

Sauncey Wood Primary Newsletter

Friday, 11th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Well what a busy two weeks that was for us all!

The challenges that have been put in front of the school and myself recently have been exhausting. The ultimate aim of keeping everyone safe still remains my number one priority and I want to pass on my thanks to you all for your honesty and open feedback about our recent situation.

There has been no training for dealing with a pandemic, little support from Herts County Council and pressures faced from all sides. I hope that you can see that I have done all I can to ensure the safest possible journey for our school community. I know that some of my communications may have been seen as a little abrupt, too firm or even one-sided, but it has only ever been my intention to keep 200 children, their families and my staff safe and well.

The virus will not have gone by the time we return from Christmas but I want to reassure you that we have put extra measures in place again, to ensure that we can continue to minimise the risk to our school community.

You have all been remarkable and I cannot thank you enough for your commitment to help reduce the risk and spreading of the virus at school.

I know that this has again been difficult for many of you and I just wanted to pass on my thanks and say I fully understand your stresses, anxieties and worries; I have them too.

I hope you all have a lovely Christmas and get to spend that precious time with your loved ones. I look forward to hearing about it all in January.

Please look after one another and stay safe.

Mr Lloyd

School News

Taylor Walton Donation for Hampers

As you may have seen on our Social Media pages we have been busy putting together hampers for our Christmas raffle which will be drawn on the last day of the term during our virtual performance of Carols Around the Tree - information below.

After a very kind donation from Mr Wickham and his work place of Taylor Walton, we have managed to put together some of our best hampers yet! All of the money will go to the School, so please do try and buy a few tickets if you can. Tickets can be purchased through Classlist, Miss Harkness or Bex Tolson – FoSW.

HCL Food Packages – In Time of Need

During the period where a large number of our children were having to isolate, Herts Catering immediately put a plan in place to provide care packages to those children who are in receipt of Free School Meals. This was such a kind gesture from the HCL team and we are very grateful for their continued support.

Welcome to the Team

Miss Constable has been with us since half term and is going to be covering Year 4 whilst Miss Donnelly is on maternity leave. We are still not sure of the exact date of the leave, but having a clear plan in place was important in securing Miss Constable as soon as possible. She has already spent time with the class and getting to know the children.

Miss Eynon is an additional Teaching Assistant in Year 5 and started with us after October Half Term.

Carols Around the Tree - Zoom details out next week

On Friday, 18th December at 9:30 a.m. we will be holding our annual event of Carols Around the Tree. This year things will be slightly different. We will be hosting the event on Zoom. Please do join us as we are transforming the hall in to a Christmassy scene where each class will come to sing a Christmas song, some children will share poems, and we will announce the Governor Awards for this term and draw out the winner for our Christmas Hampers.

You are welcome to join us from the comfort of your own homes, with a glass of mulled wine!

Governor Corner

The school's Governing Body includes as part of its makeup, five Parent Governors and five Community Governors. There has been a vacancy for a Community Governor this term and we are very pleased to say that Tom Jeffries has now been appointed into the role.

Tom has a business background in engineering and executive business management in the UK and abroad. He has lived locally for 28 years and is married with four children and six grandchildren and was inspired to apply for the role by his brother who is Chair of a Governing Body of a Primary School in Barnet.

Given his business experience, Tom will join the Resource Committee and as a new Governor, he will be very busy completing mandatory training in critical areas such as Safeguarding as well as familiarising himself with over 100 Policies that are used to run the school.

We are sure that Tom will make a significant contribution to the Governing Body and to the School and we look forward to working with him.

Colin & Bridgett

Governing Body Co-Chairs

FRIEND'S NEWS

Hi Everyone.

We hope everyone is safe and well? We are finally at the end of 2020 and we wanted to say a massive thank you to all of our helpers, supporters this year, needless to say, we simply could not have done the fundraising we have managed to do without your support and time. Thank you!

With fundraising in mind, a quick update of the remaining Covid-Friendly activities that will be happening:-

- Christmas Quiz - Tonight at 8pm. Tickets available on Classlist.
- Christmas Trails with Santa Visit - 12th and 13th December (please speak to Clare Barnes if you need further details).
- Christmas Hampers - Draw will happen on Friday, 18th December (Tickets available on Classlist or contact Miss Harkness/Rebecca Tolson directly).
- Sock & Scarves Sale on HPN - look out for these items for sale on HPN. **ALL funds** will go to FOSW.

Also, looking at 2021, please diarise 5th January for the Friends of Sauncey Wood AGM where new Chairs and a new committee will be voted in. Please come along, we are assuming it will be on Zoom so details will follow.

Thanks for reading and all that leaves us to say is, have a great Christmas and we will see you all on the other side and thanks again for all the support!

FOSW (Bex, Sam and Katie)



Christmas is....

A hairpiece for Janet,
Some Lego for Jo,
A puppy for Clarice,
And for Louise, a shiny red bow.
A crushed Gingerbread Lady,
Mince Pies galore,
Wrapping paper everywhere,
And Sellotape on the floor.
Some snow on reindeer antlers,
Hay in their hooves,
But worst of all,
Is seeing Santa's dance moves!
Squeezing down chimneys,
Singing sweet Silent night,
Decorations in the driveway,
Houses bursting with light.
Carrots and cookies,
A glass of creamy milk,
Sitting by the fire,
With blankets soft as silk.

By Flo Clark

Christmas without you

Christmas without you would be like a day
with no sun,

Christmas without you would be like a
rainbow with no colours,

A night with no moon,

Cookies with no smell,

Life with no love,

Christmas without you would be a
nightmare with no end,

But a Christmas with you would be full of
cheer,

A Christmas with you would be a baked
delight,

A tornado of colours,

A magical adventure,

A snowflake of love,

Christmas with you would be a dream come
true,

So this year my wish is to spend Christmas
with you.

By Rebecca Rock

