



# Saxon Wood School

Weekly Newsletter – 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023



Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are all well.

We are certainly experiencing some winter weather now, and it appears to be getting colder!! I do enjoy the winter months: I think being Scottish has prepared me for a colder climate!

Saxon Wood is definitely feeling very Christmassy. Our Christmas lights are twinkling around the school, which always create a sense of awe with both children and adults alike.

Squirrel class and Hedgehog class had their pre-Christmas school trips. Squirrels visited a local garden centre to purchase some decorations for our Christmas tree.

Hedgehog class attended Laura's church, just outside Winchester for some fun activities. Staff and members of public commented on their exemplary behaviour.

Today a selection of children from across the school have gone to Winchester Cathedral to rehearse for a big Christmas performance next Friday. It is an honour to be selected for such a prestigious event.

Swings and Smiles are running another session at Saxon Wood on 29<sup>th</sup> December. The previous session was very successful and we received lots of positive feedback. A flyer with information on how to book a family session is attached with this newsletter.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my visits to classes this week. The children have been busy making Christmas crafts, which I am sure you will treasure for many years to come.



Dormouse class have loved starting to get into the Christmas spirit this week! From making playdough snowmen in motor skills and practising rolling and squeezing the dough to exploring all the different ways we can create light and sound using cause and effect resources. The children have also been working hard on their Christmas play roles and it has been so lovely to see them all getting into the spirit of Christmas in singing lessons and in class music sessions. Bells are, unsurprisingly, a definite favourite! Today the children are enjoying a festive, sensory day preparing the class for Christmas by decorating the tree, exploring all the sensory textures related to Christmas and listening to our favourite tunes.



Squirrel class this week we have been consolidating our learning from this half term. In maths we have been looking at numbers 1-5 and enjoying lots of number songs. We have looked at the concept of big and small and hard and soft as well as revisiting patterns. In literacy we have started looking at the Nativity Story and learning about the characters and learning some Makaton signs that go along with the story. We also enjoyed our trip to the garden centre this week where all of the children chose a bauble that we will hang on our Christmas tree today when we put it up as a class.



In Rabbit class the children have been exploring birthdays. They have produced some lovely artwork, making birthday bunting and party hats. The children have continued to enjoy move momentum and music. We have been completing 1:1 tasks and enjoying maths songs.

Last week the children had a great time at Winchester Intec exploring the different activities. We were so proud of all the children as they were all superstars. Well done, Rabbit class.

**Please could you send hats and gloves in with your child if they will wear them as the weather is getting very cold.**



In Badger class this week in maths we have been reinforcing our knowledge of understanding numbers to 20. Our other group are still focussing on sorting colours. In phonics we have revisited our knowledge of the 'l' and 'n' sound. Our other group are still enjoying making music for the monster phonic band. We have worked hard this week learning our Christmas play and songs. We hope you enjoyed seeing our fantastic t-shirts that were sent home this week.



Hedgehog class started off their week with a visit to the Christmas tree festival in Winchester, with a stop in Costa as a treat. Well done to the children for their impeccable behaviour! In phonics we have focussed on the 'ir', 'ur' and 'oo' diagraphs, making lists of words containing them then writing sentences to include some of the words. In maths we have revisited and made sure of our understanding of number bonds and partitioning is solid. The children have been very excitedly practising our Christmas songs and their parts for the play and have now made a start on some Christmas crafts.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend. Please wrap up well and keep warm.

Take care  
**Jakki**



# Christmas Jumper Day



Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December  
Wear your Christmas Jumper to school

For a small donation



# Joy to the World

This year's Christmas performances will be held on:

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 2.00pm

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 10.00am

**Please return your form to secure tickets**

**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**



### December Dates

- Badger Class trip – Monday 4<sup>th</sup>
- Christmas Jumper Day – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>
- Cathedral Celebration Service – Friday 8<sup>th</sup>
- **Christmas Performance – Monday 11<sup>th</sup> at 2pm**
- **Christmas Performance – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> at 10am**
- Christmas Dinner & Children's Christmas Shop in school – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>
- Party Day – Thursday 14<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 for all the above have now been sent home

(Christmas Shop)  
(Christmas Dinner)  
(Christmas production)

**Please return your forms asap to secure your allocation of tickets on your preferred date**

