

SAXON WAY

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter

Issue No. 17 | January 2024



Dear Saxon Way Families,

It is hard to believe that we are half way through the school year! I am sure you will agree that we are looking forwards to the brighter mornings that are coming our way!

We have had a great term with many exciting learning opportunities for the children such as our the Chinese Dragon Workshop and the Stone Age workshop for Year 3. We enjoyed spending a whole day learning about Maths on Number Day and raised a wonderful £115 to go to NSPCC. Thank you for your support!

In November, I met with parents at a Tea and Toast mornings centred around launching a new PTA (Parent Teacher Association) and they shared so many wonderful ideas about creating fun events for our families and opportunities to fundraise. I am excited to share the date of the first PTA meeting for this year on Wednesday 21st February from 9am - 10am held in the Wellbeing Centre We welcome any parents that are interested in being a part of the PTA this year to come along and hear how you can support fundraising and events within school as part of the PTA. Within the meeting, we will share the key roles that are required within a PTA, the voting process and how you can apply for one of them.

I will also say that within this meeting, I learnt so much about the support that parents need with completing forms access to services to support their children with SEND and the need for support with their children's behaviours at home. The wellbeing team will be launching a series of workshops for our parents starting next term. Please look out for the google form at the beginning of next term that will specify which workshops you would like to attend.

Finally, we are pleased to confirm the half term voucher scheme will be going ahead this year. The voucher value will total £15 for each eligible child. 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.

That just leaves me to wish you a very restful half term break!

Be safe and we look forward to seeing you on Monday 19th February 2024!

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>
Coby	Ezekiel	Sophie	Leyton	Cyprian	Rose
Harvey	George	Nasirudeen	Ellie	Hope	Eric
Mia	Jasmine	Roman	Neriah	Weronika	Scarlett
Noah	Annabelle	Marissa	Erin	Frankie	Fazeeh
Hossam	Amara-Belle	Jonathan	George	Sinan	Lexie
James	Arthur	Chloe	Alex	Patrick	Elsie
					Mason
					Xian
					Keoghn
					Jobie-Ray

Key Dates

Monday 19th February	- Start of Term 4
Wednesday 21st February	- PTA Meeting 1 - Wellbeing Centre 9-10am
Friday 23rd February	- Mercury Class swimming continues
Friday 1st March	- Founders Day - Children invited to wear party clothes to school!
Wednesday 6th March	- Tea and Toast in the Wellbeing Centre 9-10.30am
Wednesday 7th March	- World Book Day - Children to dress as their favourite book character!
Monday 11th March	- Start of Science Synposium
Thursday 14th March	- Year 5 Shakespeare Performances (more information to come)
Friday 15th March	- Year 2 Choral Festival at Central Theatre
Wednesday 20th March	- Science Exhibition School Hall - 3.15pm
Thursday 21st March	- Shackleton Class Asssembly*
Wednesday 27th March	- Curie Class Assembly*
Thursday 28th March	- Last day of Term 4 - Finish at 2pm

(*parents are invited to the sharing assemblies which start at 2.40pm)



Nursery

Carle Class



This term Carle class has been exploring the wonder of winter, they have engaged in a range of activities that have showcased their creativity as well as discussed all the things we can see during winter time and the appropriate clothing to wear during different seasons.



We celebrated Chinese new year and the children had the pleasure of learning a Chinese dragon dance.





