

SAUNCEY WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher - Mr J Brewis

Address: Pickford Hill, Harpenden, Herts AL5 5HL

Tel: 01582 621514

Email: admin@saunceywood.herts.sch.uk



Friday, 27th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back for a short but jam-packed new half term! Our Learning Behaviour this half term is Resourcefulness.

At Sauncey Wood, we teach resourcefulness because it helps children become confident, independent learners. When pupils learn to use the tools, ideas and people around them to solve problems, they develop resilience and a curiosity for learning. Being resourceful encourages children to try different approaches, ask questions, and keep going even when things feel challenging - all important skills that help them learn and grow.

We use the following approaches to teach resourcefulness at Sauncey Wood and it would be great if you could help develop it at home too.

Try first, help second

Give your child space to think and experiment before offering help. This builds independence and problem solving confidence.

Praise effort, not just outcomes

Highlight persistence and creativity: "I love how you kept trying different ways!" This shows our children that learning is about the process.

Use guiding questions

Ask things like "What else could you try?" or "What might help you figure this out?" to support independent thinking.

Offer chances to make choices

Allowing children to make small decisions, from planning their day to how they approach a problem. This helps develop responsibility and decision making skills.

Encourage creativity and exploration

Unstructured play with art materials, building sets or recycled items helps children practise inventing and problem solving in a fun way.



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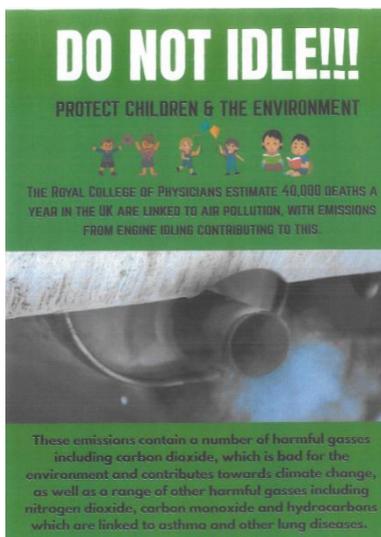
Model resourcefulness

Let children see you approach challenges positively. Explain your thinking aloud: "We don't have a paintbrush, so let's try using a sponge instead."

By developing resourcefulness, we can help our children become adaptable, confident learners ready to tackle new challenges with enthusiasm.



This fantastic piece of Artwork was completed by one of our talented Reception children! We will be entering it into the Royal Academy Young Artists' Summer Show. I would love to see every child at Sauncey Wood enter the competition. Each entry needs a title, what materials you used and a short description. All entries need to be submitted by 4th March and can be dropped off at the school office.



This amazing piece of persuasive writing was created by Leo, as part of his School Council duties and is a fantastic reminder of the small changes that we can make to improve the environment for our children. I will use this as an opportunity to ask parents to ensure they park responsibly around the school premises (without idling!) and to ensure that they don't use excessive speeds when they drive up Pickford Hill.



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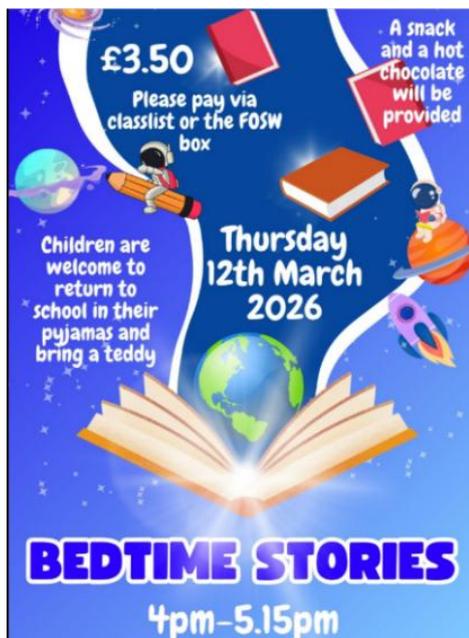
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Next week is Book Week and World Book Day. As part of our celebrations, we would like to invite parents and carers into school to take part in a Mystery Reader session on Wednesday, 4th March, between 9:30 and 10:30am. The Mystery Readers will visit their family member's class to read aloud an age-appropriate picture/short book for approximately 15 minutes. The key part of the fun is that the children won't know who the reader is until the moment they arrive, so we kindly ask that this is kept a secret from the children. It would be lovely to see some surprise grandparents, older siblings, family friends etc. If you would like to volunteer, please choose a short book that you loved reading as a child and let the office know.

