

# 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, 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Our wider curriculum has been on display over the past week. We have had a number of football league matches after school this week, with fine performances from both teams. Tonight, our netball team is in action, I am sure they will do well.



"It was fun!"

"The sun was cool. Also, I loved the workshops and going down to the cells."

"I liked the acting and costumes."

"I liked looking at the police artefacts."

Year 6 recently had the exciting opportunity to visit St. Albans Museum and Gallery as part of this term's Crime and Punishment topic. It is clear from the positive comments above that the pupils thoroughly enjoyed it.

We were treated to not one, but two **interactive** workshops exploring childhood and justice in Victorian England. In the courtroom, pupils donned costumes and stepped into the roles of clerks, magistrates, mayors, witnesses and ushers. The pupils delivered lines from real nineteenth-century local court cases with great enthusiasm – so much so, that it felt as if we had truly travelled back to the Victorian era!

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Another highlight of the day was the exploration of the cramped cells beneath the courtroom, where defendants were once temporarily confined. On close inspection, we noticed defendants' graffiti on the back of the cell doors! Pupils also examined primary sources, such as police artefacts and asked the workshop leader thoughtful questions.

To round off the educational trip, we visited the spectacular Helios art installation which was a stunning sculpture depicting the sun and was a wonderful way to conclude our day. In the words of one of the pupils, "It was a successful trip."



Our Baking Buddies cooking club made madeleines this week! They used their weighing skills and had to be very precise to achieve the perfect madeleines. They tasted amazing!



Year 4 went to Pizza Express and learnt how to make the perfect pizza, this was a special treat at the end of their cookery DT unit!

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Year 2 learnt about the Fire of London during a fantastic visit to our school this week. The children learnt about where the fire took place, how it started and how they eventually put the blaze out.

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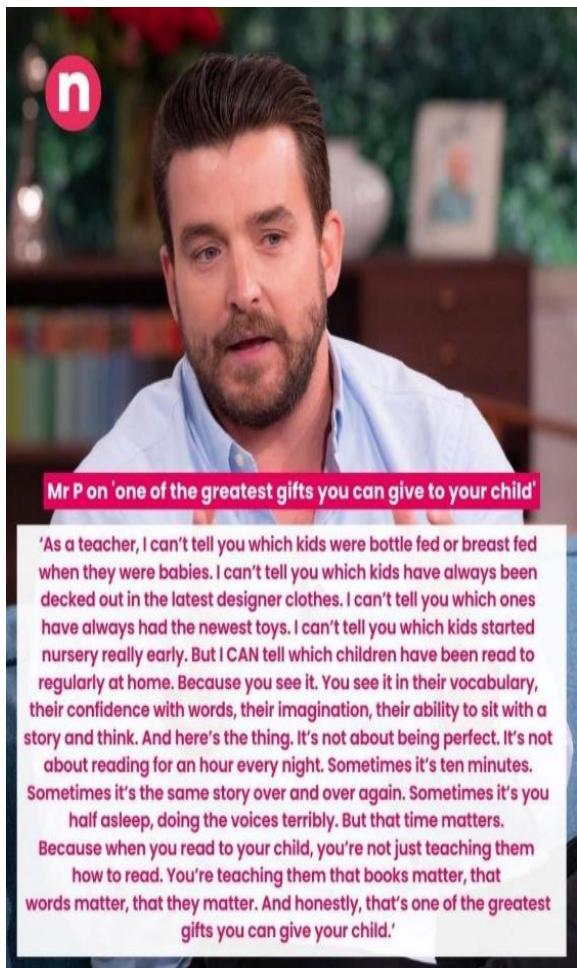
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**Mr P on 'one of the greatest gifts you can give to your child'**

'As a teacher, I can't tell you which kids were bottle fed or breast fed when they were babies. I can't tell you which kids have always been decked out in the latest designer clothes. I can't tell you which ones have always had the newest toys. I can't tell you which kids started nursery really early. But I CAN tell which children have been read to regularly at home. Because you see it. You see it in their vocabulary, their confidence with words, their imagination, their ability to sit with a story and think. And here's the thing. It's not about being perfect. It's not about reading for an hour every night. Sometimes it's ten minutes. Sometimes it's the same story over and over again. Sometimes it's you half asleep, doing the voices terribly. But that time matters. Because when you read to your child, you're not just teaching them how to read. You're teaching them that books matter, that words matter, that they matter. And honestly, that's one of the greatest gifts you can give your child.'

Miss Brooks (our English subject leader) found this recent quote about the importance of reading; I am sure every teacher across the country will agree. Reading with my own children was one of my greatest pleasures as a dad. Children grow up far too soon and before you know it, they will be doing their own thing and too old to snuggle in a chair with you and a book!

Finally, I have a couple of requests to parents. Firstly, to reduce their speed as they come up the hill towards the school. I have witnessed a couple of near misses on the road and I would hate to see an accident or worse occur. Secondly, we have had a request from the flats opposite the school that people do not use them as a cut through or let children play on the swings and other toys they have placed in the grounds. They are not secured into the ground and there is no liability to cover children if they get hurt.



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We are getting low on our playground equipment, and we would be so grateful if parents/carers are able to purchase any of the resources on our Amazon wishlist, or donate if you have anything similar at home that is no longer needed. This would make the children very happy.

Have a wonderful weekend all.

Yours sincerely

Mr Brewis  
Headteacher

Dates for the Diary	
<b>Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	Year 4 trip to Hertfordshire Zoo
<b>Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Netball Match against Beech Hyde (Away)
<b>Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Football Match against St Dominics (Away)
<b>Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Football Match against Beech Hyde (Away)
<b>Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Netball Match against Manland (Home)
<b>Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Tag Rugby Tournament at Harpenden Rugby Club
<b>Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Finish for Half Term
<b>Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	Netball Match against St Helens (Home)
<b>Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Football Match against The Lea (Home)
<b>Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	Parents' Evening - Spring Term
<b>Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	Netball Match against The Lea (Away)

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<b>Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Parents' Evening - Spring Term</b>
<b>Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Netball Rally at KWS</b>
<b>Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Football Match against Markyate (Home)</b>
<b>Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Football Tournament at Wood End Sch</b>
<b>Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Football Match against Manland (Away)</b>
<b>Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Netball Match against St Nicholas (Home)</b>
<b>Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Year 3 Visit to the Natural History Museum, Tring</b>
<b>Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Football Match against Kimpton (Away)</b>
<b>Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Mad Science Assembly for STEM Week - Whole School</b>
<b>Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	<b>Year 5 - Greek Vase Workshop in school</b>
<b>Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	<b>Netball Match against Markyate (Away)</b>
<b>w/c beginning 23<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	<b>Extra Curricular Clubs finish</b>
<b>Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Spring Music Festival</b>
<b>Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Football Match against St Nicholas (Home)</b>
<b>Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Finish for the Easter break at 1.30 p.m.</b>
<b>Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Information Meeting for Parents/Carers Isle of Wight Visit (time TBC)</b>
<b>Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Information Meeting for Parents/Carers Phasels Wood Visit (time TBC)</b>

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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).**

