



Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you very much for your generous donations for the pupil-led fundraising events over the past few weeks. We are very proud of their efforts-and the support shown by the other children. A positive representation of our school values. The last day for our Harvest collection of tins/dried foods for Storehouse Food bank is Wednesday 4th October. This week we have been excited to see the planned improvements to our Early Years outdoor area start to take shape. A new yellow canopy has been erected to provide protection from the weather. Next week, weather permitting, the new playground surface will be laid. We held the first of our Open Mornings for Parents of children starting school in September 2024. Well done to our team of House Captains and Vice House Captains who led tours of the school for parents. Our Trowbridge Youth Parliamentarians also attended their first session, working collaboratively with children from local schools to address local community issues that they feel are important.

Parents' evenings are on Tuesday 10th and Thursday 12th October. If you have not yet made a booking to meet with your child's teacher for a progress update, please do so as soon as possible. This can be done online. A link was sent out earlier this week. You should have also received a termly curriculum overview for your child. Further details and resources can be accessed via the class pages on the school website.

Next week we will be working with colleagues from Ramsbury English Hub to support high quality teaching of phonics. This is key to development of children's early reading skills. I will also be meeting with our Wiltshire School Effectiveness Lead to review progress against our school development priorities.

I hope you have a good weekend

Lou Rhodes

Headteacher

Message from the Governors...

The first full governing body meeting (FGB) of this academic year took place on Wednesday at which a new Chair and Vice Chair were appointed. Dr Andrew Ross has stepped into the position of Chair of Governors with Ms. Rachel Edmunds supporting him in the role of Vice Chair. These are important roles within the school leadership and management team and both Andrew and Rachel bring a wide range of experience and valuable skills from their work in the Higher and Secondary education sectors. We are grateful to them and to all our governors for volunteering their time. It is the role of governors to support and challenge the school's senior leadership to ensure the children at Paxcroft enjoy a rich curriculum that enables them to become successful learners, achieving their full potential. This includes helping to ensure the prudent planning and management of the school budget.

We would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Bernie McHale-Jones, our previous Chair and long-standing governor, who has now stepped down.

In this first FGB meeting we reviewed the School Self Evaluation Form and progress towards the school improvement priorities set out in the School Development Plan. These were shared with parents earlier this term along with the school's vision and values. They can also be accessed via the school website. It was positive to see an accurate and detailed evaluation of the school's current position and a clear strategic plan to help the school move forward. Staff are working hard on these areas of school development and good progress is already being made.

There are currently parent vacancies available on the governing body. We are looking for a wide range of skills to support the ongoing strategic development of the school so if are interested then please contact clerktogovernors@paxcroft.wilts.sch.uk.

Youth Parliament..

Our Youth Parliamentarians attended their first meeting this week. They should be extremely proud of how brilliantly they represented our school and spoke in front of others. They contributed some wonderful ideas ~ Mrs Pepler

Nadya & Ruby

Today at our first meeting, we introduced ourselves and had a quiz talking about our community in Trowbridge and other fun facts. We talked about our ideas, for example, raising awareness about people with autism and even making a garden for older people with disabilities. We also spoke about some of the difficulties that families have faced in supporting their children.

We heard about the vice chair where you help with the ideas and you make sure everyone gets a chance to speak.



Date for your diaries – October 10th – Hello Yellow...

Hello Yellow - Supporting Mental Health Awareness - October 10th 2023

Reminder that the children are invited to wear yellow on October 10th to support and raise awareness of World Mental Health Day. We will be carrying out lessons and assemblies based on this in school that day.

We will gratefully accept any contributions you may like to make on the day and have also set up a fundraising page as below if you would like to contribute.

[Paxcroft-Primary-School-Hello-Yellow-2023](https://www.paxcroftprimaryschool.co.uk/hello-yellow-2023)

For more information about how you can get involved visit the Young Minds website

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/>

Sarah Aland

Brave The Shave ..

On 17th October, Jackson is going to 'Brave the Shave' to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Jackson's Story ...

My name is Jackson and I have had long hair for a long time. I really love having long hair but I decided to brave the shave to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. My Grampy had cancer and sadly passed away in 2017. I would like to shave my head to raise money to help lots of other people going through cancer and their families.



<https://bravetheshave.macmillan.org.uk/Shavers/2df9d7db-c7cc-4d4c-80da-cc2872f08ce0>

Morrocan Appeal..

Last Friday we had a dress in Red and Green Day to raise money for the Moroccan Earthquake Appeal. We raised a total of £267.00

Thank you everyone for your kind donations.



Harvest...

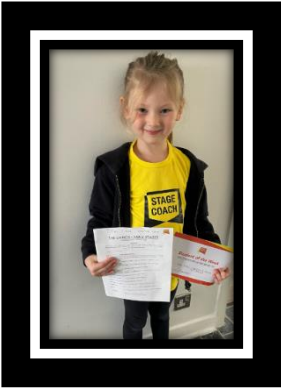
This year, working together with St James' Church, we will be collecting donations of tinned food and dried goods for Storehouse Food bank.

We would be very grateful for your support.

All are welcome at the Harvest Service at St James' Church on Sunday 8th October at 10.45am.



