

Family Update

23rd October 2020



Updates

Hello everyone,

What a beautiful end to a very difficult week. We began with the news of the sad loss of our lovely Luke Gower. Such a warm and wonderful young man full of cheeky ideas and clever plans. He lost his brave fight on Saturday and left us feeling sad and broken. Our hearts go out to his family who have already been into school generously donating some items and equipment so that others may benefit. We will all miss him very much.

It was a challenge to find a positive case of COVID in the Investigators department. Thankfully due to our contingency measures already in place in school, and following further Public Health England advice, there has been, so far, no transmission of this within school.

If your child has a **positive COVID test result** during the holidays please leave a text message, leaving the child's name and date of onset of symptoms, on our text only service using this number 07957 309912. This phone will not be manned throughout the holidays but the messages will be collected and acted upon where necessary. For this reason, it is possible that we may have to inform you that your child has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive and therefore your child would have to self-isolate for a set period of time.



Today your children have looked amazing, thank you so much for supporting them to join in our Spooktacular day; scaring ghost by banging pans to make loads of noise, hearing ghoulish stories, finding witches, bats and creepy crawlies in Ghost Grotto. All of the children hunted down, and chose their own pumpkin to take home from the Pumpkin Patch. Our pumpkins were kindly donated by Strawberry Fields Farm And Coffee Shop, Burntwood. The whole day was organised by our wonderful Friends of Saxon Hill Sarah and Sharon, and brilliant teachers Nicki and Isobel, our thanks go to them for helping to make a fabulous spookfest of a day for the children. (If you carve or use your pumpkin we would love to see your photos uploaded to the Efl Parent Portal.)

If you are at a loose end this half term, please link in with our Friends of Saxon Hill Photo Scavenger Hunt by emailing friendsofsaxonhill@saxonhill.shaw-education.org.uk.

We really hope you manage to have a restful and peaceful holiday week, maybe even with a sprinkling of fun if you dare! Thank you for your wonderful support over this past half term, it has been a challenge for all and we really do appreciate your sensible approach to helping keep the whole school community safe.

All the very best for a lovely holiday. Your Leadership Team.



Contact us

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Executive Principal:

Melsa Buxton

Head of School:

Mel Newbury

Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Kim Thomas

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mel Newbury & Helen Bowers

Parents' Evening

Thank you for taking part in our first ever virtual Parents' Evening this week. It was a new experience for us all and thankfully technology didn't fail us, we had some great video Teams meetings and some great telephone calls. Thank you all for being supportive this half term, we know it has been a difficult one in so many ways.



Parent Governor Vacancy

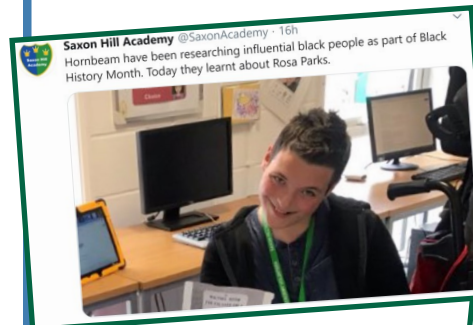
Parent Governor Vacancy -

Would you like to become more involved in your child's school? We currently have a Parent Governor vacancy and would welcome the opportunity to share more about the work of a Governor. If you are interested, please call Wes at school or email:

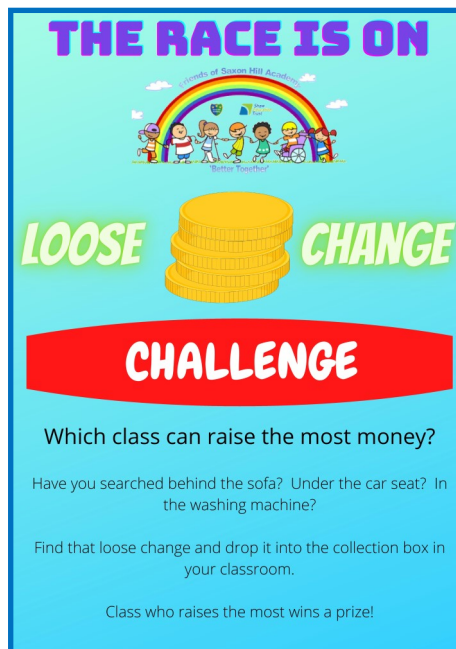
wes.morris@saxonhill.shaw-education.org.uk



Some of this week's Tweets!



Friends of Saxon Hill Academy...upcoming events!



Spooktacular

What a
wonderful day
for
SPOOKING !!!



Upcoming Diary Dates

October half term - Monday 26th Oct to Friday 20th Oct 2020.

Students return to school - Monday 2nd Nov 2020

Bonfire Night - Thursday 5th Nov 2020

Remembrance Day - Wednesday 11th Nov 2020

Children in Need - Friday 13th Nov 2020

Diwali - Saturday 14th Nov 2020

Anti-Bullying Week - Monday 16th to Friday 20th Nov 2020

**Staff INSET Day - Friday 27th November 2020
(school closed to all pupils)**

National Tree Week - Monday 1st Dec to Friday 4th Dec 2020

Xmas Jumper Day - Friday 11th Dec 2020

Last day of Autumn Term - Friday 18th Dec 2020

Winter holiday: Monday 21st Dec 2020 – Friday 1st Jan 2021

First day of Spring Term - Monday 4th Jan 2021

Black History Month

October is Black History Month in the UK. It is an annual event honouring the contributions and accomplishments of the Black community. It celebrates both current and historical individuals and the positive impact they have made to our society.

Black History Month provides great opportunities to highlight key moments in history. It is important to celebrate the contributions of everyone to our society and support the multi-culturalism and diversity that helps shape our communities.

Students have learnt about people such as; Rosa Parks, Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King, Mary Seacole, and Barack Obama. They have written reports, created artwork, made videos and shared discussions with their peers.



Children In Need

We will be having a 'Feelgood Friday' on Friday 13th November 2020 in aid of Children In Need. The theme this year is 'Five to Thrive', this has a mental health focus, based on the NHS 5 ways to wellbeing).

We are inviting all pupils and staff to come to school wearing something that makes them feel good. This could be fancy dress, sports clothes, pyjamas, bright clothes, favourite clothes, or school uniform if that makes them feel happy. Students will be taking part in lots of fun activities throughout the day and we know it will be a great day for everyone!