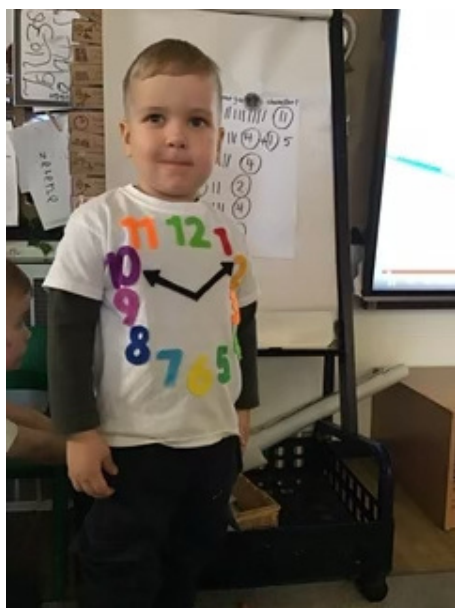
Year R

Attenborough and Donaldson



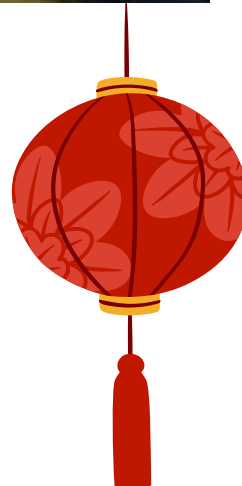
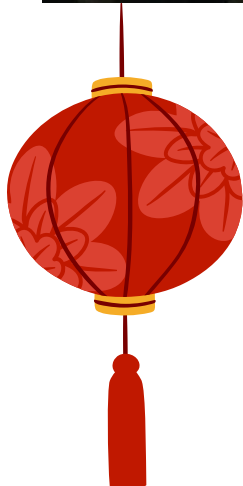
Our topic this term was 'The Wonder of Winter'. We began investigating all the things that happen in Winter, exploring what we can see, touch and hear. This was perfect timing for the snow to arrive which the children enjoyed!

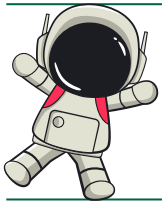
We noticed how ice melts when it starts to get warm, how cold the frost feels in our hands and were amazed to find out how polar bears keep warm in the Antarctic by taking part in a blubber experiment.



The children took part in number day dress up for NSPCC and in the final week have dressed up in red, yellow and black to celebrate the lunar new year, the year of the dragon. We have taken part in Chinese food tasting, making our very own concertina dragons and even enjoyed a dragon dance workshop!

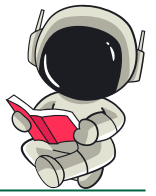
A short term filled with new experiences and new knowledge!





Year 1

Curie and Kahlo



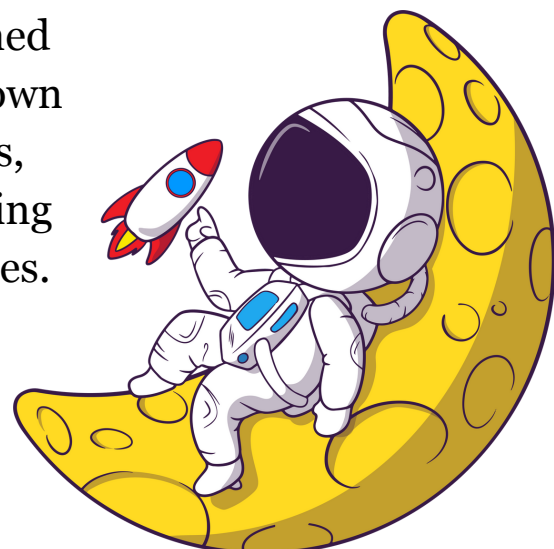
This term Year 1 have been learning about space. We have learnt about important space events including the first chimpanzee in space and the first man on the moon. We have been fascinated watching videos from the international space station which told us what life is like in space.

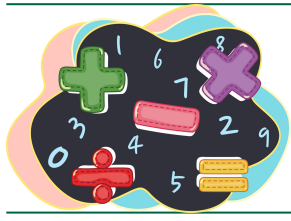
We learnt about an astronaut called Chris Hadfield and how he had to overcome his fears to achieve his goal and then we went on to write a letter to him!

In maths we have been learning about place value. We created thinking frames using different types of tens and ones resources to represent numbers up to 50. We ended our space topic by taking part in Now Press Play learning about Neil Armstrong and what inspired him to become an astronaut.



