



Dear Parents/Carers

This week our specialist phonics teacher from Ramsbury English Hub visited to observe Sounds-Write phonics sessions in Reception and Year 1/2 classes. High quality teaching of phonics is one of our school improvement priorities this academic year and I am pleased to report that we are making positive progress.

From time to time, we know that children have worries or concerns and we work hard in school to provide children with any emotional support needed. They are encouraged to share worries with staff, including our Pastoral Support team. We understand that some children may find this hard to do. With this in mind, this year we introduced a 'what I want my teacher to know' box in each classroom so that children can write down any worries (or good news) that they want to share. In addition, on Wednesday a group of 12 children from Year 4 and Year 5 participated in a training workshop led by Richard Pomfrett from the Stay Safe Initiative. These children are taking on a new role as 'Paxcroft Mentors' and will be available to provide support for other children across the school if they have worries or concerns. They have been chosen as positive role models.

Next week we are looking forward to the Year 3/4 performances of 'Alice the Musical' and our Outdoor Learning Days led by Wiltshire Wildlife Trust. On these Outdoor days, please send your child to school with appropriate clothes/footwear and a waterproof coat. You will find more details in the diary section of this newsletter.

A reminder that the last day of this term is Thursday 28th March. Children return to school after the Easter break on Monday 15th April.

Thank you for your continued support for the school. I wish you all a lovely Easter break when it arrives.

Low Rhodes
Headteacher

Red Nose Day ...

A huge thank you to everyone for your generous donations on red nose day. Including the money raised at the school disco and cake sale, we raised:



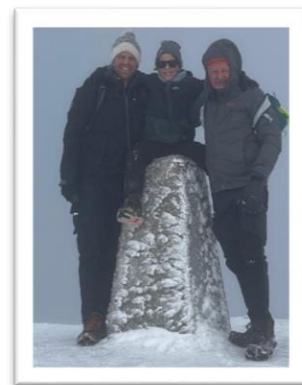
RED NOSE DAY

Outside Achievements...

Showing an amazing display of our school values, Bobby in Year 6, along with his Dad and Grandad, climbed Ben Nevis to raise money for Red Nose Day. He raised a whopping £485!



Well done Bobby we are incredibly proud of you



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 Class, we have been looking at the story 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. In Literacy, we have been pretending to be Goldilocks and have written letters to the three bears saying sorry for all the naughty things we did in their cottage. The children have loved putting their imagination hats on and getting into character to do this. In Maths, we have been learning about odd and even numbers, maybe you can ask your child at home what they are. In PE this week, we had great fun doing some relaxing Yoga but also jumping and dancing around to Kids Zumba's. Our favourite one was the Minions!

Woodpecker, Kingfisher & Nightingale

This week, KS1 have continued to learn about measuring objects in centimetres and metres. Year 2 have also been comparing and ordering lengths and heights. In English, children have been focusing on developing and applying the skills needed to write a letter recount. They have learnt all about coordinating and subordinating conjunctions and writing in the past tense. In DT this week, children have used a template to create a design for their puppets. They have also cut their two pieces of fabric out for their puppets and explored ways to join these together ready to decorate next week!

Skylark, Housemartin & Swift

We cannot believe it's week 5, which means that all our rehearsing is pretty much done and it is nearly time to show you all what we have been working on! We are very impressed with how dedicated to the play the children have been, their hard work has not gone unnoticed. We cannot wait to welcome families in to watch the performance on Tuesday and Wednesday. We have been coming to an end of our fractions unit in Maths and continued our biography learning in English, where we have focussed on David Attenborough. We realise how busy everyone has been working to learn their lines, so please don't worry if you haven't had a chance to complete the homework project, we will carry it over for next term.

Well done Year 3 and 4 - final push - its showtime!

Osprey, Falcon & Kestrel

This has been another busy week in Year 5/6. In Music, this term we have been learning a song and a dance 'Flash Mob' routine, which the children thoroughly enjoyed performing in the playground today. In Maths, we have been finding the perimeters and areas of rectangles and rectilinear shapes. Year 6 have also learned how to find the area of triangles. In English, we have boxed up a model explanation text and analysed the features of this genre before practising writing the different sections. We are really enjoying reading Stormbreaker and following Alex's adventures. In DT, we have practised making different levers and spacers for our project. On Thursday, Year 6 walked to St James' Church for the Easter Experience, where the children learned about the most significant events of Holy Week. We were very proud of the way the children represented the school.

Y6 Secondary Transition...

Earlier this month, our Year 6 pupils found out where they will be heading to Secondary School in September 2024. Every year, as part of the transition arrangements, key members of staff from the receiving Secondary Schools come to Paxcroft to meet their new students and to discuss pupils with the Year 6 teachers. We have arranged an additional visit from the Heads of Year 7 as a response to some of our pupils expressing some anxiety about the move. This year, the secondary schools have collaborated to produce a 'Secondary Ready Video' which you can access via the link below. This is a great initiative and hopefully one that will help relieve some of the anxiety or nerves around transition. We will also be showing the video in a PSHE session.

