

# SAXON WAY

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Newsletter

Issue No. 9 | October 2022

Dear Saxon Way Families,

We hope this newsletter finds you well. The first term has been filled with amazing learning and it has been great to see so many achievements being celebrated across the school.


Excitement has hit a peak as key pupil leadership roles have been awarded to students in years 5 and 6 who have passionately expressed their desire to make a difference to their school.

Has your child come home wearing a sticker related to one of our 6 school values? If they do please ask them why they received it. They should be able to articulate this well. Please share and use the values at home. The staff would be happy to supply you with some values stickers to use at home if you would also like to use this system. The local authority are issuing shopping vouchers for this holiday. Please look out for an email in your inbox on Monday. If you cannot see it please check your spam folder.

We hope you have a lovely half term break.

Take care,

Angela Sandow



Ability to do things alone  
Ownership of learning  
Trying your best  
Knowing where to look for resources and help  
Thinking for yourself

**Independence**



Giving 100% effort  
High expectations and aspirations  
Being 'Griffin Great' and a brilliant role model  
Following the 3 B's regularly without prompt  
Having pride in everything you do  
Following all of the other values

**Excellence**



Looking after others  
Saying please and thank you  
Holding doors open  
Smiling  
Giving up something for someone else  
Help if someone needs it

**Kindness**



Being empathetic  
Supportive of others  
Able to be part of a team  
Treat others as you wish to be treated yourself  
Respectful of the opinions of others

**Relationships**



Take ownership of learning  
Look after people and the environment  
Care for yourself both mentally and physically  
Making the right choices  
Taking ownership of your actions  
Mitigate friendship issues

**Responsibility**



Always give things a go  
Keep on trying  
Ignore negative factors  
Shows 'bounce-back-ability'  
Has strategies to cope with change  
Knows the power of yet

**Resilience**

## School Notices

### Attendance and Absence

If your child is unwell or has an appointment to attend, please ensure that you communicate with the school office via email or phone to inform them of your child's absence. A reminder that as set out in the Government 'Working together to improve school absence' document (September 2022) there are clear guidelines regarding granting leave of absence for pupils. Leaves of absence will not be granted for any pupil unless in exceptional circumstances and it is only the Head that can authorise such events. It is highly unlikely a leave of absence will be granted for the purposes of a family holiday. Please email the school office if you have any questions regarding this. Thank you.

### Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers from our school community to support our pupils with their reading. We can offer you some great work experience and rewarding time spent with our wonderful pupils!

If you feel you would be a great support for our pupils with their reading, please email [office@saxonway-gst.org](mailto:office@saxonway-gst.org) with reasons why you would like to be a volunteer for Saxon Way and we will be in contact. Thank you.





# Pupil Leadership



These pupils have won the support of their peers and their teachers, to secure a role on the pupil leadership team. They will represent the school and work closely with the senior leadership team to improve the school.

We will soon be sharing the roles of House Captains and Vice House Captains so watch this space!



Head Boy



Head Girl



Deputy Head Boy



Deputy Head Girl



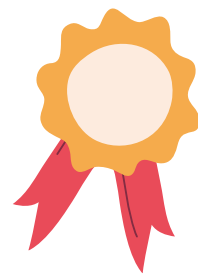
Deputy Head Girl







# Celebrations



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

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Joey	Ebubechi	Bella S	Alexis	Louie-Joe	Albie
Jimmy	Eliana	Laura	Harrison	Sophia	Kianna
Daniel O	Lexie	Ryley	Zainab	Samir	Oliver
Bana	Kalyn	Callum	Esther	Enoch	Jorja
Damian	Lucas	Oliver	Jaylon	Horus	Kyle
Sophie	Reggie	Zara	Makayla	Maddiemay	Nailan
Amelia	Cole				
Leo	Liana				
Indy	Ralph				
Annabelle	Henry				
Azalea	Melina				
Olivia	Teddy				



## Spelling Bee Round Two

We have completed round two of our spelling bee with three pupils from Year 5 and Year 6 going onto the next round. There will be more information released soon.

However, we wanted to share some of the magic of Mr Williams who compered for us!



## HARVEST POETRY COMPETITION 2022



This year, to celebrate the autumn season, and national poetry day, we held a harvest poetry competition! We had so many entries and were so impressed with the calibre of the poetry but there could only be one winner from each phase. Well done to the winners Ralph, Hawwa and Sapphire who all received their very own poetry book to inspire them to write more!



