



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Dedicated to fostering an inclusive culture that respects, values and celebrates the contributions of all our children.



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Harvest

Next week in school we are celebrating Harvest in our assemblies. Each Key Stage will learn about the importance of Harvest and being thankful. As we have done in previous years, we will be collecting food donations to be distributed to our local community via Jubilee Church. They are looking for: tinned meat meals, jam, biscuits, rice pudding, custard, tea, coffee, pasta, toilet roll, soup – please make sure use by dates are after December 2024. Donations can come in throughout next week please.

Interventions

At Saxon, we are committed to providing the best possible support to ensure every pupil thrives academically, socially, and emotionally. As part of this commitment, we implement a range of interventions designed to complement and enhance the high-quality teaching already taking place in our classrooms. Each term, we will inform you about any interventions that your child is participating in and you would have received this information this week. If you have any questions about your child's provision please speak to their class teacher.

Parking

There have been several complaints from our neighbours this week about parking. Please can I remind everyone to park legally and considerately, not on double yellow lines, blocking drives or pathways? I would also encourage all our families to ensure they remain respectful and polite when interacting with the residents. Thank you.

School Meal Choices

A reminder that if you would like to change your child's meal preference, it needs to be done via the online form, and in time for the next full week. Changes can't be made during the week.

Illnesses

If your child is sick or has diarrhoea, they cannot be in school for 48 hours from the last bout of illness. We've had a significant bug going around school in the last two weeks and we need to do all we can to keep our children and staff healthy. If your child is sent back too soon, you will be called to collect them.

SSA

Thank you for all the wonderful colour donations that came in today – the raffle prizes will look brilliant!

Firework night will soon be upon us and we're looking forward to 'going out with a bang' with our final Fireworks event! There is a meeting on the 11th at 9am so please come along and share your ideas. We need lots of adult support so please do sign up to help on the day and on the night.

There are two more mufti days for chocolate donations please. A normal mufti next Friday and a Halloween themed one on the 18th (costumes are optional and no face paints or masks please). See the posters below for more info.

World Mental Health Day - Thursday 10th October

On Thursday, we would like the children to wear a yellow accessory for example a yellow hair clip, socks or scarf to join in with schools across the country to show children that they're not alone with their mental health. The children will also be taking part in a special doodling activity in their classrooms and a 'happy hour' where they'll participate in an activity focussing on how to be positive.

Book Fair

Thank you to all families who visited the Book Fair this week. We are so

Key Dates

Oct

Thurs 3rd	Poetry Day
Fri 4th	Mufti Day – Colour Raffle Prizes 3:30pm Open Classrooms for Years 2-6
W/B 7th	Year 1 Stay, Play & Learn Sessions
Thurs 10th	Mental Health Awareness Day – wear a yellow accessory
Fri 11th	Mufti Day – Chocolate Tombola Donations
W/B 14th	Reception Stay, Play & Learn Sessions
Tues 15th – Fri 18th	Y6 to Bristol
Fri 18th	Mufti Day – Chocolate Tombola Donations
Fri 25 th	3:15/20 End of Autumn I SSA Fireworks Night

Nov

Mon 4 th	INSET Day 2 – School closed to children
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pleased to see how popular this event was and it was lovely to see the children reading their new books in school. The official total will be announced in next week's newsletter after the final opportunity to purchase books happens today after school.

School Council

This week classes from Y1 to Y6 have been voting for their class representative for Saxon School Council. Volunteers from each class have put themselves forward for the role and put together some fantastic and inspiring speeches to win votes. Teachers have been impressed with the maturity, respect and resilience children have shown and I am so proud of all our volunteer candidates and the super effort they have put in; they have all demonstrated our Saxon oracy skills wonderfully. Everyone should feel so proud of what they have achieved this week, whether or not they got the role. Well done to all of you!

1A Lisha and Elliot
1S Toby and Eva
2D Ella
2M Montana
3LT Isaac
3MK Izzy
4P Keev
4K Daisy
5P Madeleine
5W Isabelle B
6A Rohyn
6L Isabelle S

Thank you to our previous reps Amber, Freddie, Martha, Harvey, Rosanna, Emily and Etta for all your contributions and for representing your classes so well.

