



# Saxon Wood School

Weekly Newsletter – 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well

I would like to say a big thank you to the parents of children in Hedgehog and Badger class for joining us yesterday afternoon to carry out some design and technology work with your children. They were so pleased to have you working with them and you have helped them create some amazing toys and boats. A big well done. We will invite parents to join their children in other classes in due course.

The children have been working so hard and this is evident in our 'Gold Coin' box which is situated near the school office because it is rapidly filling up. Children receive a gold coin for a range of reasons: they may have worked hard in class, they may have worked hard in therapy sessions, this list is endless. When the box is full, we will decide on a whole school treat, which will definitely be well-deserved.

A new initiative we will be launching next week is activity passports for every child. These passports have a list of activities for children to do, whether that is done by themselves, or with the support of an adult. These enrichment activities will offer lots of wonderful experiences for the children to participate in. We will set aside a slot each Friday for the children to choose their activity and will upload the passports onto our website as soon as possible as we are currently in the process of changing website providers.



This week **Rabbit** class have focused on the story of 'The Little Red Hen' and made sensory bins helping the Little Red Hen to plant the seeds and cut the wheat. We made bread and then enjoyed making some lovely sandwiches. We have learnt the song 'Five current buns in the bakers shop' and made our own playdough. In phonics the children have been listening to the different sounds in the environment and some have learnt the sounds 've' and 'tch'.



**Hedgehog** class have now finished making their maps of Basingstoke. In phonics they have learnt plurals and the sound 'a-e'. In maths they have looked at different shapes and used them to create a picture. In Literacy they have concentrated on sentence structure using capital letters, full stops and question marks. They have continued to practise their tennis skills with Badgers and this afternoon will be celebrating and learning about the Chinese New Year.

The children (and parents) worked really hard in our DT workshop making the boats that we had designed and planned. It was great fun to finally put them to the test and were thrilled to see that they all floated.



**Dormouse** class have enjoyed a sensory story of 'The snail and the whale'. They have continued with their topic on weather and have used the resonance board to make the sounds of thunder and used their fingertips to make the sound of the raindrops. The children enjoyed using the parachute to count how many animals there were on top using number songs and today have very much again enjoyed their session of Move Momentum dance class.



This week in **Badger** class we have moved to shape as our topic in maths. The children have explored the outdoor area to find shapes in our environment and used shapes to make their own pieces of art. For geography we have been using our mapping skills to find our way around school. On Monday we are going on a walk around the local area so we have been thinking about the things we may find on our walk. We have enjoyed looking at our local area using google maps and planning our journey. In English we have been finding out facts about animals and making a non-fiction fact sheet. We will use the information we find out about our local area next week to write our very own fact sheet. In phonics we have been revisiting the learning we have completed so far this half term. The children have been using games to help them to recall the facts they have learnt. Please continue to read with your children at home and record it in their books. We have also looked at how different religions celebrate New Year - we have compared the different celebrations and enjoyed trying some of the foods that are eaten at the celebrations, our dance in PE has linked into music from different cultures and we have described what we like about the different styles.

The children (and parents) worked really hard in our DT workshop making the moving toys we have designed and planned. It was great fun trying out our vehicles on the ramp, there were some very impressive breakdowns! It was really special to see the children looking at their classmates work and giving lots of positive feedback.



This week **Squirrel** class have been looking at how we can look after our local environment. We have been on a few walks both round the school grounds and out in the local area where we put on our Hi-Vis jackets, grabbed our litter pickers and got working on those fine motor skills by picking up and disposing of any litter we found. This was also a great opportunity to develop our phonological awareness and listen to the different sounds we could hear on our walks. In literacy we read the book *The 'Tale of the Whale'* and have learnt how litter can negatively affect the ocean life and why it is important to pick up litter. After that we considered how we could sort our rubbish into different materials ready for recycling and we looked at the properties of wood, metal, plastic, fabric and natural materials. We then used some of the natural materials we found in the garden to practice our counting and making numbers.

Last week's children who received a head teacher's certificate were:



Juliette – For using the eye gaze  
Cohen – For excellent maths work  
Scott – For knowing some high frequency words  
Carlee - For engaging in all activities every day  
Barney - For engaging well in his art activities this week  
Kamso – For fantastic work, following instructions and helping to tidy  
Ricardo – For using his magnifying glass



Very well done to all those children.

Finally, it has been brought to my attention that there is some miscommunication amongst parents either through WhatsApp or Social Media. If you have any concerns, please do contact either myself or a member of the leadership team directly. That way we can provide any factual information about any issue that may be causing concern.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Take care

**Jakki**





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>



## Saxon Wood Association

We are looking for new members to join our Saxon Wood Association to  
help with organising events to raise money for the school

Please let us know if you are available to help



**Please ensure that any communication regarding your child is emailed through to the school office at [adminoffice@saxonwood.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@saxonwood.hants.sch.uk) this mailbox is continually monitored so any urgent messages can be passed directly onto class. This also includes any copies of medical appointment letters.**

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)



## Dates for the Diary



- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February – Dormouse class assembly (2pm for refreshments before start of assembly at 2.30pm)
- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February - Last day of school
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> February – Half Term
- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February – Children return to school
- Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March – World Book Day dress up
- Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March – Last day of school (1.30 finish)
- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April – Children return to school