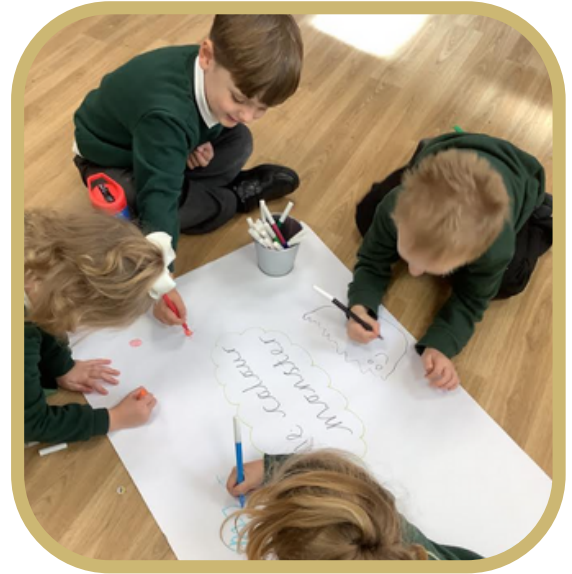
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# FS2

## Attenborough and Donaldson

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FS2 children started full time school this term and have done amazingly settling in. This term our topic was "I am. I can. I love". We focused on learning about each other and ourselves. We have been learning our school values and reading lots of stories to support our learning.



Our favourite story this term was "The Colour Monster". The children have been learning about different emotions and feelings and why it is important to talk about their feelings.

The children in FS2 have started their Phonics lessons and have been practicing their hand writing and letter formation.

We have also started to use the Target Tracker app with the parents to support communication between home and school.

Thank you to parents for being supportive and encouraging with transition and settling in.





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# Year 1

## Curie and Kahlo

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In Year 1 we have explored and learned how to use our new environment.

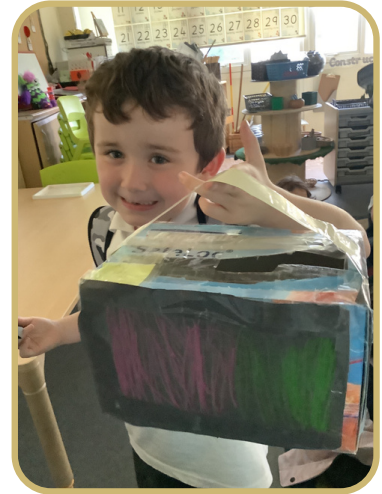
Our topic has been 'Magnificent Me' and as part of this we used natural resources to create our self-portraits and learned to name parts of our body.



Naughty Bus came to visit. We used an iPad to take photos of where he went, then wrote captions to explain each picture.

In maths we have learned to represent numbers using different resources.

We have started to learn about mass, measuring how many stones or conkers have the same mass as a small pumpkin.





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# Year 2

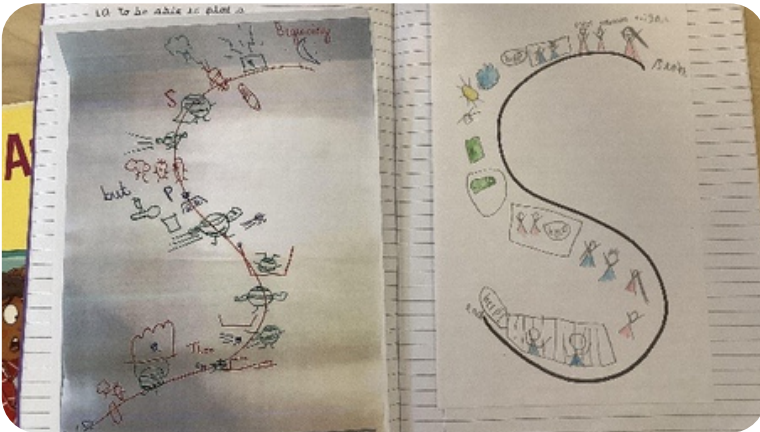
## Nightingale and Shackleton

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This term, Year 2 have been looking at 'What makes a Superhero?'

We have looked at superhero stories, like Max and Supertato, and we have also thought about real life superheroes, such as firefighters and doctors!

In English, we created a story map for Supertato, thought of our very own superhero story and created our story maps for this. We then wrote our story with our own hero and baddie!



We also took part in a Now Press Play based on Superheroes where we became a superhero called Lightning Worm, we dug down into the ground and shot lightning from our fingers! We have had lots of fun learning about Superheroes this term. We enjoyed our Superhero day!





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# Year 3

## Darwin and Pankhurst

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The children have really enjoyed our Egyptian theme this term.

In English they have been developing their role- playing skills to support writing. descriptively about characters, settings and events. They enjoyed designing their own Egyptian God and were inspired to consider how to overcome their fears by one key character in our focus book.



In Maths they have been exploring place value in two and three- digit numbers as well as developing their explanations in order to answer reasoning and worded problems.

