

Saxon Way News

ISSUE 06 March 2022

Dear Saxon Way Families

We have reached the final day of term 4 and I am sure you are all ready for a hard-earned break. I know the children and staff are very tired. As we look back on the term we can understand 'why' as we have achieved so much! We were part of an amazing choral concert at Central Theatre in Chatham. We took a group of talented singers who represented the school at Voice In a Million at Wembley Arena. The whole school community took part in a fabulous Founders Day. We learnt so much when the school was filled with wonderful displays full of scientific enquiry to support the annual GST Science Symposium and over the term so much excellent learning supported by trips and experienced visitors including remarkable Shakespeare performances both in school and in the local community. Next term brings the daunting reality of the return of Statutory Assessment Tests for Year 6 (SATs). It is really important for these children to enjoy their break and return fully rested so they can tackle the rigours of SATs in order to achieve to the best of their abilities. I was lucky enough to be part of the recent mock SATs for year 6 and I can say I was just so proud of how they approached them and focussed themselves to get the best outcomes they could.

Don't forget to sign up for the Medway Go holiday club being held at Saxon Way in the first 4 days of the holiday. Please see the leaflets and Facebook post for information.

I am very sad to let you know that this half term we are saying a few goodbyes. We are saying farewell to Ms Boughton who is continuing her professional journey in a new school and to our Site manager Mr Lock who is taking on a new position closer to home in Sheppey. We wish them both the very best for the future, they will be missed by the whole Saxon Way family.

If you know of anyone who might like a different direction for their career please share our Facebook post for the Site Managers position.

Free school meals vouchers will be issued to eligible families on Monday 4th April. They are being funded by Medway Local Authority for the half term period at a value of £15 per child per week. Please check your emails and your junk folders for notification, once they have been issued.

It just leaves me to wish you a very Happy Easter and we look forward to your return on Tuesday 19th April 22.

Kind Regards,

Angela Sandow

Key Dates

First day of Term 5

Tuesday 19th April

First swimming session

Friday 22nd April

Early May bank holiday

Monday 2nd May

Year 6 SAT's week

Monday 9th May

Healthy living week

Monday 23rd May

Queen's jubilee party

Friday 27th May

Last day of Term 5

Friday 27th May

Celebration Assembly

Well done to these pupils that have been celebrated this term:

Year R

Aarvi	Damien
Khyla	Marceline
Leo	Annabelle
Ronnie	Bana
Gavin	Grace
Lexi	

Year 1

Ebubechi
Isla
Jonathan
Maddeline
Mussawir
Muttagin
Riley

Year 2

David
Nassir
Michael
Samuel
Tochi

Year 3

Jaylon
Kacey
Liyana
Zainab
Nelson
Summer

Year 4

Alora
Amelia
Riley
Sophie
Elbie
Keogh

Year 5

Albie
Amy
Harley
Jorja
Kyle
Kyler

Year 6

Aiden
Ellie
Kacey
Liam
Michelle
Poppy

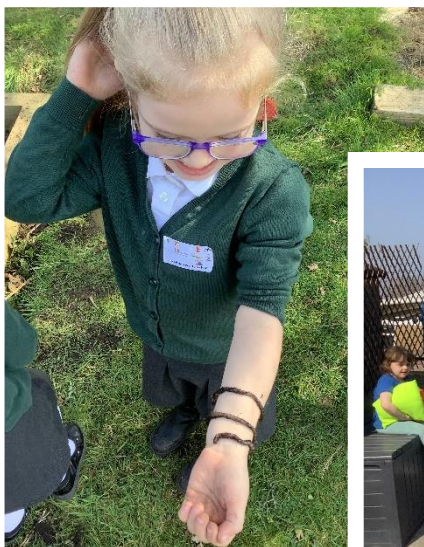
FS2 - Attenborough and Donaldson

This term both Attenborough and Donaldson Class has been very busy learning all about our Wonderful World! Each week this term, we learnt about a different continent. We particularly enjoyed learning all about the Amazon Rainforest and even created our own rainforests in a cup. We spoke about the layers of the rainforest and each species of plants and animals you will find! This term we started our Forest School days and have had lots of fun exploring the woodland walk by, minibeast hunting, building dens and creating mud cakes and soups in our mud kitchen. We also enjoyed celebrating Founder's Day this term by painting our rocks with bright and beautiful colours! We look forward to seeing the path that will be created around school.

We are looking forward to our next topic of Amazing Animals and would like to thank our adults for their continued support!



**FOREST
SCHOOL**



Year 1 – Curie and Kahlo



Year 1 have been learning about traditional tales. During the term, we have created story maps, sequenced pictures, acted out and rewritten a range of stories including 'Pinocchio' and 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears.' Some of the children designed and made their own puppets. After learning the story of 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' as part of the home learning, we changed the characters and wrote our own versions.



Wednesday 10th
March
LO: To write a story.