Poetry Day

On Thursday 3rd October, Saxon celebrated National Poetry Day. All classes watched a live poetry lesson at 10am. This was a Guinness World Records Official Attempt for World's Largest Poetry Lesson. We will await to receive a school certificate to note our participation. All children loved reading poems and sharing their own poems throughout the day. We hope you will enjoy watching a recorded version of these poetry performances in classes today at the Open Classroom Event (Years 2-6).

Times Table Rockstars KS 2 Inter-House Battle final results

It was an exciting KS2 House battle to start the year and the scores were close at the end. Congratulations to Roman House who won the battle with a score of 44,723. Tudor House came second with a score of 41,351; Celtic House scored 35,853 and Victorian House scored 13,636. The trophy was presented to the Roman House Captains during assembly on Monday and children in each class and House have received individual certificates. A huge well done to Virraaj 5P, Anoush 6L, Oskar 4P and Kush 5W who were the top players in each House. Thank you to all the Saxon families for your support.

Maths Courses for Families

Surrey are offering free Maths courses for families, follow this link to register your interest:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/post-16/multiply>

Support for Bedwetting

The Surrey School Nursing team will be delivering virtual support sessions on early toileting advice throughout the year for children experiencing bedtime wetting. In the first instance we are inviting parents and carers to attend a virtual session that aims to provide them with general advice and support to help manage bedtime wetting

www.childrenshealthsurrey.nhs.uk/services/continence

Year 1 Bags

We have a lot of rather big bags coming into school in Year 1 and they are taking up too much space on their coat racks. Please can we ask you to use the school book bag instead?

Golden Learning Celebration

Well done to all our Learners of the Week!

KS1

1A *Noah & Nina*
1S *Jordan & Emilia P*
2D *Lorcan & Shivani*
2M *Noah & Alex*

KS2

3LT *Scott & Bonnie*
3MK *Ben & Izzy*
4K *Edison & Layla A*
4P *Carla & Leo*
5P *Iyla & Lilly-May*
5W *Teddy & Ronan*
6A *Eleanor & Freddie Cl*
6L *Felix & Havana*



Stay on Green

Consistently demonstrating green behaviour choices throughout the entire week and therefore receiving a golden leaf this week were: Ellis (RB); Roscoe, Betsy, Sanuki & Felix (1A); Zain (1S); Wilson (2D); Montana, Paul & Clark (2M); Conor (3LT); Eilidh & Mark-Jacob (3MK); Ella (4K); Ryder & Madeleine (5P); Ronan (5W) & Blake (6L)

Well done!

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend,

Miss Morris
Headteacher

Reception 2025

Do you have a child due to start school in September 2025? If so, please book onto one of our Open Days and our Saturday Stay & Play session for children. Click on the link below or visit our school website:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/saxonprimaryschool>

The dates available are:

Wednesday 18th September @ 9:30am

Saturday 12th October 9:30-10:30am – Stay & Play session for parents and children

Tuesday 22nd October @ 9:30am

Thursday 14th November @ 2:00pm



MUFTI
Chocolate
TOMBOLA
BRING ALONG A CHOCOLATE TREAT TO GO TOWARDS OUR STALL FOR FIREWORKS IN EXCHANGE FOR A MUFTI DAY!
FRIDAY 11TH OCTOBER




FRIDAY 11TH OCT
9 AM
FIREWORKS
SSA MEETING
 KIDS WELCOME
 TEA & COFFEE
AFTER SCHOOL CLUB
 PLEASE COME ALONG AND DISCUSS ALL THINGS FIREWORKS RELATED, ONLY A FEW WEEKS LEFT AND LOTS TO DO, PLEASE COME ALONG AND SHOW YOUR SUPPORT



Happy Halloween
 Friday 18th October
HALLOWEEN CHOCOLATE TOMBOLA
 Please bring along an item of chocolate to go towards the chocolate tombola for our annual fireworks display.
 Fancy dress for Halloween (no masks or face paints please)
 Please ensure any item is appropriately packaged and in date until end of November.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT
 Halloween dress up optional

