



Saxon Wood School

Weekly Newsletter – 17th November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are well.

Lots of news to share this week!

On 3rd November, we achieved the Wellbeing Award for schools. We have been working on this over the last couple of years and Katie took up the lead in this to collate evidence, etc to present to the Wellbeing Award Assessor, who was very impressed. This award supports schools to create a culture in which mental health can thrive, helping us to show the school's commitment to promoting wellbeing as part of day-to-day school life. This entails developing a whole school strategy for improving the wellbeing of pupils. But, it is also about reaching out to our families to offer support wherever we can. We do encourage you to speak to us, if you need support. Reaching out for support is by no means a weakness. We can offer help or signpost you to various agencies that can help. For example, we work closely with social workers. Often Social workers can invoke fear in parents, thinking they are not doing a good job. This is not the case. Social workers can support families in a number of ways. We also have our very own SHIP workers (School Home Integrated Partnership) who work in Saxon Wood. If you would like to find out more about what they offer, please do get in touch.

Most classes should have received a letter for a pre-Christmas school trip. If not, one will follow soon once a risk assessment has been carried out at the venue.

A letter has already been sent to Dormouse parents as we have decided to wait until after Christmas when it will be less busy and hopefully less seasonal bugs.

Our exciting trips include:

- Hedgehog - A trip to St Barnabus Church to design a decoration which links to their topic of Christmas around the world which will be displayed alongside contributions from organisations and groups from around Hampshire. Followed by an interactive nativity with a chance to interview the characters
- Badger Class - a trip to Festival place to visit Father Christmas, followed by lunch in Burger King
- Squirrel class - A trip to Conkers to visit Father Christmas and buy a decoration for Saxon Wood's Christmas tree (Dates and times to be confirmed, letters to parents will follow)
- Rabbit Class - A trip to Winchester In-tech

All costs will be paid for by school.

I am sure the children will have a wonderful time and it will be a lovely start to our festivities!

I have enjoyed wandering around school this week, watching the children participate in their learning, whether it is identifying where a sound is, or working on their times' tables, each and every day, class is a hive of activity and it is an honour and privilege to see.



This week Squirrel class have been learning about patterns in maths. We started by looking at patterns we can make using body percussion such as clap, pat your head, beep your nose, clap, pat your head. The children really enjoyed learning about patterns in this interactive way. We then moved on to look at patterns in colours i.e red, blue, red, blue and then how patterns could be made from different objects such as a pine cone and a conker.

In literacy we have started our new book 'The Gingerbread Man' which is already a bit hit in class. The children absolutely loved listening to the story. We created a whole class collage which is a scene from The Gingerbread Man and added pictures of all the characters. We also had lots of fun making and decorating our own Gingerbread Man biscuits.



We have been feeling very artistic in Dormouse Class this week and have been working on locating and exploring resources in a range of ways to create some fantastic designs!

Our favourite activity was probably practising rolling, poking, squeezing and squashing wax sheets as part of a Christmas project!

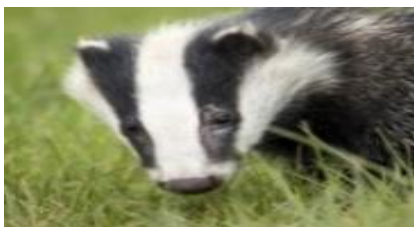
We are also looking forward to celebrating Children In Need using lots of sensory activities such as spotty tuff trays full of ball pool balls and shredded paper, dotty Angel Delight and more!



Rabbit class have continued with their number and phonics songs. This week's learning has been focussed around poppies for remembrance day where the children made a lovely poppy wreath to display in the classroom and have made their own Diwali patterns. Today it has been lovely to see the children dressed for our Children in Need day. We have been busy making Pudsey biscuits and painting Pudsey's face.



Hedgehog class have continued with place value in maths. In literacy the children did some amazing sentence writing about planets using adjectives. In phonics they have focussed on the 'ea' sound. Today we have celebrated Children in need by decorating some Pudsey biscuits.



Badger class have started their new topic learning about Andy Warhol and popart. We are linking our moon landing topic to produce our own space/popart masterpieces. In Maths we have continued with place value looking at counting on from any number and in phonics have revisited our initial sounds 'satpin'. In literacy the children had great fun recording themselves retelling the story of 'Whatever next.'

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and please do remember that our door is always open, should you need to chat, have a concern, or an idea.

Take care

Jakki



Reading books



We are starting to run low of our new Monster Phonic reading books which are sent home weekly with the children

Can we please ask that you return any that you may have at home

**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





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**



November

- School Photographer in – Wednesday 22nd
- Rabbit Class trip – Friday 24th
- Hedgehog Class trip – Monday 27th

December

- Cathedral Trip (rehearsal) – Monday 1st
- Badger Class trip – Monday 4th
- Christmas Jumper Day – Thursday 7th
- Cathedral Celebration – Friday 8th
- Christmas Performance – Monday 11th at 2pm
- Christmas Performance – Tuesday 12th at 10am
- Christmas Dinner & Children's Christmas Shop in school – Wednesday 13th
- Party Day – Thursday 14th
- 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