Once upon a time there lived
not one ~~not~~ not two but three
bears they lived
beside a stream one morning
they woke up to eat porridge
but there was no porridge off
porridge they saw a bridge
the little bear went bang
bang who that banging on
my bridge I am going to eat you
no porridge eat me eat my biggest
& braver okay you may
cross the bridge the bear
crossed the bridge the other
bear went bang bang.

The Three
bears were
for a picnic when they
knew how to they
got all their things and
Daddy Bear said who has been
eating my porridge?
Mummy Bear said who has been
eating my porridge?
Baby Bear said who has been
eating my porridge?
and they all said it!
They went into the
living room and then
they saw the chairs

Year 2 – Shackleton

Shackleton class have been working very hard this term, and we have learnt lots of new skills including how to sow! In English our learning has centered around an exciting magical adventure story, and we have written diary entries describing these adventures as well as writing predictions and character descriptions. In Maths we have been learning about statistics and creating our own pictograms and tally charts, as well as using our multiplication and division skills to problem solve. In Science we have been investigating environmentally friendly ways to handle food waste as well as creating our own wormeries. We really enjoyed making our wormeries and learning about how worms recycle food waste into valuable soil!



Year 3 – Pankhurst and Darwin



Science Week

The theme of our Science investigation for Science Week was to think how to encourage pollinators into our outside spaces to help carry pollen from one plant to another, to help create more seeds and ultimately more plants.

In our role as science investigators, we spent most of our time researching and generally building on our current knowledge about how to provide the environment for these pollinators to thrive. We have put together an action plan to build raised flower beds in the school grounds and fill with pollinator-loving plants to hopefully encourage an increase in bees, butterflies, beetles and other 'nectar-loving' creatures to carry the pollen further afield.

We are currently nurturing lavender plants to add to these beds as we have learnt that they are wonderful at attracting butterflies, especially.



P.E.

As part of our learning this term, in P.E., we have been considering how to work as a team, discovering the skills that are needed to be successful in overcoming problems and in developing strategies for success.

The children found out that everyone has a part to play in creating solutions to problems and lots of constructive discussion and planning enabled a successful conclusion in this tunnelling activity. It was lovely to see the more confident pupils, encouraging others to have their say too.

DOCKYARD VISIT

Tuesday 29th March 2022

'That was a walk, that was!'

On this day the whole of Year 3 went on their class trip, The Royal Naval Yards at Chatham. In our learning this term, we have been plotting a timeline of development of this area from the very first site a 'Jillingham Water' to the present day. It was great to see some this learning in real life



We learnt more about the Battle of Trafalgar, which involved HMS Victory and Admiral Lord Nelson. We had a go on some examples of tasks that would have done either at sea or in the docks.



We saw how rope was made and had a go at making our own examples, which we have brought back to school. There was so much else that we saw and went on but space has beaten us here to tell you all about it. Ask the children in Pankhurst and Darwin to tell you more!

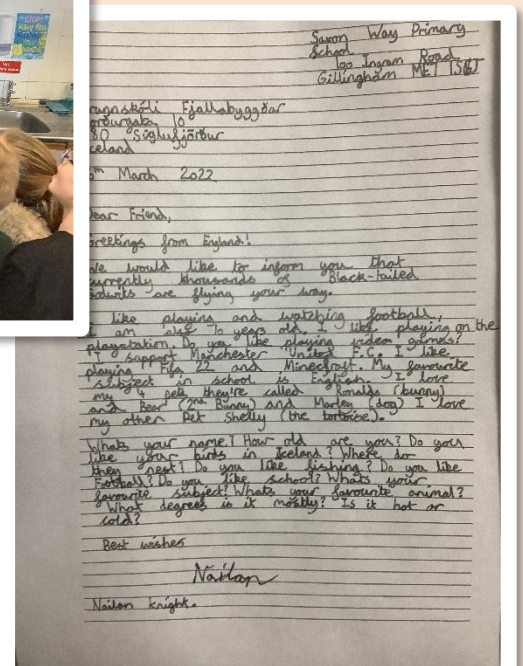
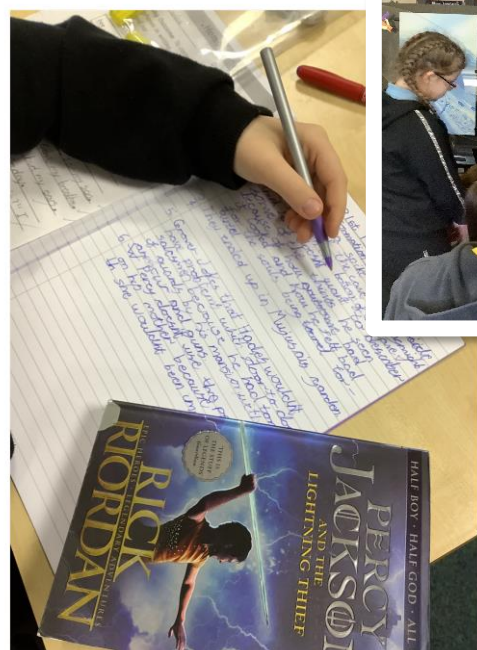
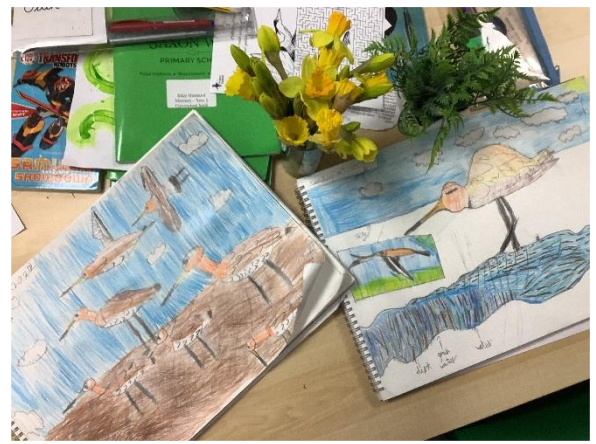