Outside achievements...



Very well done to Eva-Grace who was awarded student of the week at Stagecoach this week for being brave, confident and focused. She was also given the part of Lou Lou Who in their upcoming Christmas performance. Congratulations!

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've enjoyed playing in a different outside area as the building of our new play area has started. The children have enjoyed watching the progress from the window! The children have been learning new sounds during our Sounds Write sessions and have been practising writing initial symbols from the sounds they have learnt and naming dinosaurs they have created using paint and paper plates during our expressive arts session.

Woodpecker, Kingfisher & Nightingale



In year 1/2 this week we have been planning and writing our Fact files on planet Earth and we are looking forward to sharing these with Owls class. In Computing, we are developing our skills in logging on and off the chrome books and using the mouse touchpad. In Science, we are continuing to explore Animals including Humans and have been showing our understanding of the Human body by naming the parts of the body in groups. Finally, in Geography we have been producing beautiful landmark pieces of art. I wonder if the children can tell you all about some of the landmarks in London.

Skylark, Housemartin & Swift




It has been another busy week in Swift, Skylark and Housemartin. We have come to the end of our Place Value unit in Maths and are now ready to move on to Addition and Subtraction. In English, the children have written setting descriptions based on a land they have invented. We have continued to find out about inspirational people in our topic lessons and are enjoying making a variety of sculptures from card, in Art. In French we are learning about the weather and seasons – ask your child to tell you something in French.

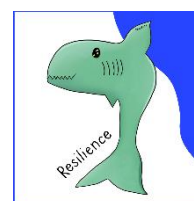


Osprey, Falcon & Kestrel

This has been another busy week in Y5/6. In Topic, we have been investigating Suffragists, Suffragettes, and the timeline of how women in the UK finally gained the right to vote. We have also been looking at significant events and key individuals in the struggle for racial equality. In English, we are planning and writing our hot task, which is a diary entry, showing events from Ahmet's perspective. In Maths, we have completed our unit of work on Place Value and will now be moving on to Arithmetic and the four operations. Our Youth Parliamentarians attended their first meeting this week and they will be reporting to KS2 classes next week.

Celebrations

	Class	Citizen Values	Learners' Values
	Woodpecker	Iyla-Grace B - Respect Roman H - Respect	
	Kingfisher		Poppy T-G - Resilience & Positivity Heidi C - Resilience
	Nightingale	Sophie B - Kindness & Respect	Keaton P - Independence
	Skylark		Alice B - Independence Lily W - Positivity & Resilience
	Housemartin	Jack E - Respect & Kindness Iga T - Respect & Kindness	
	Swift		Jessica P - Positivity & Independence Gabys G - Independence
	Osprey	Ava-Mae W - Kindness & Respect	Arley P - All values
	Falcon	Ted M & Olly GC All Values	
	Kestrel	Benjamin K - Respect	Mollie A - Positivity



Paxcroft Citizen Cups



Brooke B – All Values



Diary dates for Autumn Term 2023

Thursday 5th October	Mill On The Brue Parent Meeting
Friday 6th October	Y1/2 Woodland Walk – (in the school grounds)
Tuesday 10th October	Hello Yellow – World Mental Health Awareness Day
Tuesday 10th October	Parents Evening – Details To Follow
Thursday 12th October	Parents Evening – Details To Follow
Saturday 14th October	Open Day Reception 2024 Intake (10am)
Monday 16th October	Braeside Parents Meeting
Wednesday 18th October	Last Day Of Term 1
Monday 30th October	First day of Term 2
Tuesday 7th November	Y1/2 Outdoor learning day
Wednesday 8th November	Y3/4 Outdoor learning day
Wednesday 8th November	RE day
Thursday 9th November	Y5/6 Outdoor learning day
Monday 13th November	Individual class portraits
Tuesday 14th November	Open Day Reception 2024 Intake (9.30am)
Wednesday 15th November	Youth Parliament
Wednesday 15th – Friday 17th November	Braeside residential Y4
Friday 17th November	Children in Need
Monday 20th – Friday 24th November	Anti-bullying week
Wednesday 29th November	Owls class walk to the post box
Friday 8th December	Flu immunisations – more information to follow
Tuesday 12th December	Owls class nativity – more information to follow
Thursday 14th December	Owls class nativity – more information to follow
Wednesday 20th December	Last day of term 2

Letters & Communications issued this week

Item	To	For
Parents Evening – October 2023	Whole School	Information & Action
Parents Evening - Reception	Owls	Information & Action
Football Match – This Friday!	Selected	Information
Trowbridge Youth Parliament - Consent	Selected	Information & Action
Youth Parliamentarian - Consent	Selected	Information & Action
Creative Minds Arts & Crafts	Whole School	Information
Braeside 2023	Selected	Information & Action
Fridays Football Match	Selected	Information & Action
Art Themed Outdoor Learning Day	Owls	Information & Action
House Captains and Vice Captains Volunteer Request	Whole School	Information & Action
Active Trowbridge October Half Term	Whole School	Information
A Message From Miss Stephens	Owls	Information & Action
Mill on the Brue First Letter	Y6	Information & Action