

Saxon Way News

ISSUE 07 April/May 2022

Dear Saxon Way Families

We have reached the final day of term 5 and I am not entirely sure where the time has gone, it seems to have whizzed by in a flash. This term has seen children taking part in many proud traditions as we prepare for GAF and complete our Challenge 26 for another year. It also brought the return of Statutory Assessment Tests for Year 6, which the children worked through with great diligence. It was a hard week of testing but they gave it their all and we are just so proud of them.

I am very pleased to let you know that we have appointed a new site manager who will take up his position straight after half term. He would like to be known as Mr Neil.

Free school meals vouchers will be issued to eligible families on Monday 30th May. They are being funded by Medway Local Authority for the half term period at a value of £15 per child. Please check your emails and your junk folders for notification, once they have been issued.

I hope you all have a wonderful time celebrating the Queens Platinum Jubilee. I have heard of a few street parties that are taking place, so I hope it is an enjoyable time for all.

We look forward to your safe return on Monday 6th June 2022.

Take care.
Angela Sandow

Key Dates

Sports Day – Parents invited

Wednesday 15th June - KS1 9.30am-1.30pm
KS2 - 1.15pm-3.00pm

Griffin Arts Festival

Monday 27th June - Thursday 7th July

Griffin Arts Festival

Tuesday 28th June – Friday 1st July
Year 5 London GAF

INSET Day - School closed to all pupils

Friday 8th July

Last day of term

Thursday 21st July - school closes at **2pm**

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 R</u> Sophie Jasmine Nancie-Mai Indy Jack George	
<u>Year 1</u> Jimmy Harley Roman Isaiah Myra Jack	<u>Year 2</u> Kitty Scarlett Bella C Amiera Armani Jason
<u>Year 3</u> Eli-Reggie Hasti Mariah Paige Ronan Sonny-Ted	<u>Year 4</u> Elijah Lily-Ella Matthew Millie-Rose Poppy Sapphire
<u>Year 5</u> Michelle Timas Cara Frankie Kyla Lewis	<u>Year 6</u> Alfie Col Luna Mckenzie Rebecca Sofia Taylor

Dear Saxon Way Families,

We have had some concerns with on site safety and would like your support to ensure that we keep our site safe for everyone at all times.

Please can we remind all of our families that once inside the school gates, all bikes, scooters and electric scooters must be walked through the school grounds. This is so that we can ensure that our families, especially young children, are kept safe. Please refrain from letting your children ride them on the school site and do speak to them about these rules so that they are aware. We are more than happy to have the scooters and bikes stored on site but they are left at the owner's risk. If you would like to lock your bike or scooter please do and use the space by the main gate or in the bicycle store which is our car park.

Please ensure children are not entering the outdoor spaces past the steps including the climbing frame, MUGA, outdoor gym and field areas. These spaces are used for after school clubs and staff are unable to supervise the children at these times and we would like to minimise risk of children hurting themselves.

We have been lucky enough to be able to extend the Year 1 garden recently and we now have lots more space for teachers to set up activities for the children. Unfortunately, recently a lot of equipment has been broken, misplaced and played with during the afternoon pick up time which has meant that our pupils have missed out on valuable learning opportunities. Please keep your children with you whilst on school site and ask them to refrain from playing with the Year 1 equipment.

We kindly remind all of our families of children in Reception - Year 6 that we close the side gate, woodland walk and main gates at 3.25pm. Please ensure that you children are picked up promptly and that you exit the site by this time. Nursery gate will continue to be open until all afternoon children have been picked up.

Thank you for your ongoing understanding and support with these matters.

FS2 - Attenborough and Donaldson

This term in FS2 we have been learning about all the amazing animals we had and we now have on our planet from dinosaurs to minibeasts and farm animals.

We were very lucky this term to have special visitors on a number of occasions. We had a visitor from 'Creepy Claws' teach the children lots about the creepy crawlies that he had. We even go to hold some of them! We have also been able to observe and watch tadpoles turn into froglets and caterpillars turn to butterflies. However, our highlight would be watching the chicks hatch from their eggs! We enjoyed looking after them and wish them all the best of luck on the farm.

Thank you to our wonderful parents and carers who continue to support us and we look forward to all the celebrations and fun in term 6!





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Year 1 – Curie and Kahlo

In Year 1 this term we have been learning about different places around the world. Last week we focused on learning about different animals that live in the sea, learning to identify and name some as well as labelling key body parts and discussing what these body parts are for. We also designed and made moving pictures, painting the background in watercolours, then making a puppet sea creature on card and putting it on a lolly stick. Finally, we created a foreground to hide the lolly stick. We are really proud of our work! During our Bangladesh week, the children created their own fact file. The children worked really hard writing the facts they had learnt and drawing pictures of the animals which are found in Bangladesh. We have also been learning about directions: forwards, backwards, left, right, clockwise and anti-clockwise. Then we programmed Beebots to help the Queen get her crown back! We also enjoyed our challenge 26 activities!



