



Dear Parents/Carers...

This has been another productive and busy week at Paxcroft.

Miss Beaven and I worked with a specialist phonics teacher from Ramsbury English Hub. Across Reception and KS1 classes, we observed phonics lessons, interventions and 1:1 reading sessions, with coaching sessions provided for staff. I am pleased to report that feedback from this evaluation visit was very positive.

Staff also participated in a training session led by colleagues from the Behaviour Support Service to develop knowledge and understanding of ways to positively manage and support children's social, emotional and mental health needs.

Yesterday Mr George and Mrs Brown met with Wiltshire Council Safeguarding Lead to review current school processes and procedures in place to ensure all our children are safe. This included meeting with children and staff. Again, feedback was positive.

This week's curriculum has certainly been broad and engaging (and a bit wet and muddy!) with all children from Year 1 –Year 6 enjoying their outdoor learning days, led by Wiltshire Wildlife Trust. Here are some of the children's comments:

'My favourite thing today was building animal houses and dens' - Matilda

'I enjoyed making clay outside it was so much fun' - Louis

'The best thing about outdoor learning is getting muddy and having fun with nature' – Buddie

Throughout the week, the children have learned about the meaning and significance of Remembrance Day. On Wednesday, I accompanied Lucy and Theo, two of our school councillors, on a visit to meet some of the residents at a local nursing home. The residents shared their experiences of wartime.

"We talked to Dorothy who shared her experience of being a World War II evacuee, travelling by train with her brother and sister from London to Yorkshire. It was inspiring and I loved it." Lucy, School Council

Each child in the school made their own individual poppy and we used these to create a giant Paxcroft Poppy of Remembrance in the hall. The school held a 2-minute silence as a mark of respect.

Low Rhodes
Headteacher



Monday 13th November, School Photos

Just a reminder that the school photographer will be attending on Monday to take individual and sibling photographs. Please can all children attend school in full school uniform- school jumper or cardigan, no PE hoodies, please. If it is your child's birthday over the weekend or on Monday, they are welcome to choose another day next week to wear non-school uniform.



December Dinner Menus ...

Dinner menus for December will go live on Scopay on Tuesday 13th November at 9.30am. The deadline for submitting menus is 3.30pm on Friday 17th November. Paper copies of the menus and allergen charts can be found on the website, in the foyer and will be sent out via ParentMail. Please note that even if your child is entitled to free school meals you will still need to complete a menu.



Coffee and Chat Morning

Tuesday 28th Nov

8:45am - 10am



In the School Hall

Please come along and take the opportunity to meet our

Paxcroft Pastoral Support Team

(Mrs Evans, Ms Williams and Mrs Jessup)

Everyone welcome for an informal chat and refreshments.

This will be an opportunity to meet the team as well as other parents.

We will also have information available about a range of support services for children and families.

Toys for little ones provided!

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

Congratulations to Jake M, Jake C, Honey W-S and Oliver E -who have all been recognised this week for being polite and respectful at lunchtime. Well done for demonstrating our Paxcroft Citizen Values.

Outside achievements...

Very well done to Finn, who was selling poppies last weekend with Sea Cadets. A very worthy cause.



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

Our learning this week...

Owls

This week in Owls we have had great fun continuing with our superhero topic. In Literacy, we have read the story 'Superworm' and worked hard on writing a sentence to describe him. In Maths, we have been comparing objects using the language, more and less. We had great fun yesterday using our maths skills in investigation to make a repeating pattern with natural objects. In our outdoor provision we have had great fun making superhero obstacle courses.



Woodpecker, Kingfisher & Nightingale

Year 1 and Year 2 have been very busy this week! We had our outdoor learning day with lots of fun activities. The children enjoyed pretending to be squirrels for the morning as they collected pinecones and squirreled them away for the winter. They then came back later and tried to remember where they had hidden their pinecones. We now know how difficult it would be for squirrels to find their acorns after hibernating! Children were given lots of adjectives and had to collect different items for each word. Once they had found these items, they then swapped them with another group and tried to work out which item went with which word. In the afternoon, children built dens out of sticks, tarpaulins and ropes and hunted for bugs. They used charts to identify what bugs they found and carefully placed them back where they had found them. During our RE day this week, we learnt about why we celebrate special times. We focussed on Christmas by discussing what Christmas looks like for different people, how Christians celebrate it and the importance of the Nativity Story.

