example practising maintaining core strength while completing fine motor skills activities. We have posted coins and balls into slots, removed large inset pieces from a tray and had a wonderful session scooping, lifting and swiping a huge tray of Orbeez! Towards the end of the week we enjoyed a local area walk to look for signs of Autumn and were delighted to find beautifully coloured leaves, splashy puddles and even pumpkins in the shop! Our definite favourite was riding our wheelchairs over the bumpy beech nuts though!!



Badger class have done some fabulous work in phonics focussing on 'ow' and 'ue' sounds and also instrumental phonics listening to loud and quiet. In maths we have been ordering and finding missing numbers. The children have done lots of planning this week for both our Sukkah party in RE and our Halloween activities when we return after half term. We took turns in cooking a healthy meal for our party and have made some amazing artwork of spider webs and autumnal leaves which will be displayed in our classroom.



Hedgehog class have done some great work in phonics focussing on 'ar' and 'ee'. In maths the children have done so well with their times tables that we have begun to now look at dividing. In RE we have planned for our Sukkah party. The children have today enjoyed cooking a lovely balanced meal of tomato chicken pasta. We have also been very busy planning our Halloween activities for after half term.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank staff for all their hard work this half term. We have experienced a high staff absence, due to season illness, but staff have pulled together to ensure the children get the best provision. A big thank you to our office staff, who are a tremendous support not only for me, but they work tirelessly behind the scenes too. Thank you to parents, for being patient with us during these staff shortages.

I hope you all have a lovely half-term break. Please remember we are always here to support our families, whether it is a listening ear, or to signpost you towards support, do not hesitate to speak with either myself or one of our staff.

Take care  
**Jakki**



**Please be considerate with your parking  
Do not park outside the school near the exit gate and on the estate  
We appreciate that there is a queue of buses and cars in the carpark  
but this is usually cleared quickly**



**Please bear with us during pick up and drop off times**

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 utilise the whole carpark and use any of the three lanes
- The right and middle lanes we can only unload the front vehicle
- 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

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](mailto: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](mailto: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**



### **October**

- Half Term – 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> October (Children return to school Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October)

### **November**

- M&M School Production of Beauty and the Beast in school Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November
- School Photographer in – Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November

### **December**

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

Letters to be sent home in due course