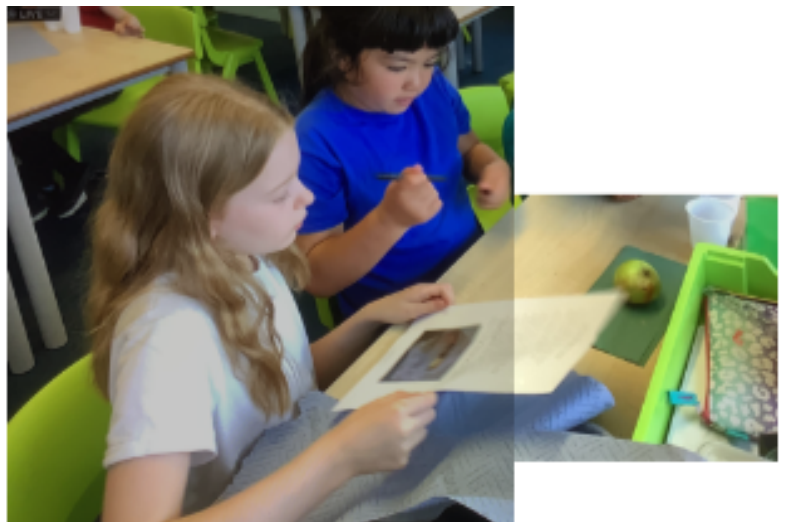
### Egyptian Day

The children looked amazing dressed as ancient Egyptians for the day and had great fun learning some new skills. They learned how use hieroglyphs to write their name as well as to add and subtract like an Egyptian. They loved dancing like an Egyptian too.

In History lessons, the children were fascinated to learn about the process of mummification. We mixed history with some Science in order to create mummified apples and were surprised to see that they lasted for nearly three weeks before starting to turn brown.

Thank you to all of our families for your support this term.

We hope you have a super break and look forward to seeing you in term 2.



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# Year 4

## Brunel and Fitzgerald

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Year 4 have had a great start to the year! We have been reading, *How to Train your Dragon* and we have been using this text throughout our learning.

We have created a non-chronological report and typed it up on the laptops, we created and performed dragon poems. We made our own dragon clay models and worked in teams to create dragon lairs, in a big draw outside. In science we have been looking at life processes and creatures in our environment.

In Geography, we have looked at the environment and the impacts humans have on it, as well as continents, looking at maps and atlases. In Maths, we have been refreshing our skills in place value and worked our way up to the thousands column, which then followed column addition and subtraction.

In PE, we have been working on team work and problem solving skills through many fun games.

Year 4 have been working extremely hard and we are very proud of what they have achieved. We are looking forward to a very exciting term 2, where our topic is Romans!





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# Year 5

## Mercury and Shakespeare

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Shakespeare class have been learning this term about the solar system and the space race between Russia and the USA. One of the home learning tasks was to build your own air powered rocket. Several children did this very successfully and managed to launch their rocket at home. They later brought their amazing rockets into school and we had a session watching all these rockets launch in our playground.

Year 5 were invited to visit Gillingham library and meet a real life author. She introduced us to some inspirational women from history who lived in Gillingham. These women were instrumental in their fields of work and changed the world.

Shakespeare were fortunate to have a six week block of sessions at Medway Park. This involved being trained to use the children's gym equipment like the running machine, rowing and exercise bikes. The other session involved circuits, using a range of equipment in the main sports hall and finally playing table tennis and basketball. It was a great opportunity and every child thoroughly enjoyed themselves.





