

Sauncey Wood Primary Newsletter

Friday, 13th December 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

With only one week to go, I cannot believe that we are within touching distance of Christmas. The countdown really started a couple of weeks ago with the School Christmas Fair and the Reindeer Run. It was truly amazing to see so many of you supporting the school and taking part in our school fair. It means a great deal to the school seeing the support from so many of our families and friends.

I would like to just say again, a massive thank you and well done to the Friends of Sauncey Wood and all the adults who helped last week. We cannot do these things without you and the vital funds that are raised continue to support the children directly. Recently the FoSW have handed the school a significant amount of money which has enabled us to purchase 16 new state of the art laptops that will be in place just after Christmas. The impact that this has on our children is clear, providing better learning resources to enhance their learning experiences. THANK YOU the brilliant FoSW!!!

I would like to wish all our families and local community a wonderful Christmas break. Spend time with your loved ones, enjoy the festivities and regather your best learning energy for your return on Tuesday, 7th January.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend and a fabulous Christmas break when it arrives!

Mr Lloyd

School News

My Afterschool Art Club

In this last project, the children have been learning about the distinctive and elaborate chinoiserie - the Willow pattern.

They have drawn its main elements and added their own twist to it. Beautiful! Their dragons look fantastic. The pictures have been downloaded on the website for all to see.

<https://myafterschoolartclub.wixsite.com/artgallery/willowpatternsauceywood2019>

Pencil Cases - Restocking time!

As we head in to a new term, we will be sending home children's pencil cases and it would be great if we could ask that they are re-stocked with pens, pencils, rulers and a possible glue stick. Thank you!

Carols around the Tree

Please do join us for our final assembly of the year on Friday, 20th December from 9:15 a.m. for a hot drink, a mince pie and some Christmas Songs. Please do ensure you bring your best singing voices as we do like to have you joining in with the carols!

Letters gone out this fortnight:

09.12.2019 - World War II Day - Tea Dance (Year 6)

13.12.2019 - Powered Vehicles Project (Year 6)

13.12.2019 - Swimming – Spring Term (Year 2)

Upcoming Dates

16.12.2019	Ancient Egypt Day (Year 4)
17.12.2019	Music Assembly at 2.30 p.m.
18.12.2019	WW II Day (Tea Dance) (Year 6) 6.00 p.m. - 7.00 p.m.
19.12.2019	Class Christmas Parties
20.12.2019	Carols Around The Tree 9.15 a.m.
20.12.2019	End of Term - School finishes at 1.30 p.m.
06.01.2020	INSET DAY
07.01.2020	Children Back to School
13.01.2020	Parent Workshop - Home Learning

Governors' Corner

This week we're pleased to introduce one of our Community Governors, Steve Rees:

Hi. I'm Steve, and I have been a Governor at Sauncey Wood for 2 years. I'm a qualified accountant and have spent most of my professional career in finance roles at Dixon's, John Lewis and Kingfisher Plc. Unsurprisingly, my main responsibility as a Governor is Finance!!!

I really enjoy my role as a Governor. It's great to be able to use my finance skills to support a local school in its efforts to provide the best possible environment for its children. As a local Harpenden resident, and the father of two children in primary education, I understand just how important this is for children and parents alike. Having had the pleasure of spending time in the school, I've seen at first-hand how good our teaching staff are and the great environment that they help create for the children of Sauncey Wood. I couldn't have been more impressed by the polite and enthusiastic nature of the children I have met.

It is seeing that enthusiasm from both the children and staff that motivates me to continue supporting the school as a governor.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas
Steve and the Governing Body of Sauncey Wood Primary



FRIEND'S NEWS

We end the year with a huge thank you to everyone who helped us make the Christmas fair event so successful.

Special thanks to Taylor Walton solicitors for their generous donation, Ali Collins for organising the Reindeer Run, Angela Holahan for all her needlework skills, Peter and Sarah Golder and all their Elves for running the grotto and all class reps, Mr Lloyd and Ms Harkness for being so supportive and generous with their time. Another thank you to all the parents who donated bottles and chocolates for the Bottle/chocolate tombola and of course to everyone who turned up.

We really couldn't have done it without you 😊.

Finally, we are still asking for classes to come forward to organise events to raise money for the school, it can be whatever you like, a cheese and wine tasting all the way to a cake sale, we are more than happy to help you with what you need to run it, just let us know.

Thanks again for everyone that has helped in our first term as the chairs of FOSW, it's been a roller coaster!

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Katie, Bex and Sam

ALUMNI NEWS

Jake Angus (SJL)

Jake organised a whole school fundraising event for a local Down Syndrome Charity and was awarded a Head's Commendation for this. He is shortly to take his Grade 5 clarinet exam and is working towards Grade 1 bass guitar. He has a music badge for services to music (performances/being in bands). He plays in a concert band, UAC band and Junior jazz band.

Emma Bird (SJL)

Emma has represented the school in hockey, netball, basketball, cross country, rounders and football and this term she won the Year 8 gold medal in advanced trampette at the St Albans District competition. She is still playing the piano, and will be taking her Grade 5 exam in the next couple of months. Outside of school she swims for Putteridge Swimming Club and, training 5 times a week, she will compete in the Bedfordshire County Championships in January.

Megan Edwards (Kings)

Megan's short story has been chosen to be included in the Hertfordshire 'Mission Chaos' book in a competition organised by Young Writers, published on 22 November. She has gained confidence in many areas and has performed in musical drama and singing performances, as well as playing in school netball matches.

Coemy Fourie (SJL)

Coemy received 2 heads commendations in year 7, Coemy is participating for the second year in the Harpenden Gangshow with the Scouts and this year will be performing a solo. She is taking her grade 2 saxophone exam in December. She is enjoying playing rugby for the under 14's team at the Harpenden Rugby Club.

Tiana McKenzie-David (SJL)

Tiana has joined a new athletics team called Saintstnf where she trains with GB athletes. She competed last season in the southern athletics championships and got a bronze medal for long jump, got picked to represent Hertfordshire in an athletics competition, she's the school's district champion in long jump and is ranked 2nd fastest in the east for 100m sprint. Tiana continues her love of football, and plays for SJL, Harpenden Colts and Arsenal pre Academy under 14s. Tiana has represented SJL in many team sports and athletics.