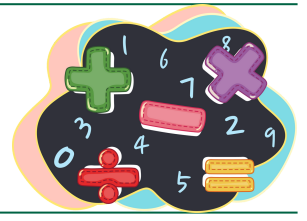
We also designed and made our own moon buggies, focusing on using wheels and axles.





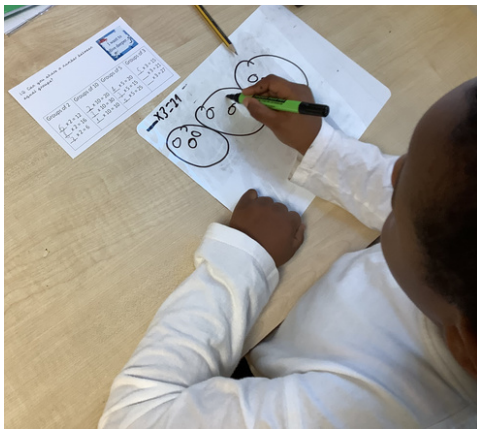
Year 2

Nightingale



Nightingale has had a fantastic half term, learning all about The Great Fire of London and the timeline of what happened. We took part in a history workshop where we learnt about the key individuals and the key events of the Great Fire. We now know all about Samuel Pepys and how London was rebuilt after the fire and about the artefacts which tell us about the fire!

In maths, we learnt all about statistics and different types of charts and we have learnt lots of songs to remember our times tables.



In art, we made concertina books where we applied our skills of mark making and how to use texture and expression in our drawings.



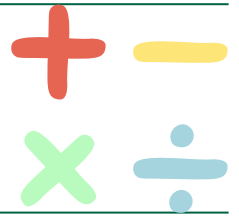
We have also taken part in a chinese new year workshop and learnt how to be safe on the internet through reciting a poem. We have also enjoyed our reading mornings with our parents!





Year 2

Shackleton



Shackleton Class have loved learning all about the Great Fire of London this term, we have completely immersed ourselves in life in London in 1666.

We have been reading 'The Baker's boy and the Great Fire of London' in English. We received letters from Will Farriner and loved learning all about the journey he took and what happened to him during the disaster! We wrote diary entries from the point of view of Will and explained what had happened, we used first person, past tense and time conjunctions in our writing!

We loved learning all about life in London in 1666, in History we found out about different artefacts from this time and even found out they throw their poo out the windows! We thought this was really funny but also disgusting! We learnt all about the timeline from the Great Fire and found out all about Samuel Pepys and his secret code in his diary, we learnt more about this in the workshop we had and acted out scenes from the disaster!

In Maths we have enjoyed learning all about statistics, we know what a tally, bar and pictogram chart are and can read information and answer questions all about them, we have also moved onto practising and learning all about times tables and multiplication. We have learnt songs to help us learn all about our times tables and have also been lucky enough to use Times Table Rockstars!





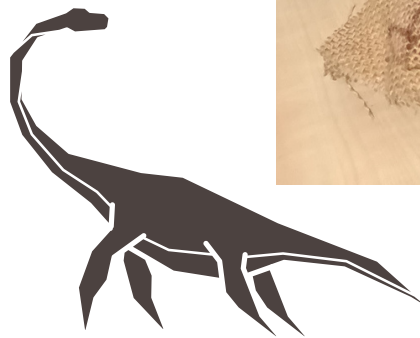
Year 3 Darwin



Darwin class was learning about the stone age using non-fiction texts, pictures and art. Children were looking at cave paintings. Stone age people drew them onto the walls or ceilings of their caves in brown, orange, yellow and black. Children used pastels to draw on hessian.



In English we were reading a book called Stone Girl Bone Girl. It was about Mary Anning. She made many important discoveries including the first plesiosaur to be scientifically described. Children were following instructions to make DIY fossils.



During the New Stone Age people began farming and making pottery for the first time. Clay was shaped into pots for storing and cooking food. Children used air dry clay to make pinch pots.