In addition, as part of our World Book Day celebrations, we are inviting children to come to school on Friday, 6th March dressed either as a character from a book or in an outfit that is culturally significant to them and their identity, we also have our Bedtime Stories event and Readathon challenge taking place in March.



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On Thursday, 19th March the school council tuck shop returns! Our school council will hold the tuck shop after school in the KS2 playground and this time it will be Comic Relief themed, with all proceeds going to Comic Relief! This will be cash only so please bring some money to support this wonderful cause.

Have a wonderful weekend all.

Yours sincerely



Mr Brewis
Headteacher

Dates for the Diary	
Tuesday, 3 rd March	Parents' Evening - Spring Term
Tuesday, 3 rd March	Netball Match against The Lea (Away)
Thursday, 5 th March	Parents' Evening - Spring Term
Thursday, 5 th March	Netball Rally at KWS
Friday, 6 th March	Football Match against Markyate (Home)
Wednesday, 11 th March	Football Tournament at Wood End Sch
Friday, 13 th March	Football Match against Manland (Away)
Monday, 16 th March	Netball Match against St Nicholas (Home)
Tuesday, 17 th March	Year 3 Visit to the Natural History Museum, Tring
Tuesday, 17 th March	Football Match against Kimpton (Away)



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Thursday, 19 th March	Mad Science Assembly for STEM Week - Whole School
Thursday, 19 th March	School Council tuck shop after school to raise funds for Comic Relief
Monday, 23 rd March	Year 5 - Greek Vase Workshop in school
Monday, 23 rd March	Netball Match against Markyate (Away)
w/c beginning 23 rd March	Extra Curricular Clubs finish
Tuesday, 24 th March	Spring Music Festival
Thursday, 26 th March	Football Match against St Nicholas (Home)
Friday, 27 th March	Finish for the Easter break at 1.30 p.m.
Tuesday, 14 th April	Year 6 Visit to All Saints Church (a.m.)
Tuesday, 14 th April	Year 5 Visit to All Saints Church (p.m.)
Wednesday, 15 th April	Year 4 Visit to All Saints Church (p.m.)
Monday, 20 th April	Year 3 Visit to All Saints Church (a.m.)
Monday, 27 th April	Year 3 Visit to Cambridge Botanic Gardens
Tuesday, 5 th May	Year 5 Visit to Knebworth House
Tuesday, 5 th May	Information Meeting for Parents/Carers Isle of Wight Visit (time TBC)
Wednesday, 6 th May	Year 4 Visit to The Higgins Bedford
Friday, 15 th May	Year 6 Visit to Warner Bros Studio "Harry Potter"
Tuesday, 19 th May	Information Meeting for Parents/Carers Phasels Wood Visit (time TBC)
Monday, 8 th June - Tuesday, 9 th June	Year 4 Overnight Residential at Phasels Wood



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Tuesday, 9 th June	Year 2 Visit to the St Albans Islamic Centre
15 th June - 25 th June	Year 2 Swimming at Hatfield Swim Centre
Friday, 26 th June	INSET Day
Thursday, 16 th July	Year 6 End of Year Celebration at Roller City, Campus West



We have a school Amazon wish list [Sauncey Wood Amazon Wishlist](#) and we would be most grateful if you are able to purchase something from the list for the school - this gift would be most appreciated.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO LET THE SCHOOL OFFICE KNOW IF THERE ARE ANY CHANGES TO YOUR PERSONAL DETAILS SO THAT WE HAVE THE CORRECT TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR AN EMERGENCY. (INCLUDING YOUR SECOND CONTACTS)

