

# Sauncey Wood Primary Newsletter

Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

Yet again, another two weeks just flies by. Its not quite two full weeks but with the extra day off with the Occasional Day this week, it really is starting to feel a bit like Christmas.

Nativity practice is well underway and all children are busy learning their lines. If you are struggling with any costumes, could you please let the school know promptly and we will do our very best to help you. The tickets will be online very soon and I am already impressed by the amazing singing I am hearing from our youngest children.

We are looking forward to see you all over the course of the weekend. Sunday sees us have our second ever Christmas themed Run and our annual Christmas Fair.

The combined event will be fun for all and I look forward to seeing as many of you as I can taking part in the Run or just being able to say hello to you at the Fair. This community event is going to be one of our biggest yet! Huge thanks goes to the brilliant, and never-resting Friends of Sauncey Wood.

Following on from the Fair we will be walking children and families down to the bottom of Pickford Hill to take part in the Batford Lights Up event - further details are opposite.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Mr Lloyd

## Letters gone out this fortnight:

**18.11.2019** ROBLOX Concerns (Year 5 & 6)

**19.11.2019** Christmas Dates to Remember

**26.11.2019** Our Christmas Fair Needs You!

**27.11.2019** "Christmas Counts" Nativity  
(Reception, Year 1 & 2)

**27.11.2019** Egyptian Day (Year 4)

## School News

### Poppy Appeal

Sauncey Wood raised a whopping **£251.05!** What an amazing thing to do for such a great cause. We really do appreciate your support and the kind contributions you all make. It was very moving watching all of the children and staff take part in the 2 minutes silence. We were all so very proud of our children.

### Children in Need

Our very own Pyjama Day went down a storm for another great cause; in total, we raised **£198.30**. It was great to see so many children (and teachers) arrive at school in their favourite PJs! It was a great fundraising event and fun for all. Thank you (again) for your wonderful support!

### Batford Lights Up!

Just a little reminder that Sauncey Wood choir (and all other children) are invited with parents to come and open the Batford Lights Up event straight after our School **Christmas Fair on 1<sup>st</sup> December at 4.45 p.m.** and we will be handing out glow-sticks to all children and families to walk down the hill with us! We are sure that this will be another great community event and we look forward to seeing all of you there. Thank you to Miss Donnelly for teaching the children our Christmassy repertoire.

## Upcoming Dates

02.12.2019	Parent Workshop - Communicating Effectively at 3.30 p.m.
04.12.2019	Rotary Carol Concert Rehearsal and Evening Performance at High Street Methodist Church
09.12.2019	Nativity Dress Rehearsal at 9.30 a.m.
10.12.2019	Nativity Performance at 2.30 p.m.
11.12.2019	Nativity Performance at 6.00 p.m.
11.12.2019	Christmas Dinner Day
12.12.2019	Whole School to Harpenden Panto (10.00 a.m. performance)
13.12.2019	Christmas Film Night (Elf)

## Governor Corner

The School Improvement Committee (SIC) met on 19<sup>th</sup> November. The SIC has several functions including: to monitor, evaluate and challenge the school in order to help drive school improvement; to consider progress made by the school against the School Development Plan; to ensure the needs of vulnerable pupils are met; and to consider attainment and progress of all pupils.

The highlights of this term's meeting were hearing a report on the visit to the school by an English Teaching and Learning Advisor, who was particularly impressed by the level of personalised learning that takes place at Sauncey Wood; and another external visit from a Hertfordshire County Council Consultant looking at how the school is working with the new Ofsted framework. This was also very positive and showed that Sauncey Wood is leading the way with our curriculum development and implementation. Several children spoke to the Consultant and they were a credit to the school, making the Senior Leadership Team very proud! We also reviewed the attainment and progress data from the last academic year, looked at the School Development Plan for this year, and reviewed this year's Self Evaluation Form (the school's evaluation of itself against the Ofsted framework). In each of these items, we discussed and challenged how the school is meeting the needs of vulnerable pupils in particular. Members of the Governing Board are now looking forward to visiting the classes to see teaching and learning in action, and to talk to Subject Leaders about their planning and monitoring of the teaching of each subject.

We're looking forward to the Winter Fair this weekend, and I'm sure everyone will join us in thanking the FoSW very much for the huge amount of time and effort that goes into running this event to raise money that will help to enhance the school experience for all our pupils.

Bridgett Pymm (Co-Chair of Governors)

## FRIEND'S NEWS

Hi everyone

The **Winter Fair** is nearly upon us! We look forward to seeing everyone on **Sunday from 2.00 p.m.**

Pop for food and refreshments all day, with amazing crafts and Christmassy gifts, not to mention our fabulous **Reindeer Run starting at 2.15 p.m..... RUN REINDEER RUN!**

And if that's not enough, the amazing Mr Makondo (the drummer dude!) will be performing at 3.30 p.m.... AND Sauncey street dancers will make it go POP at 4. 00 p.m.(ish). Following on from their performance, we will walk with as many families as we can down to watch our children sing at the Batford Lights Up event! What a wonderful way to start the festive season!

A big thank you once again to those who have volunteered to help on the day, we still need hands!!! If anyone else would like to offer their time, please do get in touch with any of the team through your class reps.

We will be at school from 1.00 p.m. THIS SATURDAY to decorate the Christmas trees and make a start on the fair set up....all volunteers welcome! We have lovely helpers but more hands less time for all!

**CAKE!** We will have a cake sale at the Fair, donations would be most welcome. Drop off at school on Saturday from 1.00 p.m. or bring to the Fair on Sunday.

That's it! It's going to be spectacular and thanks for all the help received so far. You are all amazing!!!!

Love team Sauncey x

## Sauncey Wood ex-pupils - Our Alumni News!

### Megan Piegrass



Earlier this week Megan “braved the shave” raising over £1500 for Cancer Research for shaving her head. She trains at Hatfield weekly for synchronised swimming. Megan continues to excel in many areas of her learning and I know she would greatly appreciate any support and donations you can add to her already amazing total!

<https://bravetheshave.macmillan.org.uk/shavers/megan-piegrass/>

### Jack Shadbolt

Year 7 Boys WIN their 1st round National Cup game 7-1 against Haileybury Turnford. Goals from Rhys, Jacob, Zach and Youri (1) and hat trick hero Shadbolt! #cuprun #awaywin #sjlfootball



Jack currently Plays for SJL Y7 1<sup>st</sup> team and is on a goal scoring streak at present. He has a drive to become a professional footballer and we are delighted to hear of his blazing success not even a year in to his new school. Well done Jack!

### Mia Collins



Mia the captain of the YR 8 Netball A team, and has represented SJL in many team sports (hockey, netball, basketball, football, rugby, rounders & athletics). In the School County Athletics in the Summer Mia came 5<sup>th</sup> in the county at shotput. She is part of the SJL Gifted & Talented programme for Maths and Drama. Since joining SJL Mia is learning the bassoon, soon to take her Grade 1 exam and plays in the SJL Up and Coming Band (UAC). Outside of school she plays netball for the A team of Harpenden Hawks. Amazing Mia! We are all so very proud of you!