



*Dear Parents/Carers,*

What a busy final week before half term!

Massive congratulations to our KS2 Dance Team for their efforts at the Dance Festival at Bath Forum. What a wonderful experience for our children to have, something that they will definitely remember in years to come. My thanks also to Miss Stephens and Mrs Dennett for their hard work in making this happen for the children.

Congratulations also to KS1 for their fantastic rendition of Pirates vs Mermaids! I was lucky enough to attend the evening performance and was blown away by the confidence, artistry and, most importantly, fun that was clear on every face. My thanks to all of the KS1 team for putting the performance together, to parents for helping learn lines and put together costumes, and the children for their fabulous acting talent!

Reception have had an amazing Superhero day to top off their learning and I've heard lots from the children about all of their positive superhero-related experiences.

I hope that you all have a restful half term and look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February ready for Term 4.

Best wishes

*Alex George*

*Assistant Headteacher*

## *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

### *An updates from govenors...*

I can't believe we are already half way through the academic year. It has been a busy first half of the year. The governing board has been fortunate to welcome some new members. In September, Jennie Edge joined us as a new parent governor and Tim Matthews began a second term. In December, we co-opted two new governors onto the board. Recruited via Inspiring Governance, Elizabeth Drake and Scott McWilliams will add a different perspective and valuable skills to the board. Elizabeth is a retired head teacher of a special school and has become the Special Educational Needs Link Governor, who will work closely with our SENCO to monitor the SEN provision at school. Scott will be joining the Finance and Premises Committee, adding his experience as a Finance Business Partner at the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust.

The board had some strategic training in October from Wiltshire Council's Governor Development Lead. We are working on our action plan to ensure that the Governing Board's development is continuing and that contingency planning is in place for when members leave. There will be vacancies for co-opted governors in September. We will be recruiting governors with experience in Health and Safety, IT and finance. We are very conscious to do the best we can to hold senior leaders to account, ensure the school's vision is evident in all areas of the school, and for there to be robust financial systems in place.

Last term, two of our governors spent time with Mr George to monitor improvements to teaching and learning, which is one area of the school development plan. One governor met with Mrs Rhodes to discuss the Pupil Premium Action plan while another met with the SENCO to discuss SEN provision. Our Wellbeing Governor met with the pupil and staff wellbeing leads at school to discuss plans and the impact of those plans of improving wellbeing of staff and children in school. Our Safeguarding governor met with the Designated Safeguarding Lead and with Wiltshire Council's Safeguarding Advisor to see the progress that has been made in school. We have also been in school to see how the Sounds Write phonics scheme has been embedded. The health and safety governor conducted the health and safety audit.

As we approach the second half of the spring term, the governing board will be monitoring all areas of the school development plan. The governors would like to thank all members of staff at the school. We have seen that there has been an incredible amount of hard work put into the school improvement areas and we would like them to know that the hard work is starting to pay off. We are aware that this half term break will be an important one, as many members of staff were unwell over the Christmas break. We would like to wish them all a lovely restful break.

Best wishes,

Mrs Bernie McHale-Jones

Chair of Governors

### *Smart watches ...*

Please note that we do not allow children to wear a 'smart' watch, or any watch that has the same functionality as a mobile phone or PC, on the school site.



### *A request from reception ...*

Robin and Wren classes would greatly appreciate donations of empty kitchen roll tubes and food pouch lids (as shown in the picture). Please could these be brought in after half term.



### *Dance festival ...*



On Tuesday, the Paxcroft Dance group went to the Bath Forum for the annual Dance Festival. They performed their magic inspired dance to 24K Magic. They have spent several weeks learning the upbeat dance and this allowed them to perform effortlessly on the day. They were fantastic and ended the show with a bang! We are very proud of all the children for performing in front of a large audience with confidence and professionalism. At the event, they represented the school proudly and were a delight to take to the festival. Thank you to all the parents that came to the event; we hope you enjoyed it!

*Mrs Dennett and Miss Stephens*

### *Attendance ...*

This week's whole school attendance ...

94.68

### *Our learning this week...*

#### *Wren & Robin*

This week we have been thinking about real life superheros. We have shared a book called 'Real Superhero's and talked about important people who help us in our community. We have enjoyed dressing up as real superheros and using our imagination to take on different roles outside. We have been comparing groups in Maths and have learnt to use some new vocabulary such as 'more than', 'fewer than' and 'equal to'. To end our topic we celebrated with a party! We dressed up, played games and danced. We even took part in a small parade around the hall. It was great to see everyone's wonderful costumes!

