

SAXON WAY

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter

Issue No. 15 | October 2023

Dear Saxon Way Families,

I hope that you are all well and back into the swing of the school routine! As I come to the end of my first term as Head of Saxon Way, I feel an immense sense of pride and awe at how utterly wonderful our pupils are! They are a true credit to you all; their determination and willingness to learn and be challenged has been exceptional.

We have had an exciting term full of wonderful learning; we have had Harvest celebrations, a group of children attend Griffin Sports Festival to develop their Sports skills, Year 4, 5 and 6 learning to problem solve in STEM workshops and our whole school Black History Month celebrations. We look forward to inviting you in to school for many exciting events next term. Please ensure that you look at the key dates section and put them in your diaries.

On Wednesday 1st November, we are launching our new event for our families 'Tea and Toast'. We were fortunate to claim back the previous Surestart centre in Spring of this year and we have now decorated and made it our own! As well as using it as a learning space for groups of children, an intervention space and workshop space for staff, we are conscious that we want it to support and serve our local community as much as we can. 'Tea and Toast' will be an opportunity for parents and pre-school children to come in, have some refreshments and a chat! There will be the chance to ask advice and receive support from our well-being team. In the near future, we also hope to hold parent workshops and would love to hear your ideas. So please come along, we look forward to seeing you there!

If you are in receipt of free school meals you will receive supermarket vouchers funded by Medway Local Authority for the half term break. These will be released at the beginning of next week. The vouchers will be for £15 per child. Please check your spam if you cannot find them in your email inbox.

Have a lovely half term break,
Jen Vidler - Ironmonger





Celebrations

A huge well done to the following children that have been celebrated in celebration assembly this term.



<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>	<u>Year 4</u>	<u>Year 5</u>	<u>Year 6</u>
Nayla	Gergana	Erin	Krithik	Liyana	Akintayo
Willow	Julia	David	Violet	Zachary	Kaitlin
J'Hanna	Gavin	Oluchi	Rayn	Zainab	Sammy
Mia	Lilly	Ese	Anna-Joy	Jimmy	Darius
Khaleelulah	Joey	Logan	Ollie	Talha	Oliver
Jasmine	Lexi	Abigail	Callum	Ridah	Elliarina
Damifunre	Isla-Mai	Ebubechi	Wendy		
Kane	Ronnie	Polly	Piranavan		
Ruby	Joni	Teddy	Charlie		
Grace		Richard	Olivia		
Azimah		Harrison	Tochi		
Aarvi		Elizabeth	Sophia		

Key Dates

Monday 30th October	Start of Term 2 - Clubs start
Wednesday 1st November	Tea and Toast - Wellbeing Centre KS2 Parent's Evening
Thursday 2nd November	EYFS/KS1 Parent's Evening
Thursday 9th November	Mini Youth Games Basketball
Thursday 9th November	Year 6 Remembrance Sharing Assembly *
Thursday 10th November	Year 4 Roman Workshop
Wednesday 15th November	Flu Nasal Vaccinations
Thursday 16th November	Individual and Sibling Photographs
Thursday 30th November	Mini Youth Games Badminton Shakespeare Class Sharing Asassembly*
Wednesday 6th December	Christmas Jumper Day School Christmas Dinner Day
Thursday 7th December	Griffin Children's Chorus
Tuesday 19th December	End of term - Finish at 2pm

Christmas Performance Dates to be confirmed at beginning of Term 2

(*parents are invited to the sharing assemblies and they will each start at 2.40pm)





Nursery

Carle Class



In Carle Class the children have been exploring the use of musical instruments and how they work, we have also learnt about different emotions using the colour monster story and practising carnival dancing using ribbons.



Year R Donaldson

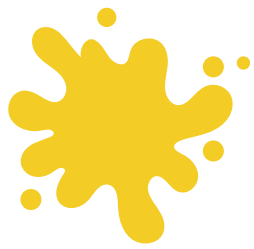
This term Donaldson class learnt about ourselves and each other.

We read lots of stories this term and one of our favourite stories was "Funny Bones".

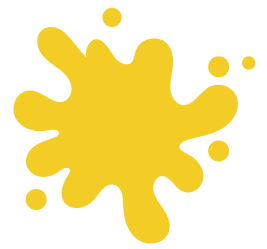
We learnt what a skeleton is and had a go at putting a skeleton together.