In computing sessions children were using Scratch program to create their own simple programs. They had to use a variety of scratch blocks to change the appearance of their character and background, move them in different directions and add or record sound.





Year 3

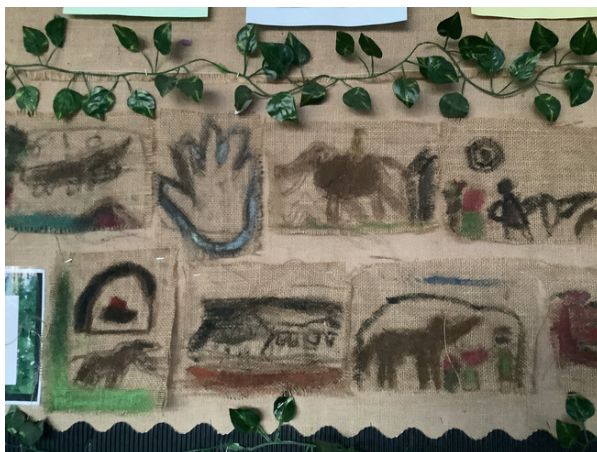
Pankhurst



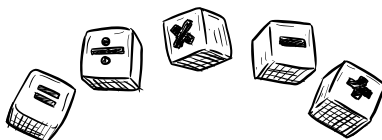
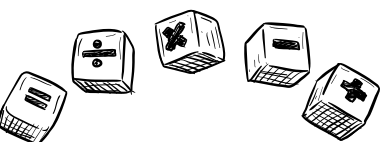
This has been a shorter term but nevertheless packed with learning. The children have worked hard to learn lots of new things.

Through our topic 'Amazing Ages,' they have discovered much about life in the Stone age through to the Iron age and they have thoroughly enjoyed learning about this fascinating time in our history. We started by looking at how much of the evidence we can uncover lies hidden under our feet and within ancient rocks. The children enjoyed the story of Mary Anning who contributed much to our understanding through her discoveries of dinosaur fossils. They made their own fossils using salt dough in order to better understand how they are formed and wrote instructions for others to follow.

They also had fun making pinch pots in the way that a Stone person may have done.

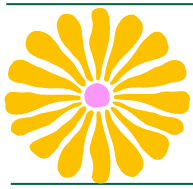


In English the children looked further at the life and character of Mary Anning through the story 'Stone Girl, Bone Girl'. They learned how to use prefixes and suffixes to form new words and practised punctuating speech. They also continued to develop their skills in the use of adjectives and similes in order to make their writing interesting and exciting.

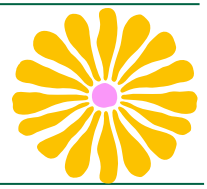


In Maths, we used number lines and other strategies to add, subtract, multiply and divide when there are remainders. The children were also able to practise solving more complex problems, developing their skills in picking out the key information.

Through our PSHE lessons, the children have also been considering how to ensure that they have healthy and happy friendships whilst developing strategies for coping with disagreements. This theme continued through our computing curriculum as they considered how to stay safe online and communicate positively with others.



Year 4 Brunel

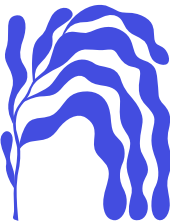
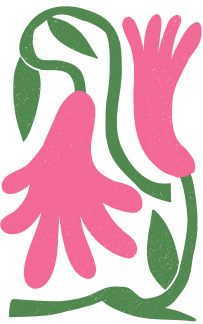


Brunel class have had a very busy term 3, with lots of hard work learning our times table and multiplying 2 and 3 digit numbers, and the best methods to solve these calculations.

Guided reading and English have been very interesting reading different survival stories, and creating our own newspaper reports, and extending stories using our imagination. We have been developing our skills around direct speech, adverbials and using prefixes and suffixes, using these in our writing.

In PE we have been learning how to develop our netball skills, and the importance of team work.

