



## Dear Parents/Carers,

It has certainly been a busy week with lots of exciting experiences for the children to enjoy.

Our Reception classes got to handle a snake and listen to hissing cockroaches during their Tropical Animal Discovery workshop.

Every class in Year 1/2, Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 had an Outdoor Curriculum Day, led by Wiltshire Wildlife Trust. They participated in a range of activities including den building and creating art using natural resources.

*I like that this morning we made our own bird nests and we had a peg to collect pieces of string (caterpillars) up - Holly Y4*

*My favourite thing today was when me and my group made a picture of wildlife and it was fun to collect things and put them on - Izzabella Y4*

*I enjoyed collecting all the different bugs in the forest school area - Shai Y4*

On Wednesday, a group of our Year 5/6 children performed at the Trowbridge Music Festival held at John of Gaunt School-see the report below written by Lottie and Rosie.

Next week we are all really looking forward to the Year 3/4 performances of Jack and the Beanstalk.

Thank you for providing your children with packed lunches earlier in the week. I am pleased to report that the kitchen is up and running again. Once again, apologies for any inconvenience this caused.

*Lou Rhodes, Headteacher*

## Music Festival...

"On Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023, 12 Year 5/6 children went to The John of Gaunt School for the Music Festival. We had to sing 3 songs, 2 with the other 11 schools and 1 for ourselves.

The songs were 'Stand by me' and 'How far I'll go' from Moana and finally for our own song we sang 'He lives in you' from The Lion King.

We loved listening to all the songs which were sung by the other schools. It was very enjoyable and we had a memorable time. Our teachers, Mrs Rigby and Mrs Shaw, loved it and thought we did a great job.



The children that attended were Hollie L, Rosie C, Lottie C, Juliet MJ, Olly GC, Dexter A, Nadya S, Mia W, Charlotte W, Tilly A, Amelia S and Florence".

**Written by Rosie C and Lottie C**



## New School Hours

From Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Registration: 8.35 – 8.45am

School finishes for all: 3.15pm

*RED NOSE DAY..*

*A HUGE THANK YOU for every donation we received for Red Nose Day 2023...*



*We raised a fantastic £500.00!*

*Well done everyone and thank you for all your support*

*Eligibility for Free School Meals...*

### ARE YOU ENTITLED TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS?

We are aware that following the impact of the increased cost of living some families may now be finding themselves in a new position regarding their finances. If this is the case, then your child/ren may be entitled to Free School Meals. If this is the case, please let the school know. We will be able to help with an application for free school meals. Not only does this mean your child will continue to get free school meals from Year 3 onwards (providing you still meet the criteria), it also means the school receives additional funding (over £1,300 per child, per year) which is used to support all qualifying pupil premium children with a range of things – from contributions towards the cost of school trips, music lessons, counselling sessions, forest school and additional staffing to support children. In order to ascertain whether you are eligible for Free School Meals, you must be in receipt of one of the benefits shown below:

- **Income support**
- Income-based **Job Seekers Allowance** (NOT contribution based JSA)
- Income-related **Employment and Support Allowance** (NOT contribution based ESA)
- Support under **Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999** – National Asylum Seekers Support (NASS)
- The guarantee element of **State Pension Credit**
- **Child Tax Credit** (you must NOT be entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190 (April 2012))
- **Working Tax Credit 'run-on'** – the payment you receive for a further four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- **Universal Credit** (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earning from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)

If you currently receive Working Tax Credit (other than the 'run-on') you are not eligible to claim.

Please email the school at [admin@paxcroft.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@paxcroft.wilts.sch.uk) if you would like an application form or have any other queries.



## *Our learning this week...*

### *Wren & Robin*

This week we had a visit from Tropical Animal Discovery. We got to meet a range of different creatures. We asked lots of great questions and learnt so much. We met glow in the dark scorpions, listened to hissing cockroaches and high fived a tarantula! We were all very brave, including the teachers! Also during the week Mrs Gunning showed us some frogspawn from our school pond. We have loved observing it and cannot wait to see what happens to it!



### *Woodpecker, Kingfisher & Nightingale*



Year 1/2 loved taking part in outdoor learning day on Tuesday. We learnt all about signs of spring, looked at birds' nests, played catch the tiger and build dens in the forest school area. In English, we read our new text Meerkat Mail and have been learning about the features of Non-chronological reports. We also learnt about regular and irregular verbs and how we use them in the past tense. In Maths, we have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes. We have been naming and sorting them, whilst using the technical vocabulary such as vertices and edges. In DT, we have been doing a sewing project where we have sewn and decorated our own hand puppet. We are very impressed with how resilient the children have been with completing something they had not tried before.

