



Dear Parents/Carers...

It has certainly felt very festive in school this week with Christmas parties, lunches and, of course, the wonderful performances of 'The Twinkly Nativity' by our Reception children. We were very proud of the children. They sang beautifully - even when the technology let us down and the music stopped! As they say, 'the show must go on' and it certainly did! Thank you to all staff involved for their hard work and enthusiasm which helped to make this a memorable experience for children and families alike.

On Thursday, a small group of KS1 children were invited to join children at Silverwood School to watch a performance of The Snowman. Mila said, "It was amazing because they kept throwing snow on us. It made me feel a bit nervous but then excited and happy." Keaton said, "It was really, really exciting. My favourite bit was when the snowman and the little boy were riding the bike."

This week some of our Year 6 children participated in Bikeability Cycle training. This is a national programme to help children learn practical skills to cycle safely on the road. Noah said, "We practised cycling on the playground first. The instructors were really helpful and taught us about safety, making sure that we wore helmets and that we always used our hands to cover our brakes at all times. We learned how to cycle around roundabouts and signal to turn. It was really good fun and I now feel much more confident and safe on my bike."

Christmas discos are on Tuesday next week. Our final school day before the Christmas break is Wednesday 20th December. We have staff training days on Thursday 4th and Friday 5th January so we look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 8th January.

I would like to say a personal thank you to the staff team and governors for all their hard work over the past two terms. I would also like to thank you, parents and carers, for your support for the school. It is very much appreciated and I hope that you and your families enjoy the festive period.

Merry Christmas.

Best wishes

Low Rhodes

Headteacher

Our Learning this week..

Owls



We are so proud of the children in Owls this week after the nativity performances they have given. They did a fantastic job (and a big thank you to all the adults both in school and at home who have supported the show!) In the classroom, we have still been learning alongside performing and the children's letter formation and spelling has been brilliant. Miss Stephens and Miss Butterfield are so proud of the great strides the children have made in their learning during the last two terms. Well done Owls and a big thank you to the parents for helping at home. We are hoping you all have a well-deserved rest during the Christmas break. We have also enjoyed Christmas activities such as making 'shape' snowmen and Santa's in maths from circles, squares and triangles. In our continuous provision, we have decorated Santa's beard with pegs, and party hats for our Christmas party. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year!

Woodpecker, Kingfisher & Nightingale

What an action-packed penultimate week for KS1! On Monday, we wrapped up our captivating history journey delving into the Great Fire of London. To bring history to life, the children went all out, recreating the Great Fire by setting ablaze our model houses. The energy was contagious, with the kids buzzing with excitement. This immersive experience brilliantly showcased the rapid and devastating spread of the Great Fire of London.



In maths, Year 1 dived into the world of addition and subtraction within 10, mastering the fundamentals. Meanwhile, Year 2 tackled the challenge of adding and subtracting two-digit numbers, skilfully manoeuvring across 10s. Now, in English, the young wordsmiths have been on a writing adventure this week. Their mission? Crafting story openings that grip the reader from the start. With laser focus, they've honed in on three key elements: conjuring up a vivid setting, developing intriguing characters, and crafting a hook that pulls you in from the first word. The creative energy in the English class has been nothing short of inspiring!

Skylark, Housemartin & Swift

It has been another busy week as we are nearing the end of term and Christmas! We started the week with a wonderful performance of the Nativity story by the reception children which was enjoyed by all. We had our Christmas lunch on Wednesday and had great fun making party hats and place mats for the occasion. In Science, we learned about muscles and how they work to help us to move. We found out about how The Romans dressed in History. In Maths, we have continued to learn our times tables and have been practising how to multiply and divide. We have also written a persuasive letter asking Aslan to help save Narnia from the evil White Witch. What a packed week we have had! Finally, the Year 3/4 team would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Have lots of fun everyone!

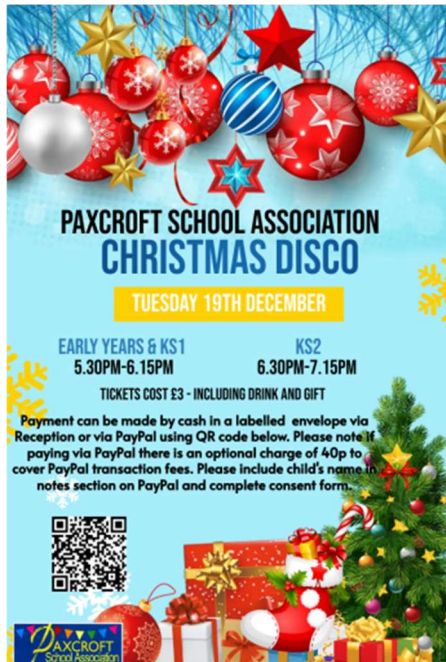


Osprey, Falcon & Kestrel

This week in year 5/6 we have been multiplying and dividing fractions by integers, and starting to solve word problems. In English, we have practiced writing the main body and the concluding paragraphs of news reports. We have also planned and written our hot task – a news report about Hermione's ordeal when the Mountain Troll invades the girls' bathrooms at Hogwarts. To conclude our work on Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, we have designed and started to build a model of a new shop for Diagon Alley. We all thoroughly enjoyed our Christmas lunch and watching the film in the afternoon.

Our Paxcroft Tree..

We have been getting into the festive spirit as staff and pupils helped to decorate the Paxcroft Primary School Christmas tree for the annual St James' Church Christmas Tree Festival. A big thank you to Mrs Brown for take in the time to hand-sew the wonderful decorations for a tree.





