



SAUNCEY WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL



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10th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

On Sunday it was lovely to attend the Batford Community Festival where our school choir were singing supported by Mr Wilson; we had displays of past and current events from the school as well as raffling a giant hamper which was won by Mrs Barnes.

Thank you to everyone who supported the event either on the day or by buying raffle tickets; we raised £120 which will contribute towards upgrading different facilities within the school.

One visitor recognised themselves on an old photo of when they attended Batford school; and their granddaughter will be joining us in September; it's lovely to hear about the family generations within our school community.

The display boards will be up in the school library until the end of term if you want to take a look.



Children across the school met their new teachers on Thursday, I would like to welcome Mrs Costi to Sauncey Wood. She will be teaching in Chestnut class (years 1 & 2). Sadly, we say goodbye to Mrs Clarke at the end of the year. I would like to thank her for her work over the past two years and wish her well in her new school.

As part of our transition preparations for next year, we had several trips to local secondary schools for our Year 5 children this week. The whole of Larch enjoyed a brilliant day at KWS and experienced a range of lessons: science, dance, PE, DT and Spanish. Our guides for the day were former Sauncey Wood pupils who were able to answer questions about their experiences at secondary school.



Earlier in the week, a smaller group of year 5 children had a fantastic time at St Georges taking part in a Maths Enrichment day. They solved puzzles and games and really worked hard as team. We had this feedback from St Georges which says it all! *'I just wanted to send a quick email with our warmest thanks to you and your fantastic Year 5 pupils for joining us at St George's for our Maths Enrichment Day yesterday. We had an absolutely brilliant time hosting them, and I wanted to pass on how immensely impressed we all were with your pupils. They were an absolute*

credit to your school, showing wonderful engagement, impeccable manners, and a real enthusiasm for all the activities. 'Well done year 5!



Also this week, we have had 4 pupils from China visit us at Sauncey Wood. They are here as part of a language exchange and have been staying with local families. In school they joined year 4 for the week and have joined in all the lessons to experience life in an English school.

Thank you to Maple class for making them feel so welcome and particularly to George, Noah, Utek and Joseph for being their "buddies" for the week. During the week, a group of teachers from China joined Maple class and led a workshop on making Chinese fans.



Next week we say goodbye and good luck to Jane Biddulph; Jane has worked at Sauncey wood as the Speech and Language Therapist (SALT) linked to our SRP. Over her time with us, she has also supported many pupils and their families not just within the Willow Class but also across the mainstream school. Jane has also supported staff with training on specific programmes and

strategies to support a range of Speech, Language and Communication Needs. Jane has been offered a new role within the NHS SALT team and we wish her all the best.

We are really pleased with our wonderful new climbing frame! The next stage of the fundraising is for the EYFS playground. If you would like to donate, please use our new JustGiving page. Please pass the link on to any keen grandparents or family friends who might like to donate!

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/saunceywoodplayground>

I am very sorry for the inconvenience of having to cancel sports day. It is a decision that I do not take lightly and made it in line with Government guidelines during this heatwave. I have had a number of really positive messages from parents about the decision and our efforts to stay open and ensure all other clubs and activities went ahead in a safe manner. None of this would have been possible without the effort, dedication and resilience of the fantastic staff I am lucky to have here at Sauncey Wood and I, along with our Governing Body, would like to thank them. We have booked the rearranged Sports Day and Colour Run for Friday 18th September and all current Year 6s are more than welcome to come back and take part in the Colour Run on that date.

Finally, a message about home learning; especially multiplication facts. A secure knowledge of times tables helps children with almost every aspect of mathematics, including calculations, fractions, decimals, percentages, problem-solving and confidence in lessons. Children who know their tables well are often able to access and grasp new concepts much more easily.

Over the coming weeks and throughout the summer break, I would be very grateful if you could encourage your child to practise their multiplication facts regularly - even five to ten minutes a few times each week can have a significant impact. This could be through Times Tables Rock Stars, chanting multiplication tables, quick-fire quizzes, games, maths apps or simply asking multiplication questions during everyday activities.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mr Brewis
Headteacher



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Playground Renovation Project

In aid of Friends of Sauncey Wood

The playgrounds for Reception and Year 1 at Sauncey Wood School were in dire need of update and repair. Thanks to the Harpenden Trust and our wonderful parents, we successfully raised the money to deliver the first update - our lovely new climbing frame. Now we need to raise the money for the second phase of works!

SCAN TO DONATE!

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Dates for the Diary	
Friday 11 th Sept 2026	Teddy bear's picnic for Reception and Year 1 pm
Wednesday 16 th September 2026	Meet the teacher 3.30-4.30
Friday 18 th September 2026	Sports day and colour run
Tuesday 22 nd September 2026	EYFS and KS1 phonics meeting 3.30-4
Wednesday 23 rd September 2026	Reception to Hedgehog Sanctuary
Tuesday 6 th October 2026	Year 5 trip to STEM Centre
Thursday 8 th October 2026	Year 4 to Verulamium Museum
Tuesday 13 October 2026	Year 3 trip to Celtic Harmony
Tuesday 20 th October 2026	Year 6 trip to RAF Hendon

Holiday Camp

We are pleased to announce we have found a provider for a holiday camp at Sauncey Wood over the Summer Holidays. Although this is under the Apex umbrella, it is being run by Simon George, an experienced PE teacher from another Harepnden school. He has run holiday camps for a number of years. Curently the dates confirmed in August are: 4th, 5th, 6th, 25th, 26th, 27th. We hope to add further dates in the near future and will communicate these when we can. Please see the poster for contact details for any queries.

THIS SUMMER

APEX HOLIDAY CAMP

DODGEBALL!

WATER GUN
BATTLES!

Action. Fun. Friends.
Memories that last!

NERF
BATTLES!

LASER
TAG!

EPIC ACTIVITIES
FOR EVERYONE!



DODGEBALL



CAPTURE
THE FLAG



WATER GUN
BATTLE



LASER
TAG



SLIP N
SLIDE



AND MANY
MORE!

CAPTURE
THE FLAG!

NEW TIMINGS!



9AM - 3PM

OR



9AM - 5PM

(EARLY 8:30 AM AVAILABLE TO BOOK)

AGES

5-11

YEARS

BOOK NOW!



apexpeandsport@gmail.com



Sauncey Wood Primary School,
Harpenden

FRIENDS OF SAUNCEY WOOD

FUNDRAISING

**SCAN THE QR CODE TO
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SUPPORT OUR CHILDREN AND STAFF!

MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT!



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