

Family Update

17th September 2021



Updates

Hi everyone,

We've had a lovely week at Saxon Hill. Our **work experience** has been gathering pace with sessions at the **Craft Barn** and students learning **hospitality skills** by taking orders and serving hot drinks and cakes for our Governors' meeting in the **café**. Younger pupils have been running our **Tuck Shop**, **baking, reading and listening** to the Roald Dahl stories and developing their **navigational skills** by following **tactile plaques** and colour streams along our corridors.

We have presented assemblies this week promoting '**Have Your Say**'. Pupils have nominated their classmates for School Council representatives and voting begins on Wednesday, **School Council Election Day**. If appropriate, please chat with your child on the theme of school and 'Even better if....' **Thank you** to all families for your patience whilst the transport and Kings Hill Road issues settle. At least the temporary traffic lights at the junction with the main road seem to have gone now, which does alleviate some pressure. Please remember that **children will not be released from class before 3pm** without prior agreement and that as **school finishes at 3:30pm**, that is ideally when families collect their children.

In 'other news': "**Nadhim Zahawi, the former vaccines minister, replaces Gavin Williamson as education secretary.** [[BBC News](#)] and a **Single COVID-19 jab is recommended for 12 to 15-year-olds by UK's top doctors.** Chief medical officers advised this would help reduce disruption to education [[BBC News](#)]." We will let you know more when Staffs CC update us on their plans to roll out this vaccination series.

We hope you have a happy, healthy weekend and look forward to seeing your lovely children again on Monday. From Your Leadership Team

Photos from the Week



Contact us

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Head of School:
Mel Newbury

Designated Safeguarding Lead:
Kim Thomas

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:
Mel Newbury & Helen Bowers

Work Experience

It has been fantastic to see our Work Experience offer up and running again over the last two weeks. Pupils in the Towards Independence Department have the opportunity to access Dobbies Garden Centre, the Craft Barn at Chasewater and the Lichfield Foodbank. This provides our pupils with a range of real-life learning opportunities and invaluable skills. We also have a great café facility in school and already have bookings to host some exciting coffee mornings.

This year we are hoping to extend this offer further through Preparing for Adulthood by offering a range of careers talks, college visits, in school visits from professionals and travel training.



Pupils have already been excitedly researching additional workplaces and centres they may like to visit to gain an insight into different options after Saxon Hill.

Tactile Trail

This week saw the launch of our fantastic tactile trail around Saxon Hill. When completed, each area of school will be designated a different tactile cue (sequins, tiles, pebbles etc.). This will be put up in matching frames on the walls and linked with a bold, red line. The tactile trail will help all pupils with sensory impairments to understand what part of school they are in as well as promoting their independence when navigating school.

Pupils have already been doing an amazing job getting to grips with the tactile trail and Cayden has done brilliantly finding his way to his classroom. Staff have also had great fun giving the tactile trail a go!

We can't wait to see the positive impact this has on our pupils and how it will help them grow.



Roald Dahl Day and Library Relaunch

On Monday, the whole school celebrated Roald Dahl Day as well as the relaunch of our own school library, called the 'Bookworm Café'. Each class produced a piece of artwork based on a Roald Dahl book, which were exhibited throughout the dining hall and library. All pieces of art work were wonderful and showed a variety of styles but a big congratulations to Ash Class for the winning piece. Pupils also enjoyed some brilliant live poetry in the library as well as a day of Roald Dahl themed learning; there was chocolate making, potions conjuring, role play and even maths challenges. Pupils now can't wait to be able to visit the library and start taking some books home to enjoy with their families.



College Open Days

Queen Alexandra College are offering some upcoming Open Days, in person and online. Please see the below information for further details. Additionally, further information can be found on the school website: www.saxonhillacademy.org.uk/learning-opportunities/careers-education-and-guidance



Open Days 2021

Queen Alexandra College (QAC) will be hosting the following Open Day events for potential students and their families/carers:



Wednesday 22nd September
9.30am - 12.00pm

Thursday 30th September
9.30am - 12.00pm

Thursday 14th October
1.30pm - 4.00pm

Thursday 21st October
9.30am - 12.00pm

Wednesday 10th November
9.30am - 12.00pm

Tuesday 30th November (Online)
10.00am - 12.00pm

Thursday 9th December
9.30am - 12.00pm



**Make Our College
Your College**



These events provide the opportunity to meet our staff and students plus discover more about QAC. Please note you must reserve a space as numbers are limited.

- It's being independent
- It's making friends
- It's rising to the challenge
- It's learning and achieving
- It's having fun
- It's QAC



Call us on 0121 803 5484 to book your visit.