



Saxon Wood School

Weekly Newsletter – 19th April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you had a good Easter break.

The children have returned refreshed and I am sure some have grown over the break!

Yesterday there was much excitement in Saxon Wood as we had a visit from an international chocolatier. He brought a range of resources that were differentiated for each class, ensuring all children could participate. Some enjoyed tasting the chocolate and making chocolate treats. Others enjoyed feeling the objects and smelling the chocolate. Every child had a little treat to take home. I think the staff were just as excited as the children were. We had a visit from Alan Rowden, our Chair of Governors, who got the opportunity to make chocolate lollipop too!!

Learning environments:

This term I have been working with staff to develop our classroom and outdoor areas. As this progresses, I will ensure we show you some photos.

We are looking for any natural objects you may have at home that you no longer need. Or any pots and pans, little baskets, off-cuts of wood, drainpipes, etc. We are also looking for non-poisonous plants too. Please feel free to speak with myself or a member of staff if you think you have something at home that we could upcycle and use in school. You would be surprised at what we could adapt to create wonderful learning environments for our children! Thank you in advance.

Here is an idea of some resources and areas we would like to create.



Swings and Smiles:

Unfortunately we had to cancel our last Swings and Smiles session over the Easter break due to lack of interest.

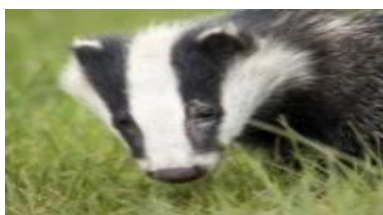
I have been liaising with Swings and Smiles about offering another session during the next half term break. This will take place on Tuesday 28th May 2024 between 11:00 - 1:00pm. The school can offer a free session to parents. I have attached the poster with the newsletter. If you are interested, please contact Swings and Smiles, directly. They will then invoice the school.

Learning at Saxon Wood:

It is always an honour and privilege to visit each class throughout the week to find out what they are learning.



Fox class have begun their new topic for this term which is 'On the farm.' In literacy we have been learning the story of the Little Red Hen. In phonics we have used the resonance board to make farm animal sounds and in art have made some farm animals out of lots of fluffy materials which we will display in class. In maths we have practised recognising our numbers 1-5 and arranging objects up to 5. In PE we tried our best at catching balls nearby and using tennis rackets. The children very much enjoyed their visit from an international chocolate consultant and made their own chocolate lolly pops.



Badger Class have enjoyed playing a game of 'what's in the box?' to try and decipher who the author of our book this half term was. We learnt that not only did the author write lots of amazing books, he was also once a spy and invented over 250 words! I wonder if the children can tell you his name? We have also begun to explore different types of instructions and their purpose to help us know how to write our own in a few weeks. In maths, children have been working hard securing their understanding of number and have been doing great work practising sounding and blending words. We have also enjoyed doing some reading everyday and talking to each other about what we have read. Badger Class were also treated to a brilliant workshop from a chocolatier and we got to make our own chocolate lollies! Well done Badger Class for a great first week back!



Hedgehog class have come back to school happy and ready to learn. They have been great friends helping a new pupil settle into Hedgehog class. In literacy we have started to read Charlie and the Chocolate Factory which the children are really enjoying listening to. We have also been thinking about questions we could ask before and during reading the book which the children really embraced and come up with some great questions. In maths we are looking at the value of a number, and the different representations of a number. The children have been recognising numbers, knowing how many objects needed for a given number and finding the number on a dice. In phonics the children have been looking at the 'ow' & 'ue' grapheme. They played splat the word, matching objects to pictures and words, then spelling the objects they have found using monster phonics magnetic letters. In our topic we had a very exciting visitor come to school and teach us all about the history of chocolate. How it is made from harvesting the cacao beans, to the chocolate being made in the factory. We had lots to look at and smell and we were even shown how to taste chocolate to get the 1500 flavours that are in a piece of chocolate. The children had great fun making their own chocolate lolly pop.



Dormouse Class have begun their new unit on "Rumble in the Jungle". We have loved exploring natural objects in our outdoor area, exploring leaves and sticks as part of a Tuff Tray activity and have also begun learning about sounds stopping and starting. We love our new Phonics songs and the grownups were so impressed with the children's engagement!



Squirrel Class have settled back into school well and our new topic "On the farm" is already in full swing. This week the children got familiar with their new story "Farmer duck". In literacy and phonics we looked at different farm animals and the sounds they make, supported with "Old McDonald had a farm" nursery rhyme. The children were using verbal communication or pre-recorded communication switches to identify the animals and their sounds. In maths we continued to develop the children's number recognition by counting farm animals then choosing the matching number. We had a special visitor this week, a chocolatier who brought many delicious treats and allowed us to make rice crispy cakes. The children enjoyed their first Move Momentum session this morning and have started making some farmyard art.

I hope you all have a good weekend. Please remember, my door is always open if you have any concerns or any ideas you would like to discuss. If I am in a meeting, I will always find time to get back to you as soon as possible

Take care

Jakki

happy
WEEKEND



Please **do not** send your child into school if they have a high temperature
As is always the case we will ask you to collect your child if we feel they are
too unwell to be in school

Below is a link launched from the NHS through Healthier Together which
gives helpful advice on symptoms and also when children can attend school

<https://www.what0-18.nhs.uk/parentscarers/worried-your-child-unwell/child-unwell-ok-go-nurseryschool>



Can we please ask that any important messages concerning your child are
communicated to school via parent comms or called in directly to the school
office or if concerning your child's health directly to the school nursing team

Full contact details are shown below

Escorts are not able to pass on specific information

**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**



Height, Weight and Vision Screening for YR R and YR 6 pupils – Wednesday
24th April

Mayday Bank Holiday (school closed) Monday 6th May

Inset Day (school closed) Tuesday 7th May

Last day of school – Friday 24th May
(May half term 27th May – 7th June)

Children return to school Monday 10th June