



# Saxon Wood School

Weekly Newsletter – 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Happy New Year! I hope you all have a happy and peaceful 2024.

I hope you had a good Christmas with your families. ON behalf of myself and staff, thank you for the lovely gifts and cards. They were extremely thoughtful and much - appreciated.

It is lovely to welcome the children back to school this week. We are all excited about the start of another term and staff have planned lots of wonderful learning opportunities for the children.

This week's newsletter will be shorter than usual, due to the shorter week. We will be back to our usual newsletter next Friday.

Over the Christmas break, special schools in Hampshire received a plea from the local Authorities, asking if we could accommodate some children from Henry Tyndale School for at least a couple of weeks. The children will be accompanied by their own staff so there will be no impact on our school.

Henry Tyndale are currently experiencing some issues in one of their buildings. Saxon Wood, along with other special schools are delighted to be able to help out.

After many meetings over the Christmas break and this week between schools and the health team, we have everything in place. They will join us on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January for approximately two weeks. This will not affect transport in the carpark as they will start at 9:30am and leave at 2:30pm. I am sure you will agree this is a wonderful opportunity to help out another special school within Hampshire.



On Thursday Dormouse and Badger Class celebrated World Braille Day! Dormouse used our hands in lots of different ways and practised focussing on our fingers to make cloud dough, talking about the concepts of wet and dry! We also explored different textures through heuristic (natural) play discussing rough and smooth and different materials. Some children experienced feeling their name made out of braille in an egg box (a traditional introduction to braille letters.) In the afternoon we went to explore our environment to see whether we could find rough and smooth features of the school and then practised using our fingers to decorate braille signs, distributing paint as we moved our fingers over the braille.

Badger Class wrote their own names in Braille, explored pop its and Angela led an amazing workshop, teaching her friends how to navigate using their other senses instead of sight! She led the way with her hoople and told her friends when to "sweep" and "pop up!"

Dormouse Class also wore spots in recognition of the day!



All of the children have enjoyed being back at school this week and have been settling into their classes.



# WELCOME ABOARD!

We are pleased to welcome some new staff to our Saxon Wood team

Bea, Amelia, Joanna and Charlotte



- Last day of school – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February (Half term 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>)  
Children return to school Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February
- Last day of school – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March (Easter holiday 29<sup>th</sup> March – 12<sup>th</sup> April)  
Children return to school Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April