

# Sauncey Wood Primary Newsletter

Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

The clocks have changed, buds have started to appear on the trees and Spring flowers are pushing their way through to daylight. With the lighter mornings and evenings heading our way and some nicer weather, things should start feeling a bit brighter and more optimistic for us all.

I want to thank you for your continued support, trust and belief in the school, our work and all we provide for your children. The Staff continue to do an excellent job in providing all pupils with memorable learning experiences and continue to build their resilience and confidence. This term has been challenging for all and we are proud of the positive attitudes of our pupils towards their learning. Thank you for supporting them at home too - whether that be by hearing them read daily or supporting the completion of home learning tasks.

Thank you to our parents and carers who took the time to complete the parent survey; this will be reviewed by the SLT and the Governors before SLT host a coffee morning early in the Summer Term where we are hoping to invite you in for a chat and to give some feedback around the survey.

Thank you to the FoSW who have run some great fundraisers this term; the money raised will go towards the development of our pond area which is very exciting!

Have a Happy Easter break and we will welcome all the children back in school on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> April.

Mr Lloyd

## Letters gone out this fortnight:

22.03.22 - Puzzle Challenge Day

31.03.22 - Covid Update - End of Spring Term

## SCHOOL NEWS

### Harpenden and Villages Story Writing Competition

Across this half term, the children were given the opportunity to write a story. The most original and well written story from each class was entered into the Harpenden School's Story Writing Competition. The entries are judged along with all the other Harpenden schools on plot, characterisation, originality, language and enjoyment. There are always many entries and the competition is very tough. This year, we are delighted to report the following results for us:-

**Year 1 - 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Abigail**

**Year 4 - 3<sup>rd</sup> place - Sakine**

**Year 5 - 3<sup>rd</sup> place - Frederica**

**Year 6 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Carson.**

These stories will be shared on our YouTube channel so keep an eye out for the link very soon!

### Happy Puzzle Day

The children were fortunate enough to take part in a workshop by The Happy Puzzle Company. It was a really fun way to develop all of our learning powers and problem-solving skills. Puzzles included balancing penguins on icebergs, double sided jigsaws and building models following a picture - all of which are harder than you think when you have to work together and compromise! It was a great day and enjoyed by all!

### Visits to All Saints Church

Every class embraced our wider community and visited All Saints Church to discover more about Easter and Christian beliefs.

### Home Learning over Easter - "Get ready to waffle!"

Over the holidays and to support our learning of Oracy, we would like every child to research something new and "waffle" about it for 1 minute - the idea is that your "woffling" will teach someone else something new! It could be about a sport, country, person from History, a language, a food - absolutely anything you like but must be limited to 1 minute - ask an adult to record you and email your 1 minute waffles to [jharkness@saunceywood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:jharkness@saunceywood.herts.sch.uk) by the end of the holidays.

## GOVERNOR CORNER

We held our termly Full Governing Body meeting last week and it was great to be able to meet together in person, in school. The reports from school were very positive about the progress our children are making this year, and also how much they have valued the easing of restrictions. Whilst Covid rates are quite high at the moment and our community is no exception, we're confident that Mr Lloyd and his team are doing all they can to keep everyone safe, but also benefitting from the advantages of having more freedom around the playground and field at break and lunchtimes.

Governors have also been reflecting on our own practice recently. Firstly, thank you to those who completed the recent Parent Survey - this is a really useful tool for the School and Governors to be able to analyse how we're doing, and where we need to look at making changes. In our meeting last week, we started working through a Governing Body "Healthcheck", a set of questions to help us ensure that we are holding the school to account in relation to the Ofsted Framework - this was a really useful exercise that we will complete next term. Finally, we have also completed our annual "Schools Financial Value Standard" checklist, which allows us to ensure that we are meeting a good standard of financial and resource management at the school. These activities all help us to monitor our effectiveness in our three core roles, and highlight areas for development. If completing the parent survey prompted any further questions or issues that you would like to raise, please do not hesitate to check our page on the school website <https://www.sauceywood.herts.sch.uk/governing-body> or contact us directly ([bpymm@sauceywood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:bpymm@sauceywood.herts.sch.uk) or [cnoakes@sauceywood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:cnoakes@sauceywood.herts.sch.uk).)

It's hard to believe that another term is now over – we wish you all an enjoyable break!

## Hi Saucey Wood Primary School,

We are so thankful for your donations from the fundraising event we held last Friday. We have surprisingly made £217 and some parents are actually giving more money to make our total up to £300. Half of the money is going to Cancer Research and the other half is going to Ukraine appeal. We are just so thankful for your kind donations.

The Year 6 Fundraisers

## FRIEND'S NEWS

Thank you to everyone that supported the Saucey Wood Car Wash on 19th March. We had a great day and Miss Harkness with a team of volunteers barely had a break with the cars queuing up to be washed! Thank you also to the Golder family for providing us with hot dogs and candy floss. The event made over £300. Thank you!

As we head to Easter we've finished the term with the Easter Egg Hunt - a great way to finish the term. We must say thank you to Asda and Tesco for donating all the eggs to us.

Looking forward to the start of the Summer Term. We start in the first week back with RED top day for St George's Day on Friday, 22nd April. Those who are in Rainbows, Brownies, Beavers and Cubs will be invited to wear their uniforms if they wish. There will also be the sunflower competition launch and hopefully a plant sale as we head into the Summer Term! We may even be able to fit a disco in next term as well - keep your eyes on the social media and emails for more details.

There have been a few people who have asked this week to join the Easter Egg Hunt who we've sadly had to say no to. We do try to give plenty of notice and reminders of the events we run and there needs to be a cut-off date as we often need to know how many we're catering for. Please do sign up once we send out details to avoid disappointment!

Lastly, if you use Amazon a lot, as we're sure lots of us do, why not support the school with every purchase you make. Amazon smile raises money for us each time you make a purchase - at no cost to you at all and signing up is simple. To date, Amazon smile has raised £73 for Saucey Wood. To sign up, all you need to do is:-

Open the Amazon app on your phone; Select the main menu (=) and tap on Amazon smile within programmes and features; Select friends of Saucey Wood as your chosen charity; Follow the on screen instructions.

It takes minutes to set up, and then raises money for us with you just purchasing your items from Amazon!

Have a great Easter holiday! Clare and Gemma