We also had a story teller's workshop where we helped Hannah to create a story about the skeleton.



Year R Attenborough



This term, Attenborough class have settled into school brilliantly, have enjoyed making new friends and adjusted to a new school routine.

As part of our learning topic: I am, I can, I love we have celebrated occupation day where we all dressed up as various occupations and were lucky enough to meet a real-life paramedic who gave us a talk all about calling 999 in an emergency and showed us her equipment inside an ambulance.

The children created their own splat painting inspired by our artist of the term Jackson Pollock. They all grasped the concept of not letting the paintbrush touch the paper.



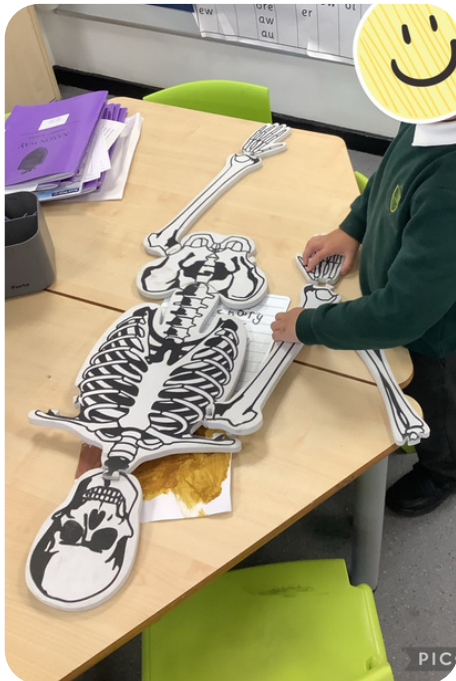


Year 1

Curie and Kahlo



This term, Curie Class have been learning about ourselves 'Magnificent Me' and toys. As part of this we read the book Funnybones and used cotton wool buds to create our own skeleton pictures. We used our geography skills and drew maps to show where the Big Skeleton, Small Skeleton and Dog Skeleton went on their night out.

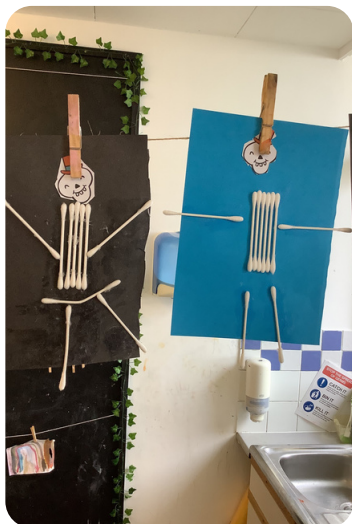


We learned to name parts of our bodies and learned about Marie Curie who helped to make X-rays clearer so that they could be used by doctors.



In computing, we have used Beebots (floor robots) and programmed them to get from one place to another.

This term, Kahlo class's topic was 'Magnificent Me.' We have been learning to name the parts of our bodies and beginning to link the senses associated with these. We have been reading and learning about 'Funnybones.' We made skeletons out of cotton buds! We also linked Funnybones to our maths and put the characters in order of height.



We spent some of the term learning about our class. Our class is named after Frieda Kahlo. We then used our inspiration to create our own self portraits with natural resources. We enjoyed attempting to make the hair using grass and twigs!