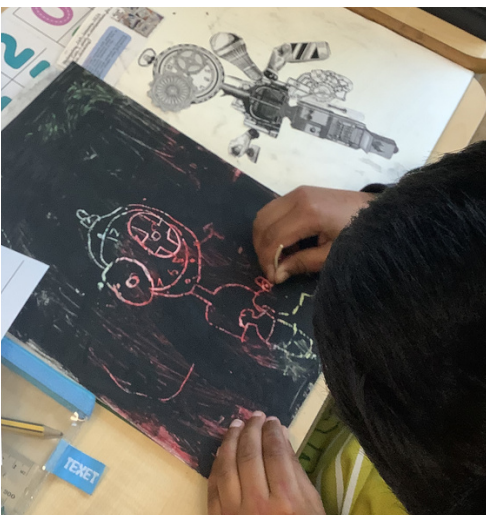
Science has seen us look at sound and how it travels through our ears. We have carried out experiments to help us understand this process better.



In art we have looked at art work by Henri Matisse, and how he used scissors to create an art piece. We have made our own abstract art pieces using different media, even making our own scratch boards.

Brunel have had a successful class assembly, and I am so proud of how well they learnt their parts, and also for the bravery of children to speak in front of a large audience. Our musicians have been practicing so hard in their lessons, so it was lovely to see how they have developed so far. Keep up the good work.

We look forward to an exciting term 4 where we get to read *The Demon Dentist*, by David Walliams.





Year 4 Fitzgerald



Term 3 has been amazing! We have been busy with our learning and have taken on board new skills in all lessons. I remain very proud of the children and how much effort they are putting into their learning on a daily basis.

In English we have been looking at stories of survival against the odds. Our book 'Survivors' by David Long has given us insight on how people can overcome adversity using skills they know and by being resilient and never giving up. We have written a wonderful narrative using skills including direct speech, fronted adverbials and have looked at deepening our knowledge of vocabulary ensuring that our written work is always interesting to the reader. We have also created poetry linked to children's mental health week, thinking about how we can help ourselves and others to feel better.

In maths we have delved deep into the world of multiplication and division, using our skills to solve problems using our times tables. We have learnt how to multiply three numbers by 1 number using the column method and have also figured out how we can use the bus stop method to solve division sums. Children have been working hard at learning their times tables and using Times Table Rockstars answer questions around times tables quickly and precisely.



In science we have learnt all about sound and how sound travels. We have completed investigations looking at pitch, volume and how we can also protect our ears against sounds and the importance of doing so.



Of course we have also been busy with Geography and learning about the world around us, focusing on maps and how important they are. We have learnt how to read map keys and symbols and also how to use 6 figure coordinates to help us locate areas and places on maps with accuracy.

Our PE lessons have been very active, as we have been learning how to play netball safely as a team.





Year 5

Mercury and Shakespeare



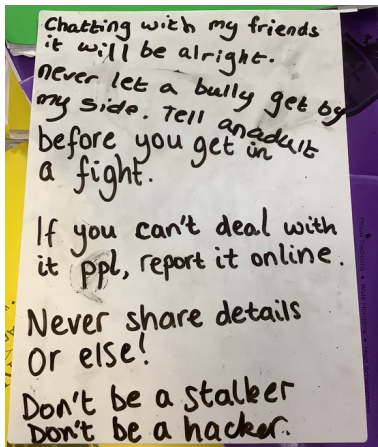
This term, Mercury and Shakespeare have worked very hard in their maths investigations, being detectives. For number day, children did a range of activities, where they went outside to measure areas and perimeters using their rulers. Children worked in pairs and played four in a row relating to their timetables.



In computing, children have been learning about Mars Rover and binary code. They did some role play where one person was giving 7 instructions to their partner and their partner had to do the instructions.



For safer internet day, we learnt about what it means to be safe on the internet and children got the opportunity to create their own raps and poems associated with safer internet.



We finished our North American topic by celebrating Mexico and having our own Mexican Day!