Skylark, Housemartin & Swift

What a busy week we have had. We have been completing our learning assessments this week, as well as this we have continued to read The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, which we are really enjoying. We had our outdoor learning day on Wednesday and despite the weather had a wonderful day. The children demonstrated fantastic resilience throughout the day. We learned about food chains, soils and seeds and had a forest school session. On Thursday, we had our R.E day and learned all about the deeper meanings behind religious festivals. The children really impressed us with their levels of engagement and mindfulness. Well done Year 3 and 4, a super week full of excitement and enjoyment.



Osprey, Falcon & Kestrel

In Year 5/6 we have had a varied and lively week. This is the week we commemorate the Festival of Remembrance and reflect on the sacrifices made by so many during WW1 and subsequently in various conflicts. We have been reading some war poetry – both modern and from the time and reflecting on these. On Friday we will be joining the rest of the school to lay our poppies in our Remembrance Commemoration. This week, too, is UK parliament Week. The children have been learning about the mechanisms of government, including how Parliament functions. We have discussed the Monarch's role within Government and watched part of the King's Opening of Parliament speech. We have been thinking about Democracy and the hallmarks of democratic countries such as: Freedom of speech, Equal rights, Free and fair elections and the free press amongst others.

We had our second R.E day on Wednesday, in which we investigated the deeper meaning of various festivals, ranging from Christmas to why the Langar exists in Sikh temples. We also had our first outdoor learning day of the year, which the children thoroughly enjoyed. We took part in a range of outdoor activities.

Celebrations



Class	Citizen Values	Learners' Values
Woodpecker		Cody D - Resilience George D - Positivity
Kingfisher	Tenayah J - Kindness	Hector S - Resilience
Nightingale		Corey C - Positivity Rowan R - Independence
Skylark	Lilly M - Respect	Imogen S - Resilience
Housemartin	Polly D - Kindness	Kaycie B - Resilience
Swift	Sienna P - All values Olivia M - All values	Sienna P - All values Olivia M - All values
Osprey	Amber B - Respect	Finley C - Resilience
Falcon	Nikola B - All Values	Nikola B - All Values
Kestrel	Adriana S - Respect	Serine M - Resilience



Paxcroft Citizen Cups



Rory S – All Values

Alice B – All Values



Diary dates for Autumn Term 2023		
Monday 13 th November	Individual class portraits	
Tuesday 14 th November	Open Day Reception 2024 Intake (9.30am)	
Wednesday 15 th November	Youth Parliament	
Wednesday 15 th – Friday 17 th November	Braeside residential Y4	
Friday 17 th November	Children in Need fundraiser – Wear your PJs to School	
Monday 20 th – Friday 24 th November	Anti-bullying week	
Tuesday 28 th November	Pastoral Team Coffee Morning	
Wednesday 29 th November	Owls class walk to the post box	
Friday 8 th December	Flu immunisations – more information to follow	
Tuesday 12 th December	Owls class nativity – more information to follow	
Wednesday 13 th December	KS2 Christmas Dinner	
Thursday 14 th December	Owls class nativity – more information to follow	
Friday 15 th December	KS1 Christmas Dinner	
Monday 18 th December	Superhero Day – Reception	
Wednesday 20 th December	Last day of term 2	
Letters & Communications issued this week		
Item	To	For
Sugar Craft	KS2	Information
Pastoral Team Coffee Morning	Whole School	Information
Y5/6 Curriculum Letter	Y5/6	Information
Y4/5 Curriculum Letter & Pick & Mix Homework	Y3/4	Information
Y1/2 Curriculum Letter & Pick & Mix Homework	Y1/2	Information
Reception Curriculum Letter & Pick & Mix Homework	Reception	Information
Superhero Day	Reception	Information
Photographer Monday 13 th November	Whole School	Information
		Information