



# SAUNCEY WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL



**Head Teacher: Mr Jamie Brewis**

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5<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you all for supporting us during our 75<sup>th</sup> celebrations at the end of last half term. We had a fantastic day and celebrated with style. I'd like to thank children, staff, parents and The Friends of Sauncey Wood for their efforts. We have our colour run after sports day on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> of July which I am sure will be just as much fun.

Following last month's amazing 75<sup>th</sup> celebrations, we have another community event coming up. On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July our school choir will be proudly singing at the Batford Community Festival. Please join us at this lovely local event and, if you are able to, support the Friends (FOSW) by donating a prize for their hamper raffle.

Donations (bottles, chocolates, sweets, biscuits, new books, toys/games etc) can be dropped off at the school office throughout June. We hope to see you all there!

As the weather improves, please ensure that your child has a water bottle, summer hat with them at school and that you apply sun cream to them at the start of the day. We spend a lot of the day at school outside, so it is essential that children are protected from the sun's harmful rays.

Our learning behaviour this half term is curiosity. Being curiosity is at the heart of every great learning. It is the spark that encourages children to ask questions, explore new ideas, and develop a genuine love of learning.

Curiosity is more than just interest; it is the foundation of meaningful learning. When children are curious:

- **They ask questions** and seek deeper understanding
- **They become more independent learners**
- **They develop critical thinking skills**
- **They are more motivated and engaged in lessons**

Rather than memorising facts, curious learners make connections, solve problems, and remember knowledge more effectively. Curiosity also fosters resilience—children learn that not knowing something is not a failure but an exciting opportunity to discover more.

At Sauncey Wood, we aim to create an environment where questioning is welcomed and exploration is encouraged. We support curiosity through:

### **1. Inquiry-Based Learning**

Teachers design lessons that invite pupils to investigate and explore topics rather than simply being told the answers. This might include experiments, open-ended questions, or project-based learning.

### **2. Encouraging Questions**

We actively promote a classroom culture where children feel confident asking “why” and “how.” No question is too small and each one is a step towards deeper understanding.

### **3. Broad and Engaging Curriculum**

From science experiments and creative writing to history investigations, our curriculum is designed to spark interest and expose children to a wide range of subjects.

### **4. Safe Learning Environment**

Children are encouraged to take risks in their learning. Mistakes are seen as valuable opportunities to grow and improve.

Curiosity doesn't stop at the school gates; it thrives when nurtured at home. To support your child's curiosity at home you can:

#### **1. Encourage Questions**

When your child asks a question, take time to explore the answer together. You don't need to have all the answers—looking things up together can be just as valuable.

#### **2. Talk About Learning**

Ask open-ended questions such as:

- “What did you find interesting today?”
- “Why do you think that happened?” This helps children reflect on their learning and think more deeply.

#### **3. Provide Opportunities to Explore**

Trips to the park, cooking together, reading books, or even watching documentaries can all spark curiosity. Everyday experiences can become learning moments.

#### **4. Celebrate Effort, Not Just Results**

Praise your child for trying new things, asking questions, and persevering—even when tasks are challenging.

#### **5. Limit Over-Reliance on Quick Answers**

While technology can be helpful, encourage children to think, predict, and discuss before immediately searching for answers.

Finally, our Year 6 children have been having a fantastic time at the Isle of Wight. I will include photos and a write up of their trip in next week's newsletter.

Mr Brewis  
Headteacher

**FRIENDS OF SAUNCEY WOOD**

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# BATFORD

## Community Festival

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2026, Porters Hill Park, Batford, Harpenden**

**Live Music from HEAD, Sauncey Wood and Katherine Warington Schools**

**Family entertainment ● Food & drink ● Children's Trail**

**Student stalls ● Charity stalls ● Face painting ● Ice cream**

**Live demonstrations ● Inflatables ● Craft activities**

This event is kindly  
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