#### *Woodpecker, Kingfisher & Nightingale*

This week has been a very exciting but busy week in year 1/2 we have performed our production of Pirates Vs Mermaids! All of the adults are so proud of all of the children, there acting, singing and dancing was amazing. We hope you enjoyed our show! In English we have continued to look at the features of a non-chronological report and started to write some subtitles and facts about our favourite animals. In maths, year 2's have continued to look at subtracting 2 digit numbers with exchanging and year 1's have continued exploring numbers to 20. We have also had time to look at another artist and create some brightly coloured art inspired by them. We hope the children have a lovely, well deserved half term.



#### *Skylark, Housemartin & Swift*

In year 3/4 this week we have been very busy. The year 4's have been auditioning for our production of Roald Dahl's Jack and the Beanstalk. They were all very excited to find out who would play which part on Thursday. This week we have also been working to complete our clay sculptures and to paint them once they are dry. We have seen some wonderful creativity from all involved. The children have also been working hard recalling their knowledge of pigs for non-chronological reports this week and have enjoyed planning and writing these in literacy. We are all looking forward to a lovely half-term and more adventures next term!

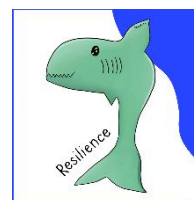
#### *Kestrel, Osprey & Falcon*

We have had a busy last week of term in Year 5/6. In Science, we have been learning about human lifecycles from birth through to old age; we have been discussing the changes that happen throughout a human's life. In English, we have concluded our newspaper report unit and have been looking at writing setting descriptions inspired by our class text Goodnight Mr Tom. On Monday, we watched the Year 1/2 performance of Pirates vs Mermaids. The children thoroughly enjoyed watching the performance and were impressed with the children's acting and singing. We hope everyone has a lovely half term break!

## Celebrations



Class	Citizen Values	Learners' Values
<i>Wren</i>		Caleb W - Resilience Evie-Lyn P - Independence
<i>Robin</i>		Sophie B - Independence Eva-Grace W - Independence
<i>Woodpecker</i>	April S - Honesty & Respect	Arabella J - Positivity
<i>Kingfisher</i>	Freddie N - Respect	Hector L-B - Resilience
<i>Nightingale</i>		Brooke L - Positivity Agamjot S - Independence
<i>Skylark</i>		Jenson H - Resilience Alfie O - Positivity
<i>Housemartin</i>		Serine M - Positivity Wyatt B - Independence & Resilience
<i>Swift</i>	Blake W - Kindness & Respect	Jessica P - Independence & Resilience
<i>Osprey</i>	Freddy G - All Values	Freddy G - All Values Alex Y - Respect
<i>Falcon</i>		Aaron J - Positivity Eve P - All Values
<i>Kestrel</i>		Imogen H - Resilience Joe P - Resilience



## Paxcroft Citizen Cups



Poppy T-G – All Values

Poppy W – All Values





## Diary dates for Spring Term 2023

<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Half term break</b>
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February</b>	First Day of Term 3
<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February</b>	World Thinking Day (Girlguiding)/Founders Day (Scouts)
<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Book Fair
<b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Book At Bedtime
<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	Possible Industrial action
<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	World Book Dress Up Day
<b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Possible industrial action
<b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Possible industrial action
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Outdoor Learning Day Y5/6
<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March</b>	Outdoor Learning Day Y3/4
<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	Outdoor Learning Day Y1/2

## Letters & Communications issued this week

<b>Item</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>For</b>
March Dinner Menu	Whole School	Information & Action
Safer Internet Day	Whole School	Information
Lost Property	Whole School	Information & Action
Covid Vaccination Clinic	Whole School	Information
NHS Dentist	Whole School	Information
Supermarket Vouchers – February Half Term	Selected children	Information & Action
Your Childs School Health Needs	Whole School	Information & Action
Basketball Club	Whole School	Information
Timings For Performance	Yr1/2	Information
Book week	Whole School	Information
Smart Watches	Whole School	Information
Reminder – Supermarket Vouchers	Selected children	Information & Action