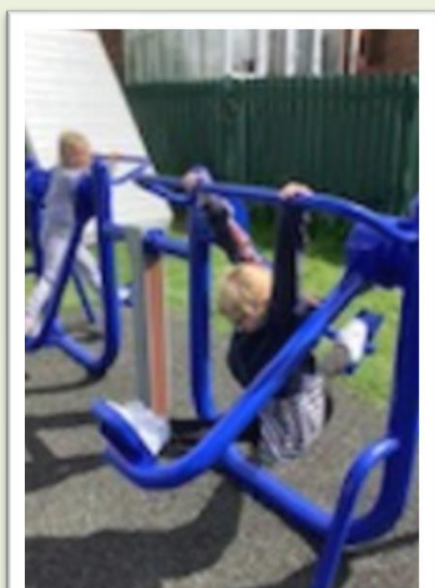
Year 2 – Nightingale

This term in Year 2 the children have been hard at work practising all of the skills we have taught them and acquiring some new ones too. In English they have learned how to use commas in a list and used all of their knowledge of sentence writing to plan and write character descriptions, letters, posters, settings descriptions, list poems and more. In Maths they have learned how to find halves, quarters and thirds of shapes or amounts and had lots of practise with solving one and two step problems related to addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

As a joint Science and DT project inspired by our focus book, the children explored the properties of a variety of materials to see which would be the most suitable for making a kite. They decided that plastic was a good choice, having proven that it was strong, flexible and waterproof. They thoroughly enjoyed testing their completed kites on the school field.

As part of Challenge 26, the children spent 26 minutes working out at the outdoor gym, showing us just how strong and flexible they are too!

We are very proud of the way in which the children try their best in all of their learning, including the way in which they approached the SATs assessments they completed during the last week of the term.



Year 2 – Shackleton

Shackleton has been really busy this term! We have been designing and making our own kites, and writing our own reports on how to make them! In Maths we have been practising using the column method to add and subtract as well as problem solving using our division skills. In Science we have been investigating what plants need in order to grow, so we decided to grow our own plants.



We have observed and recorded the growth and appearance of our plants and we make sure to water them everyday.

We have also been developing our dance skills and learning how to dance to the song 'Encanto', which we have really enjoyed. We have also had a really exciting assembly on healthy foods, in which we learnt all about what we can do to look after our bodies and what foods we should eat to be super healthy!



Year 3 – Pankhurst and Darwin

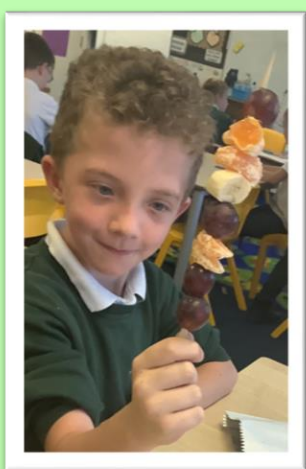
Linking this term's learning of the Jewish idea of sharing a meal – during Shavuot, and our learning of how to plan and make a meal, in D.T., Year 3 made a simple meal that they took home and shared with their families.

Cheese and Onion Flan - nutritious and well-balanced.



Served with Basmati rice sweetcorn and/or peas – nutritious containing fibre and carbohydrates for energy

Fruit kebabs: - delicious, juicy and full of vitamin C – to keep our bodies going



The class really enjoyed creating their meals and we hope their families enjoyed eating what they had prepared.



Healthy Living: Making Food Choices

Year 3 have been learning how to make healthy choices when choosing their meals. We know that, although we do need some salt, sugar and fat in our diet, too much is not healthy and could make us unwell.

We know that we must eat plenty of fruit and vegetables to give us the nutrients to keep us healthy. Year 3 have sampled a variety of fruit in their making of fruit kebabs.



Healthy Living: Keeping Fit



We ran the daily mile and made our own fruit smoothies. [After the fruit was added to the blender with the milk, we powered the 'smoothie bike' to run the motor to work the blender.] The result . . .



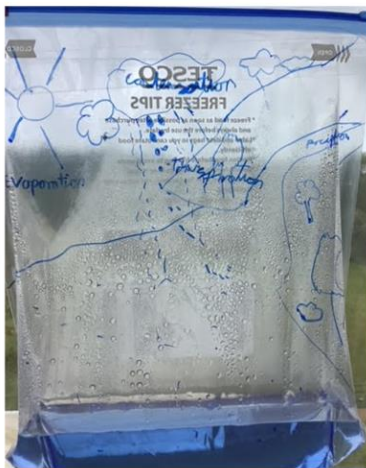
Year 4 - Brunel and Fitzgerald

Year 4 has had a very busy term 5 with lots of interesting activities taking place. A favourite part was when the children took part in the Times table Rock Stars online record breaking 'Rock and rolling number' challenge. We are pleased to say we broke the record along with many other schools that took part.