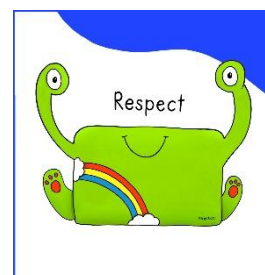
Secondary Ready Video link below

<https://youtu.be/rNG2Q4Gj5oI>

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



Congratulations to Pippa F, Kaia B, Jeevan M and Billy N who have all been recognised this week for being polite and respectful at lunchtime. Well done for demonstrating our Paxcroft Citizen Values.



Dates for your diary...

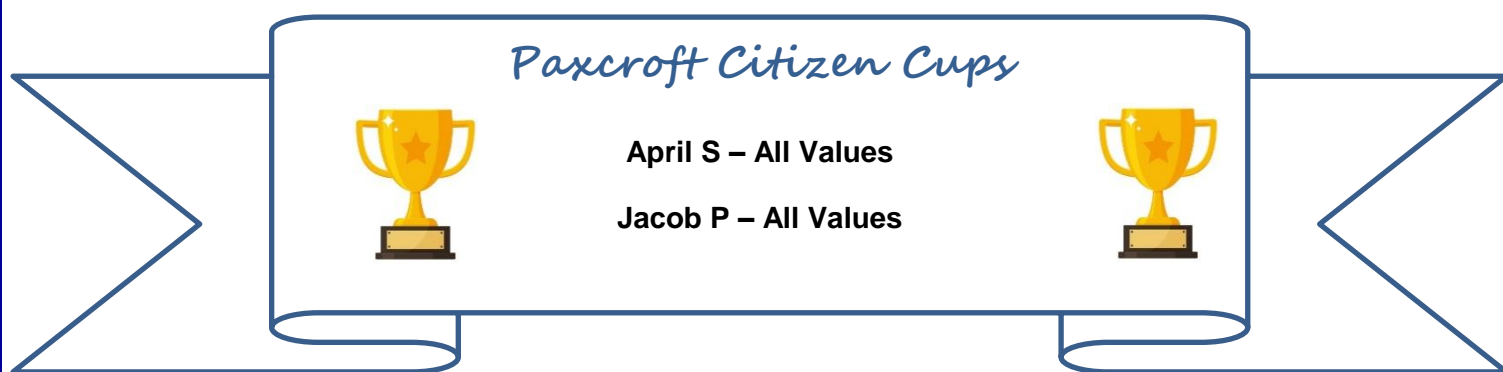
- PSA Colour run – Saturday 15th June
- Sports Day – Friday 28th June



Celebrations

	Class	Citizen Values	Learners' Values	
	Owls	Esmae M - Kindness, Honesty & Respect	Olivia-Mai J - Independence & Resilience	
	Woodpecker		David Z - Positivity Oliver F - Resilience	
	Kingfisher	Hector S - Respect	Elliot R - Resilience	
	Nightingale		All of Nightingale Class - Positivity	
	Swift		Arthur C - Positivity Hollie Mc - Independence & Positivity	
	Housemartin		Kaycie B - Independence Lauren T - Independence	
	Skylark	Lilly M - Positivity & Respect Kareem - All values	Lilly M - Positivity & Respect Kareem B - All values	

<i>Osprey</i>	Noah N - Respect & Kindness Finley C - Respect & Kindness	
<i>Falcon</i>	Nikola B - All values Elspeth H - All values	Nikola B - All values Elspeth H - All values
<i>Kestrel</i>	Jaiden F - Respect	Alfie O - Positivity



Diary dates for Spring Terms 2024

Tuesday 26th March	Y1/2 Outdoor learning day
Tuesday 26th March	Y3/4 Performance to parents – 1.45pm
Wednesday 27th March	Y3/4 Performance to parents – 6pm
Wednesday 27th March	Y5/6 Outdoor learning day
Thursday 28th March	Y3/4 Outdoor learning day
Thursday 28th March	Last day of Term 4

Diary dates for Summer Terms 2024

Monday 15th April	First day of Term 5
Tuesday 16th April	National offer day (Primary)
Wednesday 17th April	Y6 Maths Booster (continues weekly)
Wednesday 17th April	Dental Workshop – Owls
Monday 22nd April	Open the book assembly
Thursday 25th April	Wiltshire MIND Assembly and parent workshop
Thursday 25th April	Y5 Swimming starts
Monday 29th April	Wiltshire MIND KS2 assemblies and workshops

Tuesday 30th April	Class photos
Wednesday 1st May	Youth Parliament
Monday 6th May	Bank Holiday
Wednesday 8th May	Last Maths Booster session Y6
Monday 13th May	SATs Week KS2
Thursday 23rd May	School disco
Friday 24th May	Last day of Term 5
Monday 3rd June	First day of Term 6

Letters & Communications issued this week

Item	To	For
Nearly New Uniform Sale – Thursday 21 st March – 3.15pm	Whole School	Information & Action
Club Spaces Still Available	Whole School	Information & Action
Dance Auditions West Wiltshire KS1	Y1/2	Information & Action
Outdoor learning days	Y1-6	Information
2024/2025 Term Calendar	Whole School	Information
Easter family event	Whole School	Information

Eggciting Family Fun!