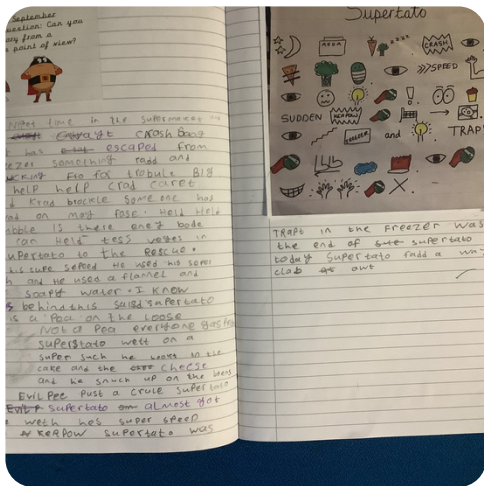


Year 2

Shackleton and Nightingale

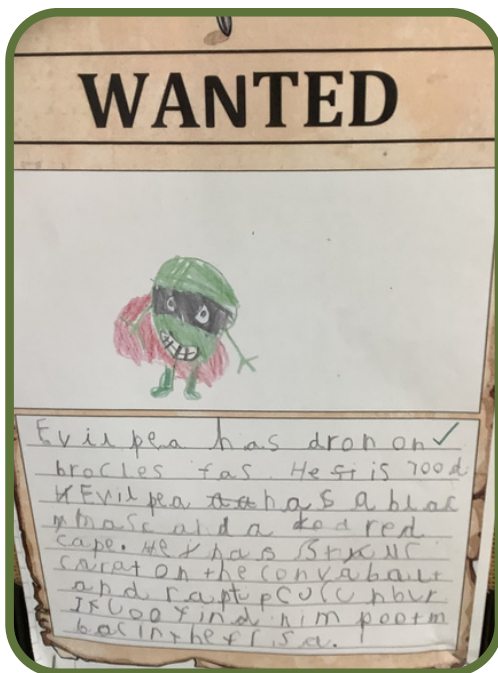
This term, Year 2 have been learning all about 'What makes a Superhero?'

In English, we have been reading lots of superhero stories including Supertato and Eliot Midnight Superhero. We have practised re-telling a story, making sure we used our capital letters and full stops. In Poetry Week we learnt about writing an acrostic poem using alliteration and rhyme. The poem was called 'This Is Me' and we wrote all about our favourite things and the people in our lives.

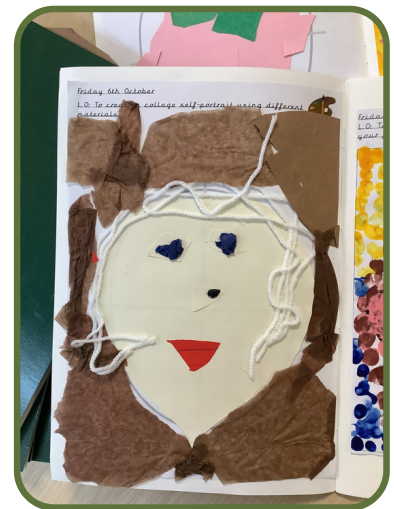
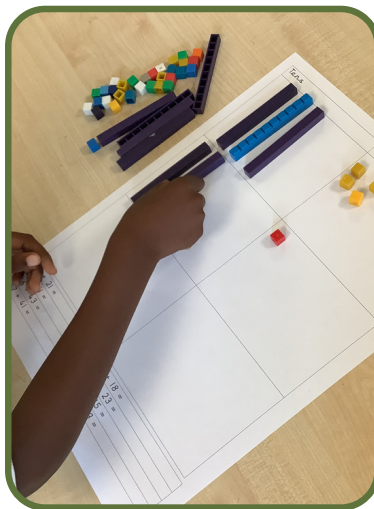


Shackleton Class have settled into Year 2 very well this term and are showing resilience and perseverance everyday with the challenges they have faced. We have been working extremely hard and shown a good understanding of the learning so far this term. Superhero?'

Nightingale has had a fantastic start to the year! We have learnt all about habitats, written our own acrostic poems for National Poetry Day and created our own wanted posters for Evil Pea from one of our key texts 'Supertato'.



We have also deepened our understanding of place value of two digit numbers and finding 10 more and 10 less.



We learnt about the continents and found out all about the equator, North and South Pole. We created our own self-portraits using collage, paint and pencils. We ended our term with our own Superhero Day!

Year 3

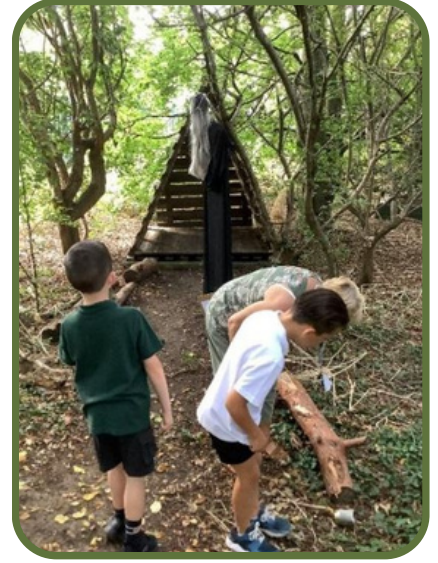
Pankhurst and Darwin

The amazing weather has enabled Pankhurst Class to enjoy lots of outdoor learning and the children have had a lot of fun.

