



SAUNCEY WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, this has been an interesting week!

I had hoped to spend this week showing prospective deputy headteacher applicants around the school and visiting lots of lessons to look at how we teach phonics and reading. Those plans were put to one side so I could be available for meetings with the Ofsted inspector. Let's hope I can get back to my plan for next week.

Receiving the phone call for an Ofsted inspection during my second week as Headteacher at Sauncey Wood was not ideal, but I am enormously proud of the way the whole team worked together to support each other. Mr White, the inspector who was with us on Tuesday and Wednesday, was highly complimentary about the children, particularly their friendliness and good manners. Some of them had the opportunity to meet Mr White to discuss aspects of their learning and they did this very well. They were a credit to the school and to you.

Lots of you sent in good wishes (and cakes!) which were welcomed by the staff. Governors too played their part by providing breakfast for the staff on both mornings of the inspection and by speaking with the inspector about the role they play in leading the school. I have felt very well supported by the whole Sauncey Wood community this week – thank you.

As with all Ofsted inspections, I cannot provide you with information about the outcome of the inspection until the report is published. I expect this will be shortly after the May half term holiday. What I can say is that it was a very fair process and I am in agreement with the inspection findings.

Other news

Because of the additional workload created by the Ofsted inspection, this is a much briefer newsletter than I had planned. Fingers crossed next week will be an easier week and I will be able to include more information about the children and their learning in the newsletter.

School uniform – trainers: I was blown away by your support for this. One simple message in last week's newsletter, alongside me mentioning it to the children in assembly, resulted in almost every child wearing school shoes rather than trainers. Thank you so much for your support with this – our children looked so much smarter this week wearing shoes rather than trainers. I hope this will continue.

Scooters: in order to keep everyone safe, please remember that children are not allowed to ride their scooters on to the school site. I would be grateful for your support with this as the playground is a busy place at the start and end of the school day and I don't want any accidents to occur.



Please dismount your
bike or scooter
when entering
the school grounds



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The 3 rights of Sauncey Wood: over the next few weeks our assemblies are about the 3 Rights of Sauncey Wood. This week we discussed 'I have a right to learn', but with a focus on the responsibilities that go alongside this. A copy of what I discussed with the children is below and it would be great if you could discuss this with your children at home if you feel it appropriate.

I have a right to learn.

I have a responsibility to ...

Ask for help if I am stuck.

Tell my teacher if the work is too easy – I want to be challenged.

Behave in a way that lets other children learn, e.g. by not calling out, not singing when I should be listening, not refusing to follow instructions or any other behaviours the adults tell me about.

Always try my best. Being the best in my class is not important. Being **my** best is what counts.

Tell an adult if something is worrying me. If I am worried about something, I won't be able to concentrate on my learning.

Dates for the summer term: I had intended to provide you with a list of summer term events today. I have had to delay this because of the additional workload created by the inspection.

Consideration for local residents: a parent who is a resident of the flats opposite the school has asked if I could mention that some parents are using the gardens belonging to residents in the flats as a short cut to get to school. Please don't do this. I wouldn't like someone walking through my garden and I'm sure the vast majority of you will agree that this is not appropriate. Thank you for your support with this.

Football tournament: good luck to the Y3 and Y4 boys taking part in the football tournament next Wednesday.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend

Eileen Anderson

Interim Headteacher