EASTER FAMILY EVENT

Come along to a morning of egg and nature challenges!

10th April
10:00 – 12:00

£5 Per child, under 2s and all parents/carers free. Tickets available at Eventbrite. Booking required. Visit www.wiltshirewildlife.org/events to find out more.



This will be a fun and educational session with lots of opportunity for free play as well as our fun, egg-themed activities.

Meet on the green opposite the Coop on the corner of Leap Gate/Huntingfield at 9.45am. We will then walk around to our nature area for the session. A compost toilet will be available.

What do you know about eggs?

...can you identify eggs?

.... Can you be creative with eggs?

...can you protect an egg?



GREEN LANE WOOD,
TROWBRIDGE, BA14 6GP

Images by Freeph

							October 2024							November 2024						
M		2	9	16	23	30	M		7	14	21	28		M		4	11	18	25	
Tu		3	10	17	24		Tu	1	8	15	22	29		Tu		5	12	19	26	
W		4	11	18	25		W	2	9	16	23	30		W		6	13	20	27	
Th		5	12	19	26		Th	3	10	17	24	31		Th		7	14	21	28	
F		6	13	20	27		F	4	11	18	25			F	1	8	15	22	29	
Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa	5	12	19	26			Sa	2	9	16	23	30	
Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su	6	13	20	27			Su	3	10	17	24		

December 2024							January 2025							February 2025						
M		2	9	16	23	30	M		6	13	20	27		M		3	10	17	24	
Tu		3	10	17	24	31	Tu		7	14	21	28		Tu		4	11	18	25	
W		4	11	18	25		W	1	8	15	22	29		W		5	12	19	26	
Th		5	12	19	26		Th	2	9	16	23	30		Th		6	13	20	27	
F		6	13	20	27		F	3	10	17	24	31		F		7	14	21	28	
Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa	4	11	18	25			Sa	1	8	15	22		
Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su	5	12	19	26			Su	2	9	16	23		

March 2025							April 2025							May 2025						
M		3	10	17	24	31	M		7	14	21	28		M		5	12	19	26	
Tu		4	11	18	25		Tu	1	8	15	22	29		Tu		6	13	20	27	
W		5	12	19	26		W	2	9	16	23	30		W		7	14	21	28	
Th		6	13	20	27		Th	3	10	17	24			Th	1	8	15	22	29	
F		7	14	21	28		F	4	11	18	25			F	2	9	16	23	30	
Sa	1	8	15	22	29		Sa	5	12	19	26			Sa	3	10	17	24	31	
Su	2	9	16	23	30		Su	6	13	20	27			Su	4	11	18	25		

June 2025							July 2025							August 2025						
M		2	9	16	23	30	M		7	14	21	28		M		4	11	18	25	
Tu		3	10	17	24		Tu	1	8	15	22	29		Tu		5	12	19	26	
W		4	11	18	25		W	2	9	16	23	30		W		6	13	20	27	
Th		5	12	19	26		Th	3	10	17	24	31		Th		7	14	21	28	
F		6	13	20	27		F	4	11	18	25			F	1	8	15	22	29	
Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa	5	12	19	26			Sa	2	9	16	23	30	
Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su	6	13	20	27			Su	3	10	17	24	31	

key:

	School Holiday
	Bank holiday
	Term Time

Academy, Free Schools, Foundation & Voluntary Aided schools can set their own term dates and may differ from ours. Please check with the individual schools for their term dates.

5 days are also available for professional training day closures during term time, set by the Headteacher and Governors of each school.

Term dates summary:

Term 1	02 September to 23 October 2024	38 days
Term 2	04 November to 20 December 2024	35 days
Term 3	06 January to 14 February 2025	30 days
Term 4	24 February to 04 April 2025	30 days
Term 5	22 April to 23 May 2025	23 days
Term 6	02 June to 24 July 2025	39 days
TOTAL		195 Days

Bank and Public Holidays 2024/2025

Christmas Day Holiday	25th December 2024
Boxing Day Holiday	26th December 2024
New Years Holiday	1st January 2025
Good Friday	18th April 2025
Easter Monday	21st April 2025
May Day Holiday	05th May 2025
Spring Bank Holiday	26th May 2025
Summer Bank Holiday	25th August 2025