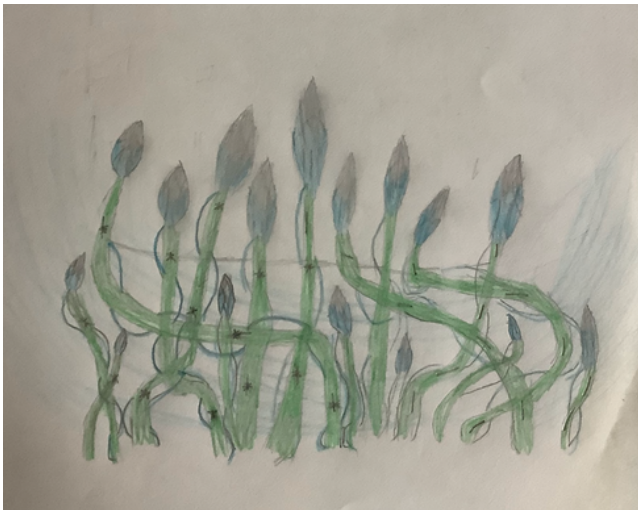
# Year 6

## Hawking and Williams

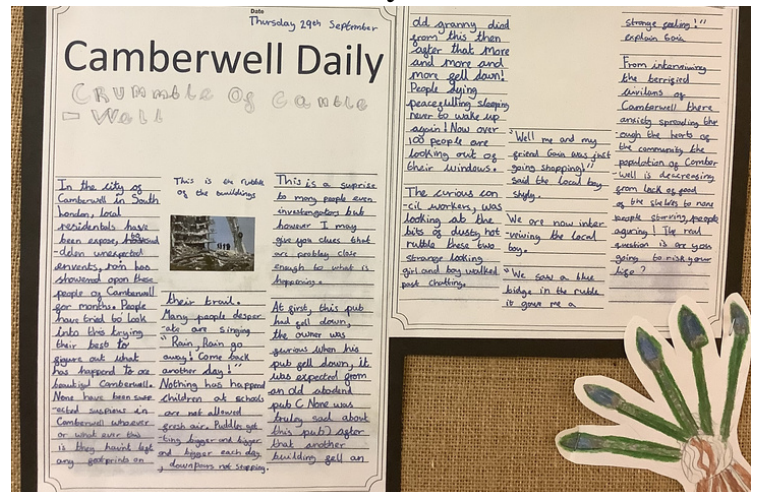
Year 6 have been writing newspaper reports based on the events of their text this term, *Boy in the Tower*, and their topic of 'The Eden Project'. They have also been using their newspaper reports to create scripts for news broadcasting and have performed these to their peers. In art, they have been practicing turning descriptive language into a visual representation. In PE they have been focusing on the characteristics of team work, and problem solving.

'We were drawing the Bluchers from the book and using evidence from the text to draw them' - Brooke

In PE we have been doing problem solving, working on team skills and good communication' - George



In English we have been writing newspaper reports, and performing a new bulletin about 'boy in the Tower'. We also wrote journals from the perspective of Ade, the main character. I enjoyed performing the bulletin with my friends.' - Emmy- Shai.



Please may we remind parents for Year 6 students to apply for secondary school by the 31st of October at 5pm on the Medway Council's website - [https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200137/schools\\_and\\_learning/1061/applying\\_for\\_a\\_secondary\\_school\\_place/3](https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200137/schools_and_learning/1061/applying_for_a_secondary_school_place/3)



# Key Dates for Term 2



Monday 31st October	First day of Term 2 School Arts Fund Opens
Tuesday 8th November	Donaldson Class and Year 1/2 Parents Evening
Wednesday 9th November	Year 3/4/5/6 Parents Evening
Thursday 10th November	Sharing Assembly - Mercury Class - Parents Invited
Thursday 17th November	Individual School Photographs Sharing Assembly - Hawking Class - Parents Invited
Friday 18th November	Children In Need 'Spotacular' - spots dress up
Thursday 24th November	Sharing Assembly - Brunel Class - Parents Invited
Thursday 1st December	Sharing Assembly - Pankhurst Class - Parents Invited
Wednesday 7th December	Year 1 Nativity for parents - 9.15am doors open School Christmas Lunch - Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 9th December	FS2 Christmas for parents - 9.15am doors open
Tuesday 13th December	'The Grinch' Key Stage 2 performance to parents time TBC
Friday 16th December	Santa Fun Run
	<b>End of Term - School finishes at 2pm</b>

## How do we think?






## Metacognition and Thinking Skills



As previously shared, at Saxon Way we have adopted lots of strategies and techniques into teaching and learning to develop our thinking skills and the understanding of how we think. Although a big word, children are able to explain that 'metacognition' simply means 'thinking about our thinking!'

Please look out for reminders of these skills for home learning tasks via google classroom. If children find any home learning tricky, remind them to persist and use their thinking skills to support their success. Thank you for your support! 😊

In lessons, children use thinking frames to support their learning. This helps them to slow their thinking down and develop an independent approach to learning. They also understand that at different points they might be using different types of thinking:

-  whether they are remembering and understanding information;
-  using, applying and analysing information;
-  or creating and evaluating something independently using the full range of their thinking skills.

How does this help learning?

Why do we think?

What does metacognition mean?



SAXON WAY  
PRIMARY SCHOOL



# RECEPTION OPEN DAYS

Is your child joining reception in 2023?

Saxon Way Primary School welcome you to come in to meet staff and learn more about our school. Please contact our school office and we will book a time slot in for you.

Monday 14th November - 10.00am  
Wednesday 16th November - 2.00pm  
Tuesday 22nd November - 4.00pm

We look forward to seeing you soon

Phone: 01634 336720

Website: <http://www.saxonway-gst.org/>

Email: [office@saxonway-gst.org](mailto:office@saxonway-gst.org)