At The National College, our **WakeUpWednesday** guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about IN-GAME CHAT

Video games are continuing to grow in popularity – including, of course, among children and young people – and the emergence of gaming communities has been accelerated by the inclusion of chat functionality across many different titles. While in-game chat isn't inherently a bad thing, it can create some concerns about online safety and the people that children might be interacting with.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

DIFFERENT TYPES OF CHAT

There are a number of ways that gamers commonly chat with one another online. As the name would suggest, in-game chat happens within the game itself. There's also party chat: a group voice conversation that console users can have with anyone on the same platform. This tends to be more commonly used by players who already know each other. Finally, many gamers – especially on PC – will chat via a third-party app such as Discord.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Whether it's text- or voice-based, in-game chat is frequently open to all players to use. Many games default to making it an opt-in function, but some don't, meaning a child could start seeing messages within the game from people they're playing with, regardless of whether they know those individuals or not. Whilst most strangers are innocently having fun, there are some who may behave inappropriately when chatting to a child – intentionally or otherwise.

ANGER OF GROOMING

It's been reported that some young gamers have encountered older players online who pretend to be less than they are. In many cases, children, sending gifts in exchange for chatting and sending glances. Just as on any messaging platform, it's good to advise young people to avoid speaking to strangers anywhere that they shouldn't accept gifts from anyone online that they don't know.

BULLYING AND ABUSE

While some in-game chat can turn toxic because of the anonymity of people who engage in trolling – in essence, behaving in an offensive and abusive way simply to cause pain or get a rise out of someone they're talking to. These 'trolls' often lean on racial slurs, anti-LGBT sentiment and other hateful rhetoric. They normally feel most confident playing on younger, more impressionable gamers.

POTENTIAL FOR PRIVATE CHAT

If a player would like a re-match with a stranger after meeting them in the game, they can send a friend request, or use the party chat together in the future. For the most part, this is harmless – but it might lead to messages being exchanged in private. This could then escalate to the sharing of private information, and potentially attempts to manipulate or scam younger players.

COMPETITIVE ATMOSPHERE

Certain games are very competitive, and players can sometimes get upset if they feel or are perceived to be underperforming. An opponent was unfairly or they're just a bad loser. This can lead to unpleasant messages that stray away from playful trash talk and wander into the territory of bullying. Some gamers have been known to get incredibly abusive in situations like this, and the impact of this on a young gamer's emotional wellbeing could be severe.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LOCK-DOWN IN-GAME CHAT

In-game chat can often be disabled in the game's settings. This allows children to play without risk of contact from strangers – but it will need to be done in each individual game. Text chat appears in the corner of the screen in many titles, so it's normally easy to take a quick glance and see what's being said. With voice chat, parents to children what behaviour is inappropriate, so they can spot the dangers themselves.

REPORT POTENTIAL OFFENDERS

Most games offer a robust means of reporting other players, so you can flag an account as potentially harmful. This normally leads to the account being locked out for a period of time. If that person's account breaks any of the game's rules, they may be banned from playing entirely. This is done within the game itself, so each title has a slightly different process, but these tend to be designed for simplicity.

CONSIDER OTHER CHAT OPTIONS

If a child wants to play with people they know, consider using party chat or a third-party service like Discord. This allows everyone involved to chat on a private server and even enjoy each other's company while playing different games. It's also more secure, as anyone looking to join will need to request and be granted access – normally by whoever is hosting the chat.

COMMUNICATION IS KEY

Make sure children understand the difference between being competitive and being abusive. Talk about what constitutes unusual or inappropriate behaviour from strangers online. Be clear that anything ever concerns or worries them, they should tell a trusted adult as soon as possible. Empower children to identify the risks of in-game chat for themselves and reassure them they won't get in trouble for seeking help if anything goes wrong.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor in Chief of *addicon* and has been working in the games media industry for five years. He's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



Source: <https://www.nationalcollege.com/guides/in-game-chat>

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