

Sauncey Wood Primary Newsletter

Friday, 1st October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been a very busy couple of weeks here at Sauncey Wood. There has been little time for rest with so much going on within the school and with children learning.

We have been working hard behind the scenes to make sure that every child is feeling settled at our school and happy to be here. This has been, yet again, another successful year of transition of those children moving up year groups, new starters in Reception class and of course those families who have joined us in various year groups over the Summer and in September. We are delighted to have you all as part of our School and community.

As we move into Autumn please can I remind you to ensure that all children have a coat in school. We are still having windows open to help aid ventilation across the building and some spaces are colder than others are. Extra layers are allowed underneath school uniform.

Without meaning to sound like a scrooge, can I also please ask that no playing cards are brought into school as we have had a few issues with cards being given away and the various accusations of stealing happening. We tend to let these trends come into school until we are faced with issues and sadly that time is now. From Monday, no Pokémon and other trading cards are allowed at school. Sorry.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Lloyd

Letters gone out this fortnight:

17.09.2021 - Covid 19 Update - Continuation of Internal Class Bubbles

30.09.2021 - Harvest Festival

30.09.2021 - Crucial Crew (Year 6)

School News

Charity Work

Jeans for Genes Day

After another brilliant show of support to a truly worthy charity, we managed to raise £90.05 for **Jeans for Genes Day**. Thank you to all of those who donated to this very worthy cause.

Bluesky Retreat

Bluesky Retreat is a charity who helps to support parents after the loss of a child. The vision for the charity is to raise enough money to buy a plot of land and turn it into a safe, tranquil residential retreat for parents who have lost a child under the age of 18 years. There are pin badges and a donation box in the main school entrance if you would like to come and support the charity.

Mini Schools London Marathon

During the week of October 11th, **all children** will be taking part in the school mini marathon, with the aim of every child covering the distance of 2.62 miles across the week. I was approached by two girls to use this event as a platform to raise awareness and money for the children and families in greatest need in Afghanistan and those who have fled the country. We will be writing to you soon about how this event is going to help make a real difference to those in need. Watch this space...

Wonderful Writing from Year 3

Elissa wrote a super beginning to a story based on 'The Paper Bag Princess' from the viewpoint of the dragon...

Thursday 16th September (E)

To begin to write a story.
To write effective sentences and use capital letters and full stops correctly.

The day began well I was doing my daily ply round the world then out of the corner of my eye I saw a shape. Then I looked back & it was a castle! I glared backwards & I decided how do eat breakfast. First I drank all the water the moat. Afterwards I dugged a deep hole in the moat then ~~arched~~ the drawbridge with my fiery breath and wroccled it castle with my strong tail. I turned round and saw the slays I serged them and then felt a sudden pain on my be I spit round to see guards with long metal poles with a metal point that he was prodling me, with I rose up in the air then dived down straight at him mouth wide open. Before he could move I was upon him. He was trapped ate him and then the people fled out. I ate them all I kept two. I burnt the girls' clothes and carried off the writhing piece named Ronald. When I arrived at dark gloom laid. He started moaning and ~~whispering~~ ^{praying} I warned him to stop irritating me or I would eat him for snack pot din I was so tired after destroying a castle I fell ~~asleep~~ in a extremely deep sleep.

Governor Corner

The Full Governing Body meets once a term and the Agenda is always very full with items we are legally required to consider, such as finance and safeguarding. That leaves little time to review the strategic direction of school which, in this ever changing world, has to be carefully planned to ensure we do the best for our children. So to have time for this review, we held our annual 'Governors Day' on Wednesday this week where we considered for instance, how Government educational policy might impact the school and how schools are organising themselves into academies and other less formal arrangements which may impact our future. We are lucky at Sauncey Wood in that the school is performing very well and we have budgeted for all we need to do, so we can do what we want to do and not be forced into anything. This Strategic Review should be completed early in the New Year and we will update you on our conclusions at that point.

Governors Day is also the time where we decide on specific roles for each Governor and this information will be published on the website in the next couple of weeks. We also welcomed two new Governors at the meeting, Silvy Prisco Penna and Jen Gardner, who both have an educational background and will make a significant contribution to the Governing Body.

Colin & Bridgett
Joint Chairs of the Governing Body

FRIEND'S NEWS

The fundraising has started! Last week we launched our first two fundraisers, the £20.21 challenge and the Halloween disco.

We hope as many of you as possible will take up the challenge of raising £20.21 each (or more if you wish). This is your chance to do whatever you want to raise the money so have fun!! Ticket sales are going well for our spooky Halloween disco. Tickets are only available on class list so make sure you sign up there in advance!

There are lots more exciting things lined up throughout the year as well so make sure you're on the Friends of Sauncey Wood Facebook page and/or class WhatsApp groups as this is where the advertising happens first!

Thank you to everyone who supported the Macmillan Coffee Afternoon last Friday. We raised £87.26 and this has been passed on to the charity.

Clare and Gemma
Co-Chairs



Christmas Card Design Competition

Harpenden children aged 4-11 are invited to design a Christmas card based around this year's theme 'Christmas in Harpenden'. The winner will have their design used for the Town Mayor's Christmas Card and will be invited to turn on the Town Christmas lights at the Christmas Carnival!

Harpenden

Cards should be designed on A4 paper, with your name, age and school on the back. All entries should be received by Thursday 4th November, they can be delivered by hand or posted to The Mayor's Secretary, Harpenden Town Council, Town Hall, Leyton Road, AL5 2LX.

 HARPENDEN TOWN COUNCIL
DEDICATED TO THE COMMUNITY

Sauncey Wood Art

One of our school governors, Susan Dean, has worked with our children across many of our year groups to help produce this truly wonderful piece of Art that is now on display

*“Susan truly has done a remarkable and aspirational job. People last night were excited by the way in which the pupils had experienced being in amongst the trees, looked closely, felt the surfaces, listened to the sounds around them and translated their experience into an amazing, beautiful, collaborative work of art the School can display for all to see. The CEO of The Tree Council, Sara Lom, was at the Launch and took a photograph of me pointing to the notice and photographs of Sauncey Wood pupils measuring the growth and watering the trees they had planted. She was very impressed with the immersive work the School is doing. **What is thrilling is that every teacher visiting the Exhibition will be planning to emulate the example set by Sauncey Wood School.**”*

Kate Bretherton Curator, in association with [Ember Designs](#), of [‘The Remarkable World of Trees’](#) exhibition at [St Albans Museum + Gallery](#)