We finished our class book, The BFG, which has been a big hit, and we used this knowledge through our artwork- taking ourselves to dream country. Then science, which has been focussed on states of matter, where we created water cycle bags, looking at the condensation that was collected.

We had great fun learning our dance routine along to 'This is how we do it', as you have seen from the video and photos on the school Facebook page.

The end of term 5 has seen us preparing for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations, where we have made our very own afternoon tea boxes, danced as Kings and Queens, and enjoyed the outdoor lunch with our friends! Enjoy your half term rest and we will see you for an exciting term 6!



Year 5 – Mercury

This term Mercury has been learning to play cricket and the weather has been traditionally changeable to suit! The skills of bowling, batting and fielding are all coming together so that they can enjoy a match, however, the joy of the game is not the main objective. Through this sporting activity the pupils are actually developing their spatial awareness, their ability to consider what is happening around them, and where their place should be in the moment. This is a transferable skill that helps pupils to quickly work as a team to safely change the classroom layout, for example, to do performance or indoor P.E. It helps with lining-up and moving through the school smartly for different activities. Pupils are used to interacting via computer devices, but are not so good at talking to each other to plan and perform group tasks. Our season of cricket has helped to develop these social skills and to be more empathic. We are grateful to Mr. Morris for his leadership. If you would like a giggle, read these famous rules:

'The ins and outs of cricket.'

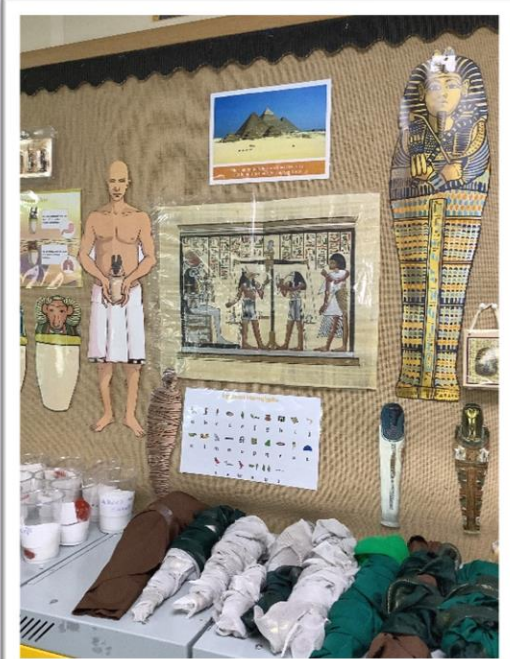
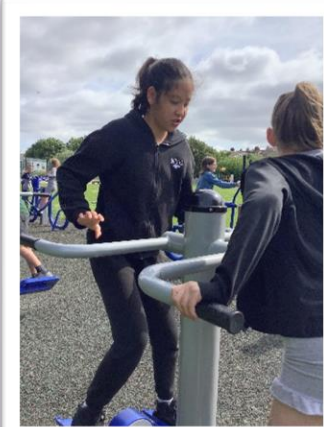
You have two sides, one out in the field and one in. Each man that's in the side that's in goes out, and when he's out he comes in and the next man goes in until he's out. When they are all out, the side that's out comes in and the side that's been in goes out and tries to get those coming in, out. Sometimes you get men still in and not out.

When a man goes out to go in, the men who are out try to get him out, and when he is out he goes in and the next man in goes out and goes in. There are two men called umpires who stay all out all the time and they decide when the men who are in are out.

When both sides have been in and all the men have been out, and both sides have been out twice after all the men have been in, including those who are not out, that is the end of the game!



Year 5 – Shakespeare



Shakespeare class having been learning about Egyptians this term. A part of their topic was to learn about the ancient art of mummification. They mummified tomatoes using the ancient technique and have packed them full with Natron like the Egyptians did. We have been closely monitoring their progress and we look forward to taking them out of the Natron after half term to see what has happened to them. They also wrapped a range of Barbie dolls in traditional wrapping. It was a lot harder than we first anticipated.

Art work

Our featured artist this term is Georges Seurat. His style of art is called Pointilism. We used cotton buds and the end of a paintbrush to create a technique similar to his. We used our metacognition skills to help us create our own piece of art work in the style of the artist.

Skittles.

Science changing materials. We looked at how quickly the skittles changed first using cold water and then repeated the same again with hot water. Look our amazing patterns



Year 6 – Hawking and Williams

Over the last two weeks, Year 6 have been busy applying their skills to an innovative Tangram project. The tangram is a dissection puzzle consisting of seven flat polygons, called tans, which are put together to form shapes. The objective is to replicate a pattern generally found in a puzzle book using all seven pieces without overlap. The children had to come up with their own theme, create their own shapes and create the packaging that the puzzle will go in. The children spent time making a net, considering what to include on the front and the back and who their tangram puzzle is aimed at. We are really proud of the hard work the Year 6's have put into this project and are proud of their continued hard work, even after SATs have been completed!