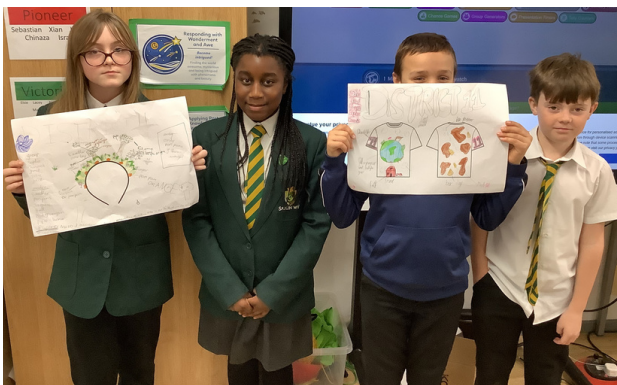
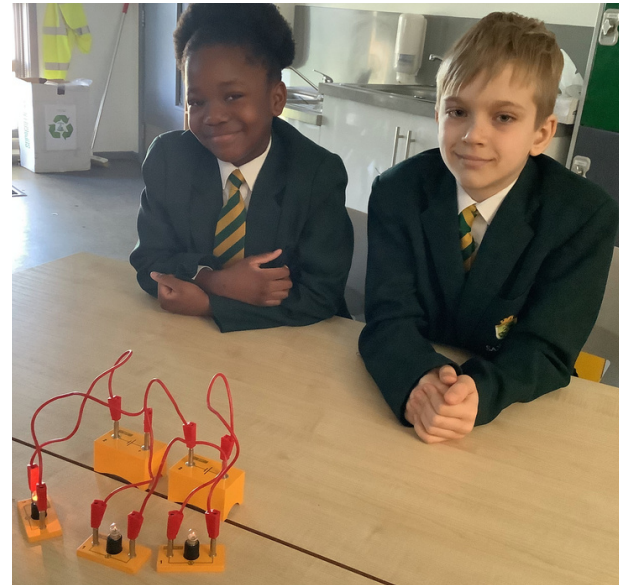
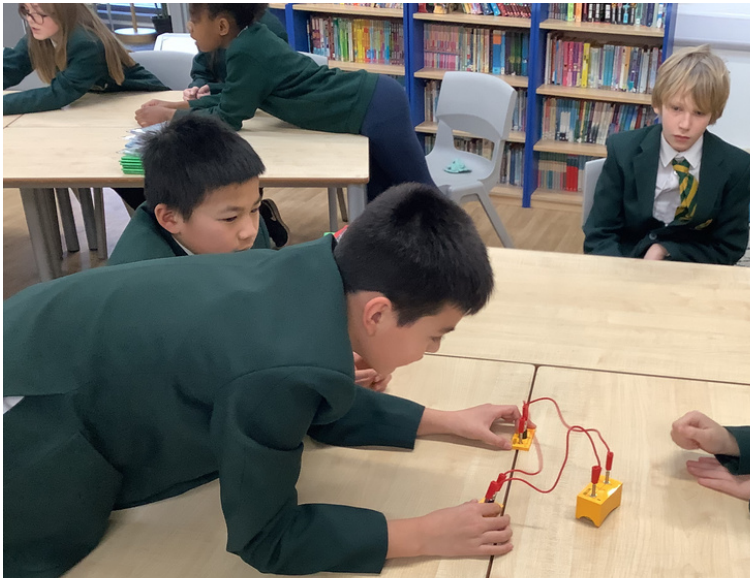
Year 6



Hawking and Williams

Year 6 have had a busy term 3!

In science they learned about electricity, and completed an investigation into the effects of multiple light bulbs within a circuit.



In DT they spent time researching, designing and creating their own costumes based on the Hunger Games districts. This unit was completed by year 6 celebrating their very own 'opening ceremonies' parade.

They also completed their mock SAT's this term, and did incredibly well!





Number Day 2024

We had such a fun day learning about Numbers!
Reception went outside to hunt for different shapes,
Year 4 took part in a Number Hunt and Year 5
applied their learning to their curriculum topic!