### *Skylark, Housemartin & Swift*

What a fantastically fun week we have had in year 3/4! We have started an instruction writing unit in English. In Maths, we have been finishing up the end of our units. We all thoroughly enjoyed our great outdoor learning day. The children completed a range of activities. We made nests, discussed Spring, played fun prey and predator games, created impressive dens, went on a scavenger hunt and even produced beautiful natural art pieces - take a look on our class pages to see! These were just some of our highlights, but the list goes on! Thankfully, the weather held up for us, which we were very grateful for! We have also been working hard to refine our production and can't wait to see you next week during either Wednesday's matinee or Thursday's evening performance.



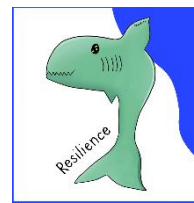
### *Kestrel, Osprey & Falcon*

Year 5/6 had a lively start to the week with our outdoor learning day, which the children thoroughly enjoyed, despite the inclement weather. We took part in a range of outdoor activities, which included a Spring scavenger hunt, den building, bug hunting and a number of games. The children also learned about different types of nests and worked together in groups to create their own. In English, we have started a new unit of work on Biographies. We have investigated the structure of a good example and have written an introduction. Year 5 are extending their knowledge and understanding of Place Value to include thousandths as decimals and fractions whilst Year 6 have been investigating the relationship between fractions, decimals and percentages and finding percentages of amounts. In our Topic work, we have been using World Mapper, looking at Cartograms, investigating how this type of map can answer a range of questions when contrasted with a standard map.

## Celebrations



<i>Class</i>	<i>Citizen Values</i>	<i>Learners' Values</i>
<i>Wren</i>	Esme T - Positivity	Maja K - Independence
<i>Robin</i>	Darcie-Grace L - Kindness	Ollie McM - Resilience
<i>Woodpecker</i>	Evelyn M - Kindness	Boril D - Resilience
<i>Kingfisher</i>	George G - Respect	Laylen B - Independence
<i>Nightingale</i>	William C - Kindness	Gabyrs G - Independence
<i>Skylark</i>	Zuzanna H - Kindness Patrycja O - Honesty	
<i>Housemartin</i>	Joshua B - Kindness	Serine M - Positivity and Resilience
<i>Swift</i>		Olivia M - Independence and Resilience Ethan S - Positivity
<i>Osprey</i>	Bobby M - Kindness	Alex J - Independence Bobby M - Resilience
<i>Falcon</i>	Leon M - All Values	Leon M - All Values Harley IM - Resilience
<i>Kestrel</i>		Harry R - Positivity Codee C- Resilience



## Paxcroft Citizen Cups



Maisie B – All Values  
Osprey Class – All Values



## *Paxcroft School Community Larder*

### **ACCESSING OUR PAXCROFT COMMUNITY LARDER**

Parents can donate to or collect from the Paxcroft Community Larder daily on school days between 8.30am – 4.00pm

Please check the 'use by dates' on any items you take.

Our larder is currently located outside the staff entrance, by the steps near the Slow playground. Look out for the yellow ribbon on the handle.

## *Attendance ...*

This week's whole school attendance ...



93.4%

## *Diary dates for Spring Term 2023*

<b>Tuesday 28th March</b>	Governor Meeting, Curriculum
<b>Wednesday 29th March</b>	Y3/4 Performance 1.45pm
<b>Thursday 30th March</b>	Y3/4 Performance 6pm
<b>Friday 31st March</b>	Y6 Easter Experience at St James' Church – Information to follow
<b>Friday 31st March</b>	Last Day of Term 4

## *Diary dates for Summer Term 2023*

<b>Monday 17th April</b>	First Day of Term 5
<b>Monday 17th April</b>	National Offer Day – Reception 2023
<b>Wednesday 26th April</b>	RE Day
<b>Monday 1st May</b>	Bank Holiday
<b>Tuesday 2nd May</b>	TD Day
<b>Friday 5th May</b>	King's Coronation Parade – more information to follow
<b>Monday 8th May</b>	Bank Holiday – Kings Coronation
<b>W/C Tuesday 9th May</b>	SATs week
<b>Tuesday 16th May</b>	Class Photos
<b>Friday 26th May</b>	Last Day of Term 5

## *Letters & Communications issued this week*

Item	To	For
April Dinner Menu	Whole School	Information & Action

School Lunches	Selected	Information & Action
Update on School Lunches	Whole School	Information & Action
Clubs Term 5 and 6	Whole School	Information & Action
PSA Meeting at school	Whole School	Information & Action
Headlice	Whole School	Information & Action
Leavers T-Shirt	Y6	Information & Action
Kitchen Reopens	Whole School	Information
FSM Vouchers	Selected	Information & Action
Breakfast and Afterschool Clubs	Whole School	Information & Action
Jack and the Beanstalk	Y3/4	Information & Action
Pizza Making	Y5/6	Information & Action