



Dear Parents/Carers

We were really proud of our Reception children who put on two wonderful performances of their Nativity, 'Whoops a daisy angel.' I hope families enjoyed these performances as much as we did. They kicked off a busy week and certainly helped to get us all in the festive spirit with our special Christmas lunches, Reception/KS1 Christmas party, and KS2 Christmas movie treat.

On Tuesday evening, Mr George and I met with governors and the senior leadership team to discuss and review the Paxcroft curriculum, data from our November assessment of children's progress and our plans for further development of teaching and learning across the school.

This week we also had a review visit from our School Improvement Adviser (SIA). All community schools have a SIA, appointed by the local authority, to help support leadership teams to ensure children receive a high quality education. I am pleased to report that positive progress is being made against this year's school improvement priorities and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff team and governors for their hard work.

We hope you can join us at 2.45pm today for carols on the school playground. To ensure the safety of all children, a reminder that after the carol singing, children should be collected **from their classrooms** as usual.

I wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy 2023. We have a teacher training day on Tuesday 3rd January. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Wednesday 4th January.

Thank you for your ongoing support for the school. It is very much appreciated.

Best wishes

Lou Rhodes, Headteacher

Our learning this week...

Wren & Robin



Well what a busy week performing 'Whoops a Daisy Angel'. The children performed their dress rehearsal to the whole school Monday and then to friends and family Tuesday evening and Wednesday afternoon. The children were fantastic. They confidently stood up and delivered their lines, knew when they needed to be on and off stage and sang fantastically. They should be very proud of themselves! Thursday we had a lovely day celebrating Christmas with a delicious Christmas dinner and lots of fun and partying. They are definitely ready for the holidays. We wish you a happy, healthy festive season and look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Woodpecker, Kingfisher & Nightingale

This week we have been celebrating Christmas in a variety of ways. We have created Christmas cards and made hats and mats for our Christmas dinner on Thursday. We also had our Christmas party where we had a good boogie to Christmas songs and played some party games. During the week, we completed our Computing unit by making a poster to show what we had learned about being safe online. In Guided Reading, we continued to focus on a non-fiction text about reindeer and we retrieved facts from the text to complete a comprehension and then summarised all we had learned. It has been



a busy term and we are all looking forward to having a rest and spending time with our families. Happy Christmas to you all from Year 1/2!

Skylark, Housemartin & Swift

Christmas has really arrived in Year three and Four this week! The children have had a fun week carrying out lots of Christmas based activities. In English, they finished off their newspaper reports and wrote Christmas scene descriptions. On Tuesday, we all enjoyed Christmas lunch in the hall together, it was delicious! We wore our home made party hats for the occasion!

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. See you in January.



Kestrel, Osprey & Falcon

We've had a very Christmassy week in Year 5/6 this week! We thoroughly enjoyed our Christmas meal on Tuesday with our classes. We came in our best party clothes and jumpers and had a delicious lunch served by the kitchen. On Monday, we watched Reception's performance of *Whoops a Daisy Angel*. The children thoroughly enjoyed the performance! In English, we have been finishing our letters of persuasion based on our class book *The Nowhere Emporium*. The children have worked very hard to ensure they're using formal language and persuasive techniques. In Maths, Year 5 have been continuing to work on the four operations and Year 6 have been learning about fractions. In Science, we have been continuing to learn about living things and their habitats. We have been looking at lifecycles of different mammals and comparing their differences. We hope everyone has a fantastic Christmas!

Playground Pals ...

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the fantastic children who have had the job of 'Paxcroft Playground Pals' this term. They have done a brilliant job of being helpful and supportive to children and adults on the playground.

Thank you to Jim, Harriet, Maci, Elliot, Isla, Ollie, Juliette and Harry!

Next term, there will be a new set of Playground Pals. These will be announced after Christmas.

Merry Christmas everyone!

Mrs Aland PSHE and Wellbeing Lead

Job vacancies

We are seeking Midday Supervisory Assistants to join our friendly school team. The role involves a mixture of supervision of children in the lunch hall and encouraging happy, positive play on the playgrounds (and occasionally in classrooms if it is too wet for outside play.)

Some of our current MDSAs cover all 5 days each week but we are happy to consider candidates that can work 2 or 3 lunchtimes per week on a job share basis.

Role information:

Hours of work: 5 hours per week. Mon-Fri, 12.15pm-1.15pm (job share possible).

Salary: Grade B, SCP 1-2 (£10.50-10.60 per hour)

Working pattern: term time (38 weeks per year plus paid holiday)

Contract type: permanent

Interview date: TBC

Commencement date: January/February 2023

The successful candidate will have to demonstrate that they will be able to:

- Manage behaviour in a positive and constructive manner, in accordance with the school behaviour policy
- Communicate clearly with other school staff
- Respond to a situation involving first aid in accordance with school policy
- Be aware of Health and Safety issues relating to the school premises
- Maintain confidentiality in line with school policy

Diary dates for Spring Term 2023

Monday 2nd January 2023	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 3rd January 2023	Teacher Development Day (focus: SEN support, subject leadership and Health & Safety training) – School closed to pupils
Wednesday 4th January	Start of Term 3
Thursday 5th January	Swimming resumes for Y5 children
Wednesday 11th January	Whole School RE Day
Sunday 15th January	Application deadline for Reception Admissions 2023
Tuesday 31st January 2023 and Thursday 2nd February	Parents' evenings

Letters & Communications issued this week

Item	To	For
Party Clothes KS2	Y3-6	Information & Action
Nativity performance	Reception	Information
Nativity performance error on date	Selected children	Information
Basketball	Y3-6	Information
Multiplication Times Tables	Y4	Information
Art Club Term 3	Whole School	Information
Art Club Term 4	Whole School	Information
Art Club (Date Correction)	Whole School	Information
Active Trowbridge Term 3&4	Whole School	Information
Covid and Flu Vaccinations	Whole School	Information
Free School Meals Supermarket Vouchers for the Christmas Holidays	Selected Children	Information & Action
Storehouse Foodbank	Whole School	Information
Party Clothes KS1	YR-2	Information & Action