Our focus for the term was 'twisted tales' in which we looked at a range of alternative versions of traditional tales.

The children really enjoyed discovering this for themselves by looking for clues in the woodland walk.

They also had a great time exploring the school grounds looking for human and physical features and using their knowledge of compass points to direct them. The outdoor theme continued when we took part in The Big Draw and went out to take texture rubbings from a variety of objects in the environment, then cut these up in order to create individual works of art.



In English, we have been revisiting parts of sentences, including verbs, adverbs and adjectives, as well as learning how to describe using similes. The children have brought stories to life through role play and explored characters as well as settings. They also enjoyed making bread and writing instructions for somebody else to follow.

In Maths, we have focused on developing understanding of place value in 2 and 3-digit numbers then using this to add or subtract. Many of the children have shown us that they love working with numbers!

In Science Darwin class was learning about light, that it reflects from surfaces. We also were learning that a mirror reflects light and why they are good reflectors and use them to reflect light into different objects.

In English we were learning to follow and write instructions, so to help us with learning we made bread rolls.

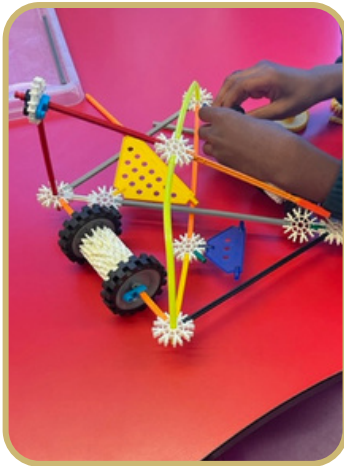




Year 4 Fitzgerald



Well done Fitzgerald class on an amazing start to year 4. It has been a busy half term, reading *How to Train a Dragon* by Cressida Cowell, and writing reports on the dragons we designed, using skills including fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases. We have been busy mathematicians learning how to exchange and carry using the column method to subtract and add. The class has been persisting and tenacious, not giving up when they have found something hard and this is a very important skill to have when learning.



We have also examined the world around us, looking at continents and learning more about Europe as well as examining living and non living things while remembering the mnemonic MRS GREN! Most recently we also had fun building our team work skills with a STEM workshop and playing the steel drums as part of our Black history month celebrations!

I look forward to the next half term and all the exciting and inspiring learning we have to complete! Have a safe and happy holiday.





Year 4 Brunel



What a great start to term 1! Everyone has settled into the year 4 routine perfectly, and we are full stream ahead into our learning. We have been learning lots of new skills in maths, such as column addition and subtraction with four digits, and the importance of place value. Fronted adverbials, and conjunctions in English, where we have written our own non-chronological reports using our imaginations, all about dragons. We also made our very own leaflets.

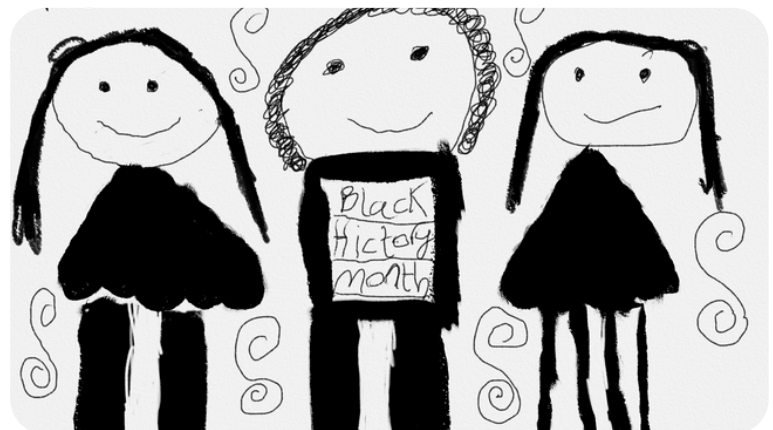


We have been using the iPads and pens to draw, as well as painting, and cooking with herbs and spices; using our senses to discover things around us in the 'Big draw'.

In French we have been learning how to greet others, and RE has seen us introduced to the religion Buddhism and its beliefs. Science has been very interesting, looking at life processes, and the effects humans have on the planet. Geography has seen us exploring the seven continents, using atlases and maps to look at the world as well as the closer countries around us.