Do you want to be part of our PTA?

A Parent, Teacher association focuses on what students need to be successful in their learning, including nutrition, health, school safety, physical fitness and general well-being. PTA works with schools to ensure that children succeed. We are looking for help from our wonderful community to make a difference to our school!

**Come along to our first meeting on
Wednesday 21st February 9 - 10 am
held in the Wellbeing Centre**



Neon Art Competition

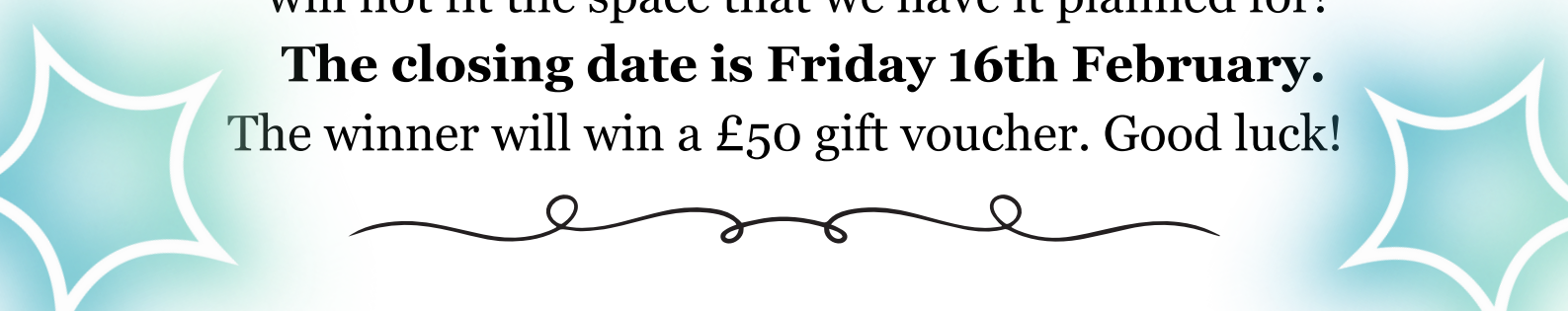
We have a piece of Neon Art that we are going to have made for our Hall here at Saxon Way. It will be custom made especially for us. But first, we need your help to think of the best group of words or phrase that provides aspiration for our pupils!

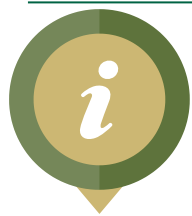
To apply, we invite pupils and families to email in their ideas to office@saxonway-gst.org with the subject line 'Neon Art' and we will collate all ideas together and ask the children to vote for the winning quote.

Please can it be no more than more than three words otherwise it will not fit the space that we have it planned for!

The closing date is Friday 16th February.

The winner will win a £50 gift voucher. Good luck!





Additional Info



Protect your child from measles

You may have seen measles in the news recently. This is because the number of children catching measles is on the rise. Measles is highly infectious and can make people seriously unwell. One-in-five children who catch measles are hospitalised and in rare cases, it can be fatal.

The NHS are asking parents and carers to check their children are up-to-date with their MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccinations.

Two doses are needed for maximum life-long protection, with the first dose around your child's first birthday and the second dose given at around three years and four months old.

Contact your GP practice to arrange any vaccines that your child may be due, especially before they start school or nursery. This is important, as your child will be mixing with more children. If they are not up to date with their jabs, they could be at risk of catching preventable diseases.

If you are not sure what vaccines your child has had, check their red book or contact your GP practice.

The early symptoms of measles include: a high fever, sore red, watery eyes, coughing, a runny nose, aching and feeling generally unwell.

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WORLD BOOK DAY

DAY

7TH MARCH

**It's that time of year
when you can dress up
as a book character!**

**There's going to be lots of
fun activities in school
all centered around
reading and the
wonderful world of
books!**

**You can be
resourceful and
use items from
home to create
your costume**



WORLD
BOOK DAY

7 MARCH 2024



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