

Sauncey Wood Primary Newsletter

Friday, 23rd April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Well what a busy two weeks it has been since our return from Easter break and the start of the Summer Term. Seeing all of our children return to school happy, confident and ready to learn has made the past two weeks just fly by!

The turn of good weather has also seen the children be able to move their bubbles (safely) on to playing on the school field. Each one of these small steps really does help us feel like we are heading in the right direction. This positivity, with the combination of doing all the right things to keep everyone safe, is helping the school run smoothly and allows our team and the children to engage in all aspects of exciting learning.

Attached to this Newsletter and email is the Summer update from Herts for Learning focussed on Online Safety. Recently, I have written to certain year groups about aspects of the internet and certain apps that have caused some serious safety concerns for me as Headteacher and as a parent. There are numerous ways that you can help keep your children safe online but please, at the very least, check on their privacy settings and ensure that they are not adding friends and speaking to people that they do not know. The risk and threat of grooming and sexual exploitation is worryingly real. If any children in our school have TikTok, they should not - a minimum age of 12+ is there for a reason.

Please stay safe and take care of your children online.

Mr Lloyd

School News

Yes to Life Fundraising for Michelle Noakes

Thanks to Isabella for being such a wonderful, caring pupil and inspiring us to help raise money for Michelle and the treatment that she needs. As a school, for our Non-School Uniform Day, we managed to raise £182.55 on Friday of last week.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/michelle-noakes>

Items in School

We have seen an increase in the number of children bringing in items such as lip balm and hand cream. Please can such items not be brought into school unless it has been medically prescribed to the child and the School Office are aware of it. At these times we feel it unsafe and not necessary for these things to be in school.

Please can I also ask you to speak to your children about sharing hand sanitiser. I know that there are a few children who come to school with their own hand sanitiser. We would prefer and find it much safer that this brought-in sanitiser is not shared and that the touch-free school stations are used by those who do not have their own from home.

We must continue to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Letters gone out this fortnight:

13.04.2021 - Non-School Uniform Day

16.04.2021 - Extra Curricular Clubs

22.04.2021 - TLM School Nursing Visit - Year 6

22.04.2021 - e-Safety/Online Safety - Years 5 & 6

Dates for the Diary

26.04.2021	Extra Curricular-Clubs Begin
26.04.2021	Bikeability - Year 6
29.04.2021	Violin Concert (1.50 p.m.) by Zoom - Year 3
03.05.2021	Bank Holiday

Governor Corner

It was pleasing to hear from Mr Lloyd that the return to school after Easter had gone very well and pupil attendance was over 98% , so a big thank you to everyone that made that possible.

Just before Easter we held the second Full Governing Body meeting of the year and while many topics were covered, there were detailed discussions around staff and pupil well-being, vehicle problems outside of school and the budget.

It was clear that the school had put together a staff and pupil well-being improvement plan that was being actioned, and it was also agreed that another attempt was to be made in the Summer Term by the Governing Body and the School to force the County Council to solve the vehicle problems outside of the school

Regarding the Budget, the financial impact of Covid had become clearer both for educational catch up and for every day extra costs such as cleaning. Currently the additional Covid funding from Government does not cover all of these additional costs. We may still receive more funding, but in the meantime we are working closely with Mr Lloyd to monitor both the additional funding and the standard school budget, to ensure that all pupils are able to make great educational progress in a safe and supportive environment.

Stay safe and well

Bridgett Pymm and Colin Noakes. Governing Body Co-Chairs

FRIEND'S NEWS

Welcome back to the Summer Term! First we'd like to say thank you to Susie Rutherford and Geraldine Richfield for organising the very successful Easter trail and stall which brought in just under £300! We'd also like to say thank you to some anonymous donors who've made generous donations to FoSW. Thank you!

We've been busy planning some lovely fundraisers this term to look forward to. There is something in the diary for every month so take note of dates!!

April... We have the Plant Sale on Tuesday, 27th April. Donations will be able to be dropped off on the morning. We've also just launched our sunflower growing competition. There will be a prize for the person who grows one the tallest by 16th July. ! Tickets available on Classlist by Thursday, 29th April.

May... Krispy Kreme doughnuts will be available via Classlist as a half term treat on Friday, 28th May! Look out for details nearer the time!

June... Euros 2021 run from 11th June, so we're having a "wear sportswear day" for £1 on Friday, 11th June.

July... we are hoping to have a family summer event - probably Saturday, 17th July. Possibly colour run, possibly food. Save the date and more details will follow!

Also, at some point this term our very own Mr Lloyd will be having a bath in baked beans!! Tins will be available to purchase nearer the time. Details to follow!

You can now fundraiser for FoSW when you shop at Amazon. We've signed up to Amazon smile which gives us a % of your purchases. The sign up details are on our Facebook page. Let us know if you can't access them and we'll send them to you.

We're always open to hearing fundraising ideas etc from everyone. You can contact us via Facebook 'Friends of Sauncey Wood' and by our email friends@saunceywood.herts.sch.uk

Best wishes

Clare and Gemma