October has seen us understand the importance of Black History month, and we have looked at influential people that have been an inspiration to us and changed our future. Rosa Parks was a lady that really made us think about the behaviour of others, and how brave she was to stand up for her rights. Finally, in PE we have been finding different ways to build bridges with our bodies and apparatus. Our STEM workshop was very successful at building our skills in teamwork, and of course was great fun!

We are looking forward to an exciting term 2 where we discover the Romans!





Year 5

Mercury



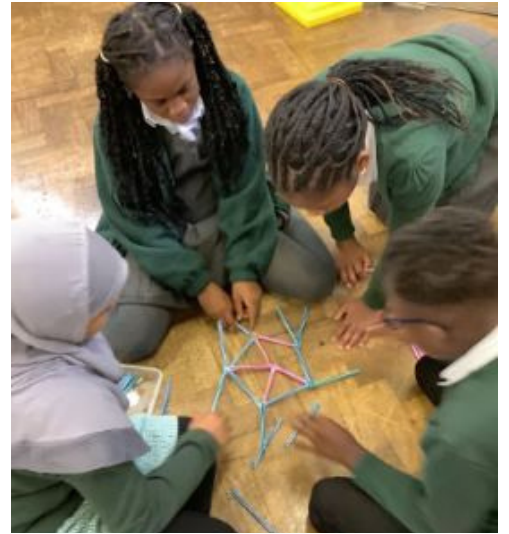
This has been a very exciting start to the year for Year 5 because of how hard they have worked. We have had the opportunity to have a virtual visit from a famous child author, Maz Evans.

Year 5 have also had the opportunity to learn about domes and how to build a geodome during the workshop.



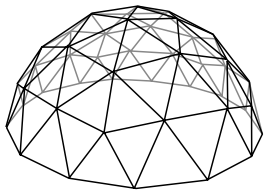
We have had fun learning about the space race between the Soviet Union and USA, famous people and even animals going up to space!

Mercury class have enjoyed doing lots of role play in English and reading the book, 'Cosmic.' Children have enjoyed doing maths investigations and being detectives - they have found it challenging but enjoyable looking for the clues.

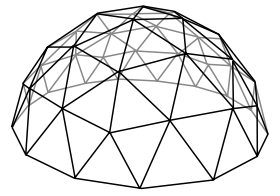


Children have enjoyed learning about Sikhism and relating to their own experiences, religion and culture, getting involved with the Harvest Festival singing, Black History Month and learning about famous black women: Rosa Parks, Mae Jemison, Mary Jackson and Dorothy Vaughan.

Year 5 will use these new skills and apply it to next term, where we will be learning about Greek history. From Greek myths to drama to pottery to Greek civilisation.



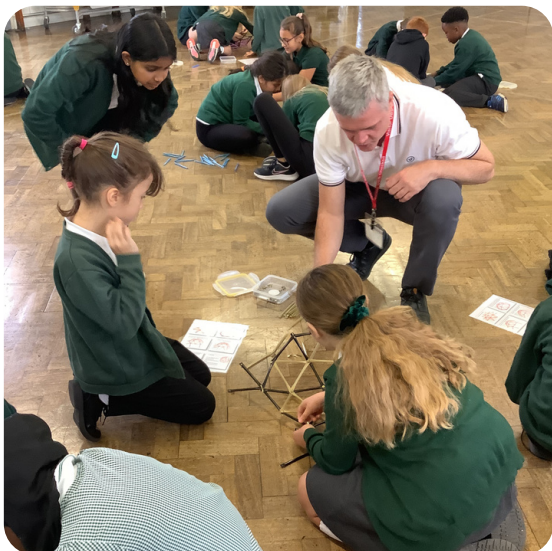
Year 5 Shakespeare



Shakespeare class has had a very busy first term learning about Space and the Solar System in science. The Space Race in history and enjoying the fantastically funny book Cosmic by Frank Cottrell- Boyce.



They have also had two author visits, a Geodesic Dome workshop and have played steel pan drums and djembe drums.





Year 6

Hawking and Williams



In English this term, year 6 have been learning to write newspaper reports and have subsequently turned these into live news bulletins based on our text this term: Boy in the Tower.