Year 5 – Mercury and Shakespeare

This term, Year 5 pupils have revelled in the opportunity to perform Shakespeare with classroom activities building-up to a performance of 'Macbeth' in school, and 'Mid Summer Night's Dream' in Chatham; video of both performances will be available to view on Google Classrooms.

Children also enjoyed the annual Griffin Science Symposium - Shakespeare Class investigated school recycling and wrote letters to our caterers and the Head Teacher suggesting ways that we can be more 'eco-friendly' - "we are change makers". Both classes explored the school and its neighbourhood using drone footage (available on Google Classrooms). Mercury measured that we are 500m from the Medway Estuary and learnt of its value to migrating birds and how we can care for this internationally important area. One species, that winters here, flies to Iceland for the summer, so the children made a movie about this and wrote letters introducing ourselves to an Icelandic school. We look forward to their reply.

Year 5 have enjoyed reading 'Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief' and have delved into the Greek mythology upon which it is based through their art. All pupils continue to work hard on their times tables so that they can advance their maths skills next term. Happy Easter!



Year 6 – Hawking and Williams

In Hawking class, we have been reading 'The Rabbits' and our writing lessons have been based on this. The class have written some wonderful setting descriptions and diary entries using the text as stimulus. They have also been learning about colonisation, and the British Empire.

As part of Science Week, some children participated in a zoom session with two scientists who specialised in geology of moon rocks- the children got to ask some questions about this field of work and were really engaged.

Additionally, in PE we have been doing problem solving. This was a lesson where the children had to solve how to 'cross the river' using only a bench and a piece of A3 paper.

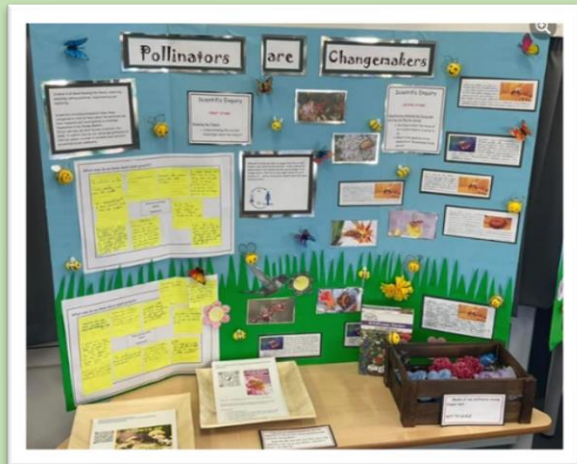
We have also just completed our mock SAT's week. The children were amazing!



Science Week - Science Exhibition

What an exciting Science week we had here at Saxon Way! Using our GAF theme of 'Changemakers', each year group developed a project that focused on a change within our school community and created a presentation demonstrating their learning.

- ☀ Reception created their own walking water experiments and created rainbows.
- ☀ Year 1 improved their outside area and thought about the environment that would be most inviting for our Bee community.
- ☀ Year 2 learnt about the life cycle of Bees and minibeasts and investigated which we have within our school site.
- ☀ Year 3 investigated the flowers that are most liked by Bees and planted them in our outside areas.
- ☀ Year 4 created minibeast mansions to entice other insects and wildlife into our school grounds.
- ☀ Year 5 investigated the migration of birds and communicate with other schools to compare bird migration data. Year 5 also looked at how we can reduce, reuse and recycle items in school and use them for Art.
- ☀ Year 6 investigated the use of tracking equipment to track animal movement and created their own tracking system within school.



Voice in a Million

On Wednesday last week, a group of children from the school choir were lucky enough to be involved in Voice In A Million, a huge concert incorporating over 6,000 children from various schools. The concert was even more special because it had been postponed from 2020 due to the Covid pandemic. The Saxon Way not only had the opportunity to sing along with all the other schools as part of one huge Voice In A Million choir but they were also lucky enough to sing with and meet some up and coming pop stars. The children sang their hearts out and really enjoyed themselves, making us very proud.

