



SAUNCEY WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL



Interim Head Teacher: Miss Eileen Anderson

Address: Pickford Hill, Harpenden, Herts AL5 5HL

Tel: 01582-621514 **Fax:** 01582-621485

Email: admin@saunceywood.herts.sch.uk

Friday, 10th May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

After a very rainy Bank Holiday Monday, I am sure you will agree it has been lovely to see some sunshine this week. I spent quite a lot of time outside yesterday lunchtime, chatting to children, seeing how well they play and get on with each other and asking them for their ideas about making Sauncey Wood an even better school than it is. Our youngest children were having a great time playing creatively with the construction and other resources available to them and the older children were playing football, sitting on the grass chatting to their friends, playing imaginary games and generally having a relaxing time. It is evident that the vast majority of children get on very well with each other at playtimes and during lessons times, but there are some children in each year group who find this challenging and their behaviours get in the way of other children learning and playing well. Many children have spoken to me about this as being one of the things they would like to improve. Staff feel the same and this has been the focus of our staff meetings this week. I am currently collating the ideas from staff and children and during the last week of this half term and into next half term there will be a whole school focus on behaviour. The Behaviour Policy will be rewritten to make it very clear to children, staff and parents what behaviours we expect to see at our school and what the consequences will be for children who do not follow the expectations. It will include what support and adaptations we will put in place for children who need them, relaunching the house system and house points so there is consistency throughout the school, making some changes to the way awards are given to the children during Celebration Assembly and giving the House Captains specific roles to carry out so they can be great role models for other children throughout the school. The School Council will be heavily involved in getting the thoughts and ideas of their classmates at each step of the way. Staff and children are also very keen to ensure the fabulous behaviour shown by the vast majority of children day in and day out is recognised and celebrated. I will keep you informed.

Fabulous Learning



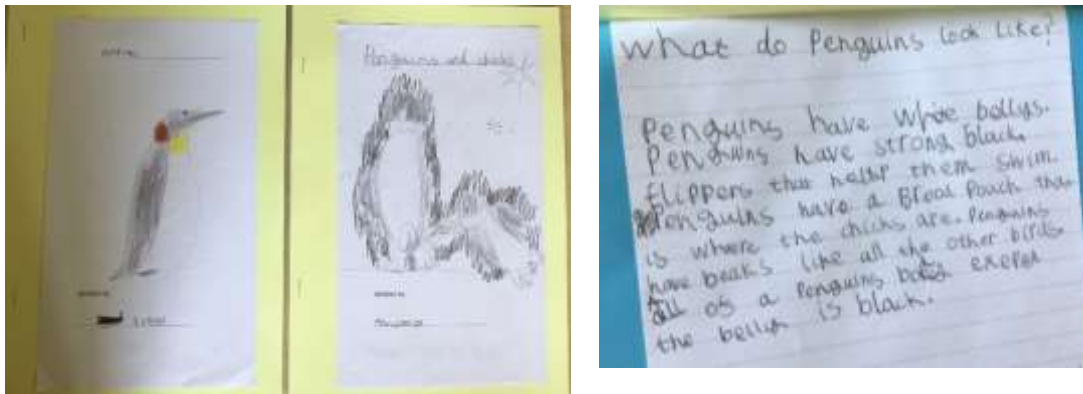
Year 3 have been learning some core pottery techniques ahead of their project next week. These skills include knowing how wet the clay should be to work with, how to join several pieces of clay together, smoothing the surface and coiling. Miss Flint set the children miniature challenges so they could practice these important techniques. The children had great fun and learnt lots. Here is an example of Cordelia's snake. Keep your eyes peeled for their next update!



This week In Art Club, the children used charcoal to make leaf rubbings, picking up the fine details on the leaves. Well done girls!



A group of Year 1 children came to my office on Wednesday to share some of their learning about penguins with me. I cannot remember the last time I was met with such excitement about a piece of learning! The children are thoroughly engrossed in this piece of work and I loved listening to them telling me about their drawings, sketches and writing.



You might remember reading in last week's Newsletter that Willow class have been learning about Space. This week they have been trying on real NASA flight suits as part of their learning about Neil Armstrong. They then researched the different types of suits worn by astronauts and flight crews. It has been great to see how engrossed the children are in this topic.



The 3 Rights of Sauncey Wood: During today's assembly, we moved on to the third of the 3 Rights of Sauncey Wood: the right to be safe and feel included. We will be continuing this next week and I will then share some of the slides with you.

Fire Drill: We had our termly fire drill yesterday. The children evacuated the building very quickly and the vast majority followed the instructions very precisely. Well done children.

Year 6 SATs - Children and Parents: Over the last few weeks I have seen our Year 6 children working incredibly hard in preparation for next week's SATs. SATs week is an opportunity for the children to show how much progress they have made during their time in KS2. The timetable for the week is as follows:-

Date	Subject	Test papers
Monday 13 May	English grammar, punctuation and spelling	Paper 1: Questions Paper 2: Spelling
Tuesday 14 May	English reading	English reading
Wednesday 15 May	Mathematics	Paper 1: Arithmetic Paper 2: Reasoning
Thursday 16 May	Mathematics	Paper 3: Reasoning

In between the tests, there will be lots of playtimes and a much more relaxed approach to the timetable.

Remember:-

- Go to bed at a reasonable time every night between now and the end of SATs. 'Go to bed' means 'go to sleep'! If you usually have electronic gadgets in your bedroom, next week would be a good time to start leaving them in another room at night time. You will not do your best if you are tired from playing with your phone late into the night.
- Eat healthily and drink plenty of water.
- Eat breakfast, either at home or at the school's SATs breakfast. You will not do your best if you are hungry.
- Make sure you are on time for school so that your class can start their tests promptly after registration.

Year 6 parents: if your child is too unwell to attend school on any of the SATs days, please phone school before 8.30 a.m. and leave a message explaining the situation. I will call you back as soon as I can to discuss arrangements that can be made to allow your child to sit their tests when they are well.



There are a couple of flyers on the next 2 pages:-

1. Information about the Batford Neighbourhood Survey
2. Information about the Jazzercise classes held at our school on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend

Yours sincerely



Eileen Anderson
Interim Headteacher

Batford Neighbourhood Survey

What is it like to live in Batford?
Your opinion is important.



Scan the QR code or visit:
www.harpenden.gov.uk/community/batford

Printed copies of this survey are available at
Shezzo's Cafe, 106a Lower Luton Road, Batford
and the Town Hall, Leyton Road, Harpenden.





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SAUNCEY WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL
PICKFORD HILL, AL5 5HA

WEDNESDAY 7:00 PM
SATURDAY 9:30 AM



SCAN QR TO BOOK

- ✉ clare.jazzercise@outlook.com
- ☎ Call Clare on 07989 864529
- 📱 @jazzerciseharpendenredbournwelwyn

