

Sauncey Wood Primary Newsletter

Friday, 31st January 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

We are already 4 weeks into the Spring Term and each day seems to be whizzing past! We have had another two weeks of creative and exciting learning experiences for all.

Last week saw our **Curiosity Week** take place and I was overwhelmed by the number of children that were celebrated in our assembly for extra creative thinking and curious questions. I was very proud to see even our Reception children come to the front and share their learning.

This week has seen some of our pupils take learning outside of the classroom. Year 6 visited St Albans Cathedral and the Anne Frank + You exhibition. It was a very moving exhibition teaching the children about Anne's writing and the impact she still has on children and adults worldwide. The workshops allowed the children time to learn about very serious topics, that sadly, still affect us.

Reception Class also had an exciting experience this week with the visit of the fire engine to the KS2 playground. The children had the opportunity to learn about the vehicle itself, but also the amazing work that the fire service do!

Well done to all of our children, each one of them brilliant and a pleasure to have at our school.

Wishing you all a restful weekend.

Mr Lloyd

Letters gone out this fortnight:

27.01.2020 - TikTok Online Safety Guidance

27.01.2020 - Staff Changes

29.01.2020 - Singing Lessons at School

29.01.2020 - Florence Nightingale Day - Year 2

School News

Speed Stacking

Year 3 and Year 4 attended the annual Speed Stacking Tournament in St Albans last week and both teams performed brilliantly. Out of 214 schools from Harpenden and St Albans, Sauncey Wood boys team came 5th and the girls team came 10th. Again, another fantastic achievement for all of those involved. A big thanks to Mr Holmes for always taking the time to ensure our children take part in as many of these events as they can!

Australia Bush Fires - Raising Money

A few weeks ago we responded to the children of Sauncey Wood and their desire to raise money for the Australia Bush Fires and the terrible damage that it has caused across the country. As a result of the task that was set to all, **we have managed to raise an astonishing amount just over £338**. Can I just say a massive well done and thank you to all who helped raise this money; what a brilliant thing to do as a community.

Coats

Please can we ask that all children are sent to school with a coat so they can play outside at break and lunch time. Sadly, we still have a number of children who come to school without one and I do not like having to keep children in because they do not have one.

Upcoming Dates	
04.02.2020	Year 4 Sharing Assembly at 9.00 a.m.
05.02.2020	Wheelie Wednesday
06.02.2020	Tag Rugby Tournament
10.02.2020 - 14.02.2020	Feeling Good Week
10.02.2020	Parent Workshop - Growth Mind-set
10.02.2020	Book Look
11.02.2020	Year 3 Sharing Assembly at 9.00 a.m.
11.02.2020	Internet Safety Day
14.02.2020	Finish for February Half Term
27.02.2020	Florence Nightingale Day - Year 2

Governor Corner

This week we're pleased to introduce two new Governors. Many of you will know Dan Dures, our newest Parent Governor, and we also welcome Carmen O'Loughlin who is joining us as a co-opted Governor:-

Dan - I'm excited to join the team to give me the opportunity to help our local school continue to thrive. With two kids currently at Sauncey Wood I've seen first-hand how much a good school makes a difference and hope I can add a little bit to all that's been achieved. Outside of parenting I've worked across a number of big FTSE companies over the years in commercial and data roles and am currently at Just Eat.

Carmen – I previously worked as a Secondary School Maths Teacher in Essex, London and Mexico City which has given me first-hand experience working in education, both nationally and internationally. Whilst studying my MA, I gained a strong understanding of the British educational landscape and the pressures certain policies place on schools, head-teachers and leadership teams. In my current role, I am developing my skills within corporate fundraising and partnerships, and believe my experience in this area may be of use to schools struggling with reduced budgets.

As well as welcoming Dan and Carmen, we are inviting applications for a new Parent Governor, and hoping to re-appoint Bridgett Pymm as her current term of office expires shortly. This is a decision that must be made by the Parent Community though, and Mr Lloyd is sending out a letter with more information.

Nurture News

We are currently in the process of trying to re-start our Nurture Group at Sauncey Wood and one of the spaces that we are hoping to use is the Pavilion. A couple of years ago, the space was set up by the brilliant Mrs Allen but the lack of funding seriously impacted upon our resources to enable it to run.

I have been working with Southdown Children's Centre over the past few weeks and we have been able to set up a Nurture Group for some of our children starting after half term. To make this as successful as possible, I am putting a call out for any resources that our families may be able to spare to make it successful and to help regenerate our brilliant space in the pavilion.

We are in desperate need of things such as:

- Beanbags
- Large cushions
- Toys
- Soft toys
- Small chairs
- Games
- Plastic plates/plastic cutlery
- Role play items/dressing up costumes
- Any food preparation material - storage boxes, cups, containers etc...

As a school, we know the hugely positive impact this type of work can have on children so anything that you may be able to donate would be greatly appreciated and will hopefully enable us to see the full return of Nurture Club at Sauncey Wood!





Premiership Football Tournament – Girls' Football

Last week Mr Holmes and Mr Hairon took our Girls football team over to St Albans, London Colney, where they took part in a Tournament that was run by the Premier League Football Group. As ever, our girls performed brilliantly and again showed such commitment and improvement. There were many schools from all over the County, so our results shown below are an absolute credit to all of our players that were involved. Great work Sauncey Wood!

Sauncey Wood - Played 7 games in total; won 1, drew 2 and lost 4.

Boys Football

The Year 5 and Year 6 Boys team played their first match this week with local rivals The Lea. The boys have shown massive improvement in their training both after school and at lunch time so it was pleasing to see that all this hard work was paying off in terms of the quality of football they are playing.

Sauncey Wood were up against a top team but you will be glad to hear we came away with the victory, **beating The Lea 1 - 0**. It was a high quality team performance and a great result! Well done to all of the boys involved.