



Saxon Way News



ISSUE 04

December 2021

Dear Saxon Way Families,

What a lovely time of year! It has been great to watch the children enjoying all of the Christmas activities, ranging from parties, nativities, carol concerts, snowball dodgeball, Santa fun run and the Enterprise fair. This alongside the many exciting learning opportunities throughout the term, including the great trips and visitors, has no doubt left everyone exhausted but happy and full of knowledge. Everyone has definitely earned some rest and relaxation.

As we look forward to the New Year, we would love it if you can take a good look at the range of enrichment activities we offer and allow and encourage your children to sign up for one of the exciting after school clubs on offer.

This holiday the Local Authority will continue to support families who are eligible for free school meals. These will be available on Monday 20th December. The voucher will be for £15 per week for each qualifying child and will be issued for two weeks.

We would like to highlight all parents to issues arising around the roads adjoining school with parking and unsafe driving. We are constantly communicating with highways at Medway Council about this issue and if a report of unsafe driving is made to us, we are reporting it and asking for action to be taken against those not giving due care and consideration to the safety of others. If you drive to drop off, please think about your actions before it is too late and a child becomes seriously hurt. If you live close to the school please walk. Good for the environment and good for the children to exercise their bodies and be set up for the day. Many research studies highlight the impact physical activity has on concentration levels, so what better way to start the day than a brisk walk! Healthy bodies, Healthy minds! Why not consider it as your New Year's Resolution?

We have recently asked that parents wear a mask on site and that only one adult collects and drops off, this will help us all remain safe whilst the current situation continues to grow locally since the detection of a new variant. Please can all parents continue to follow this guidance in January 2022.

It just remains for me to thank you all for your continued support and to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Angela Sandow

Key Dates

First day of Term 3

Tuesday 4th January

First swimming session

Friday 7th January

Year R Height/Weight/Hearing Check

Wednesday 26th January

Children's Mental Health Week

w/b Monday 29th January

End of Term 3

Friday 11th February

INSET Day

Monday 21st February

Start of Term 4

Tuesday 22nd February

Celebration Assembly

Well done to these pupils that have been celebrated this term for trying hard with their Writing, Maths and demonstrating excellent values:

<u>Year 1</u> Brandon Eliana Lexi Liana Myra Jamil	<u>Year 2</u> Freddie Jenson Kitty Samad Sofia Ana
<u>Year 3</u> Tallulah Mahdia Skyla Sumeya Charlie Kayden	<u>Year 4</u> Enoch Leo Sara Emmanuel Alexander Lacey
<u>Year 5</u> Michelle Timas Cara Frankie Kyla Lewis	<u>Year 6</u> Abdulateef Aidan Erin Honey Leo Maddison

Our New Improved Outside Environment

We are so pleased to now have our new outdoor gym installed! We purchased this using our Sports Premium funding to build pupil's fitness and activity minutes. Mr Wells has also purchased Moki fitness bands that the pupils will be wearing during the school day to monitor their number of steps and activity minutes. From January, there will be interhouse competitions to see which classes can be the most active!



We have also had outdoor learning pods installed that will hold various resources to engage those pupils that may wish to have a quiet outdoor choice during lunchtime hours.

Three of the pods will have a STEM, Writing and Reading focus with the last pod's focus being chosen by our pupils. Our pupil leadership team will be speaking to classes next term about how they think the pod could be used.



Green School Award

At the end of November, we attended the Green School Awards and we are very proud to announce that Saxon Way won a clean air award!

Last year, Year 5 pupils researched into the importance of air quality and investigated devices to capture the particles in the air. They then went on to create their own air purifiers and shared them in our science exhibition. We are so pleased our work has been recognised!

We thank Mr. Prodger, a Medway council environmental representative, for creating the resources to support their learning and for his nomination!



Year 5 - WW2 Day

As a culmination of our topic the children had a whole day themed around WW2.

We looked at rationing (specifically clothes) and tried to spend our rations wisely. The children came up with some great combinations they could have as a child but found if you were an adult it became very hard to even get a single outfit.

Propaganda posters: We looked at a range of posters and tried to decipher their meaning to both the Axis and Allied forces.

Morse code: the children looked into the history of how the code was invented and how later it developed into something that was an integral tool during WW2.



Evacuation: We have been reading during English a story about 2 children who were evacuated from London during the war and we made links with real life stories of evacuees.

Music: the children listened to a range of music and commented on what they thought the message might be. Vera Lynn: We'll meet again, Bless them all, Bluebirds over the white cliffs of Dover. Flanagan and Allen: Run Rabbit, Run Rabbit. Gracie Fields: Wish me luck as you wave me goodbye.



Some of the children dressed up and those that didn't used all the props and hats we had in the class. We even had an air raid siren go off and a Warden telling us to take shelter!



Year 5/6 – Visit to Kent Life

Year 5/6 children visited Kent Life on Monday 29th November. They participated in a range of activities which gave them an authentic understanding of what life was like during WW2. They took part in an exercise to understand the role of the home guard and were drilled with marching practice. They learnt about radar and utilise their mathematical skills to determine the position of enemy aircraft as it crossed the English Channel.



They learnt how the German U boats were used to sink cargo ships coming to give supplies to the UK. Also, as material was rationed at the time, they learnt how to make use of old materials to create new items such as clothes and even rugs which also contributed to the war effort and 'make do and mend' spirit. They learnt about the importance of growing their own vegetables which lead to the 'dig for victory' campaign.



SAXON WAY GAZETTE

CHILDREN'S NEWSLETTER – ISSUE 02, October 2021

Christmas Enterprise Fair

On the 14th of December, Saxon Way orchestrated an incredible plan to celebrate as a school before we start the Christmas Holidays. All of the classes took part in the enterprise fair! It was an awesome, jolly time for the children to spend their last days in the school until they have their much-deserved holidays.

Each class had their own stall and sold their excellent products or children paid to take part in an activity. All children had the chance to browse the fair and spend some money on whatever they would like.

Whatever profit is made by each class is theirs to spend on their classroom as they wish to. For example, in previous years' classes have bought books for reading corners or a game to play during wet break and lunch. The class who raises the most money will be announced in the new year and will get a mysterious prize! We would like to say thank you for all the classes efforts and we will announce the winners in the next issue of the Saxon Way Gazette!



Year 1 sold homemade cookies and popcorn



Year 2 sold homemade slime



Year 3 sold homemade Christmas decorations



Year 6 made tasty marshmallow treats!

The Nativity – Year 1

In preparation for Christmas, Year One have been getting ready to perform a Nativity! The name of this symbolic performance is 'The Big Little Nativity' – this was a title which Miss Lake cleverly thought of!



They have many wonderful props created by the adults and children of Year One and amazing actors that have worked exceptionally hard over the last couple of weeks to prepare this Nativity for us.

The actors may be young but they are not all they seem...they disguise great skill and talent. Starring as Mary and Joseph are Nancy and Jamie who have become outstanding in acting their roles. As the three wise men are Lucas, Richard and Ralph; the shepherds are Ellicia and Brandon.



Year One also learnt lots of new songs which was difficult but they really enjoyed doing them. Year One have requested that their teacher in training, Mrs McLaren, has done amazingly in creating their props for their show. I will end with a quote from the musical director (Miss Lake) who said, "The children were a little nervous at first but they have tried really hard, we are really proud of them"

Thank you so much for taking your time to read this. We hope you enjoyed it!