**PAXCROFT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
CHRISTMAS DISCO**

TUESDAY 19TH DECEMBER

EARLY YEARS & KS1	KS2
5.30PM-6.15PM	6.30PM-7.15PM

TICKETS COST £3 - INCLUDING DRINK AND GIFT

Payment can be made by cash in a labelled envelope via Reception or via PayPal using QR code below. Please note if paying via PayPal there is an optional charge of 40p to cover PayPal transaction fees. Please include child's name in notes section on PayPal and complete consent form.



GREEN LANE WOODS

wildlife watch

If you are aged between 3 and 11 bring your grown-ups along to discover the wildness just outside your door.

Saturday 16th December

**Festive Nature Crafts,
Campfire and Carols**

10am—12pm
(and the third Saturday of every month)

For more information and to book, email:
GLWwildlifewatch@gmail.com

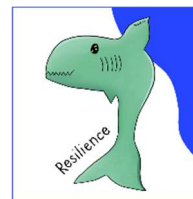
£2.50 per child
Adults go free & all proceeds go to group activities.



Celebrations



Class	Citizen Values	Learners' Values
Woodpecker		Laylen B - Independence Adam C – Resilience
Kingfisher	Ace H - Respect	Libby J - Independence & Resilience
Nightingale	Frankie J - All Values	Isabelle N - Resilience
Skylark	Teddy C - Independence	Blake W - Resilience
Housemartin	Filip L - Respect Ethan T – Respect	
Swift		Samuel W - Positivity Gabriel W - Positivity & Resilience
Osprey	Zuzanna H - Respect & Kindness	Elijah B-M - Independence & Positivity
Falcon	Isla H - All Values	Ethan S - All Values
Kestrel	Abtulah O - Respect	Evie L - Resilience



Paxcroft Citizen Cups



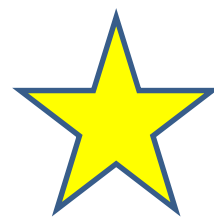
Matilda B-H – All Values



Paxcroft 'Top Table' to celebrate respect and positive behaviour at lunchtime...



Congratulations to Cassian O, Lincoln C, Layla R and Alayah S who have all been recognised this week for being polite and respectful at lunchtime. Well done for demonstrating our Paxcroft Citizen Values.

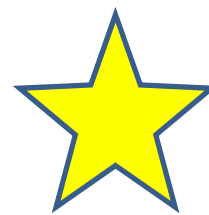


Celebrating Outside School Achievement...



Congratulations to Grace M who competed in her trampolining completion and came 3rd Place.

Well Done Grace



Well done to Sophie, who took part in her first gymnastics competition recently. She did very well and came 5th overall in her group.

Congratulations, Sophie!

We are proud of all the children at Paxcroft and want to celebrate their successes inside and outside the classroom. We mark their successes at school in a range of ways, including certificates to celebrate children who are demonstrating our Paxcroft Citizen and Learning Values, the 'Book of Brilliance' for excellent individual pieces of work, our Citizen Value cups, house points and class rewards that are earned collectively over the term and rewarded with a class treat. If your child has achieved something special outside school, we would love to celebrate those achievements too.

Please send details FAO Mrs Aland to admin@paxcroft.wilts.sch.uk and we will endeavour to add to the Paxcroft Post.

Diary dates for Autumn Term 2023

Monday 18th December	Superhero Day - Reception
Tuesday 19th December	School Disco KS1 5.30-6.15 KS2 6.30-7.15
Wednesday 20th December	Last Day of Term 2

Diary dates for Spring Term 2024

Thursday 4th January	TD Day 3
Friday 5th January	TD Day 4
Monday 8th January	First Day of Term 3
Wednesday 10th January	Young Voices Birmingham
Wednesday 17th January	RE Day
Wednesday 31st January	Youth Parliament
Friday 2nd February	Y3/4 Trip to The Roman Baths – More details to follow
Tuesday 6th February	Y1/2 Performance – More details to follow
Thursday 8th February	Y1/2 Performance – More details to follow
Friday 9th February	Last day of Term 3
Friday 9th February	Y6 Heights and Weights
Monday 19th February	First Day of Term 4

Letters & Communications issued this week

Item	To	For
Head lice	Selected	Information & Action
Gymnastics Terms 3&4	Selected	Information & Action
Gymnastics	Selected	Information
Energise Fitness Club	Selected	Information & Action
Visit to Silverwood Christmas Show	Selected	Information & Action
Christmas Jumpers	Whole School	Information & Action
Active Trowbridge Football Club	Selected	Information & Action
Outdoor Owls Term 3&4	Selected	Information
Outdoor Owls	Selected	Information & Action
Art Club Term 3	Selected	Information & Action
Art Club Term 4	Selected	Information & Action
Art Club Term 3&4	Selected	Information
PSA AGM Tomorrow	Whole School	Information
Next Of Kin Details	Selected	Information & Action
Mobile Phone	Whole School	Information & Action
Re-Energise Fitness Form	Whole School	Information
Young Voices Coach Seats	Selected	Information & Action
Nativity Evening Performance This Evening	Owls	Information
Reminder – Cake Sale	Whole School	Information
Tiger Martial Arts Club	Whole School	Information

Breakfast Club	Whole School	Information & Action
Young Voices Final Arrangements	Selected	Information
The Lion the Witch And The Wardrobe	Y3/4	Information
Treasure Island Dress Up Day	Y1/2	Information
Reminder – Reception and KS1 Christmas Dinner Day and Party	KS1	Information
Sickness Policy	Whole School	Information & Action