



SAUNCEY WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Dear Parents and Carers

It is wonderful to walk around the school and see so many examples of our current learning behaviour of co-operation taking place. From children working together as learning partners in the classroom, to our ABAs and Prefects supporting children from other years on the playground, we are learning that teamwork really does make the dream work! This co-operation was evident in our recent lockdown alarm rehearsal. The children stayed in their classes to ensure they were safe and accounted for when they heard the alarm and we were able to go back to our lessons when we could guarantee that the whole school was safe and 'locked down' in just 7 minutes which was fantastic.

I always stress the importance of children reading every night and practicing their spellings, handwriting and times tables (we don't get better at something by not doing it). Doing this regularly really does have a huge impact on the children's learning and sets them up for success in the classroom for years to come. We are always looking to find ways to make the practice more enjoyable and I would like to thank Miss Flint for organising the NSPCC's Number Day with a Rockstar Twist, taking place on **Friday, 7th February**. The day promises to be full of fun and learning as the school focuses on fluency and multiplication in support of this fantastic cause.

To celebrate the event, students are encouraged to come dressed as rockstars, tying into the school's love of TT Rockstars and making the day both educational and memorable. Whether it's leather jackets, funky wigs, or glittery costumes, everyone is invited to embrace their inner star!

Throughout the day, pupils will engage in exciting number-themed activities and challenges designed to build confidence and fluency in Maths whilst raising awareness and funds for the NSPCC. A small contribution towards this event will be greatly received.

In addition to this, we are also launching a revamped TT Rockstars competition for Years 3 to 6. The initiative, aimed at boosting multiplication skills through friendly rivalry, will see classes competing against each other for ultimate glory. The competition will run every week this term, starting on Thursday afternoons and concluding the following Thursday morning. Each day, students will dedicate five focused minutes to sharpening their times tables using the popular TT Rockstars platform. The goal? To encourage consistent practice, improve fluency, and foster a sense of teamwork and healthy competition.

How It Works

Every Thursday afternoon, the competition will kick off with scores reset, allowing each class a fresh start. Throughout the week, students' efforts during their five-minute daily practice sessions will be logged. The accumulated points for each class will determine the weekly winners, who will be announced during Friday's Assembly.

The Benefits

This revamp is about more than just winning. Daily short bursts of practice have been shown to significantly improve times table recall, an essential skill in Mathematics. Additionally, the competition helps pupils develop discipline, focus, and resilience as they aim to beat their own scores and contribute to their team's success.

Year 4 pupils have said, "I love TT Rockstars, and now it's even better because we can win against other classes! It's so exciting to see who gets the top scores."

What's at Stake?

While bragging rights are a prize in themselves, the school has hinted at additional rewards for top-performing classes, such as extra playtime or class trophies. Individual achievements will also be celebrated, with recognition for stand out players who consistently contribute to their team.

A Term to Remember

The TT Rockstars competition promises to be a term-long highlight, combining skill-building with school spirit. As the weeks progress, the question remains: which year group will reign supreme?

Let the rock battle begin!

Finally, Isla is fundraising for the Little Princess Trust by donating her hair! She'd really appreciate your support. Donating through JustGiving is simple, fast and totally secure. Once you donate, they'll send your money directly to the Little Princess Trust, so it's the most efficient way to give - saving time and cutting costs for the charity.

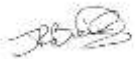
You can donate to her JustGiving page by clicking here https://www.justgiving.com/page/1737049908326?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=EM

JustGiving sends your donation straight to the Little Princess Trust and automatically reclaims Gift Aid if you are a UK taxpayer, so your donation is worth even more.

Thank you for your support and well done Isla, we are proud of you!

Have a wonderful weekend everyone.

Yours sincerely



Mr Brewis
Headteacher



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).