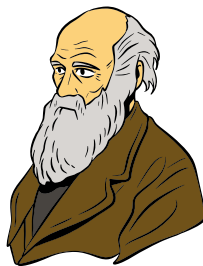


“ I learned that writing a news report required me to use more formal language. Performing in front of the camera made me nervous, I had to learn how to project my voice”- Chinaza.

Year 6 Science has included learning about Charles Darwin. The children performed an experiment testing the effectiveness of different beak shapes in finches in line with Darwin’s theories on adaptations.



In celebration of National Poetry day on October 5th, Year 6 explored a range of poetry, and used a poem by Kit Wright, The Magic Box, as inspiration for their own work.



“ I learned that birds that don’t all have the same type of beak. They are different and this helps them feed based on the food they require. I really enjoyed the hands- on experience of trying out the different tools as beaks.”- Elijah



Black History Month

This term we launched our Black History Month celebrations marking the occasion with engaging learning experiences across the school. While black history is celebrated year round, Black History Month is marked annually. It recognises and values the inspirational individuals and events that have shaped the black generation.



This week we had a visit from a steel band who performed to the children and lead workshops for key stage 2 where they were able to play the Djembe drums and Steel pans themselves!

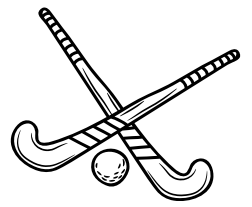


We also had Caribbean food tasting and a cultural 'express yourself' day which was hugely popular across the school.





Mini Youth Games



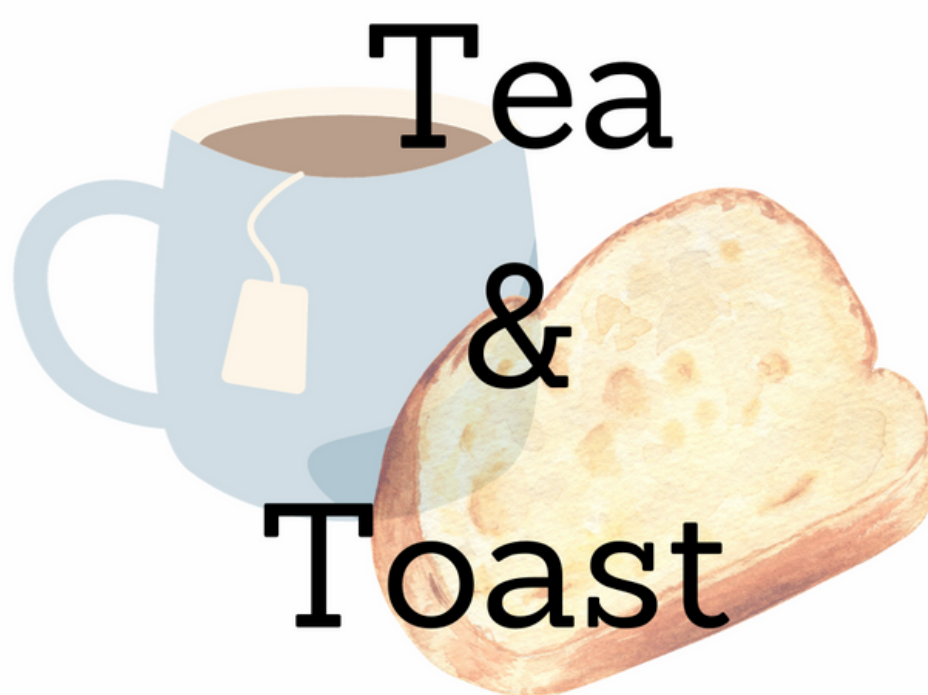
Well done to our Year 5 and 6 pupils who attended the Hockey Mini Youth Games tournament at Anchiorians this term. They didn't let the rain dampen their spirit and drew two games and scored a goal in one their final games! They worked incredibly hard and were so proud to represent the school.



Akintayo won 2 gold medals
for his 400m and 100m!

Tayo is an incredible runner
finishing the 100m in 14.54
seconds and the 400m in 1
minute 13 seconds!
What an achievement!!

We invite you
to our new
community event...



Come along for a cuppa and a
chat held in our new well-being
centre on:

Wednesday 1st November
9am-10.30am

Babies and toddlers welcome!



SAXON WAY
PRIMARY SCHOOL