



## *Dear Parents/Carers,*

It has been a very positive first week back after the summer break. I have been really impressed by how well the children have returned to school and settled into their new classes, especially when the weather has been so hot. It has been a pleasure to see lots of cheerful faces, hear what the children have been up to over the holidays and watch them proudly showing off a new school bag or shiny new school shoes!

A very warm welcome to our new Reception children who have just started school this week in our newly named Owls class. Starting school is a real milestone for any child and their family. We are delighted that you have chosen Paxcroft Primary School and look forward to working with you, as with all our families, to ensure your child has the best possible experience while part of our school community.

As a school we value building positive relationships with children and their families. We all want the best for the children and believe that this can be achieved by us working together. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns or if you have information to help us ensure your child is properly supported at school. Teachers will be focused on settling the children on their arrival at school in the morning but if you let the teacher or school office know that you need to speak to them, they will telephone you later or arrange a meeting after school.

Earlier this week I shared our school vision and values together with our school improvement priorities for this academic year. All staff have participated in safeguarding training-keeping your children happy and safe is a priority for us all. Safeguarding training is delivered throughout the year so all staff are kept fully up to date.

We send our very best wishes to our SENCO, Mrs Kate Lilley, as she continues to undergo medical treatment. In her absence, we are delighted to welcome Mr Paul Batchelor as SENCO and Inclusion Lead. He is an experienced former headteacher who will support provision for our children with SEND.

Finally, welcome to all new staff joining the team this year. We are excited to have you on board!

I hope you have an enjoyable weekend.

*Lou Rhodes*

*Headteacher*

## *'Meet the teacher' parent information sessions.*

*Find out about your child's curriculum and meet the teachers*

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September-Year 3 4**

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September-Year 5 6**

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September-Year 1 2**

### *Pastoral Support Team...*

Paxcroft are pleased to introduce the new Pastoral Support Team. The team consists of three highly experienced members of staff who will provide support, advice and guidance to all staff, pupils, parents, carers and any family members that are important to a child. The team will be available to support all families with a wide range of needs to ensure the happiness and safety of every child. Our Pastoral Team includes:

#### **Mrs Jackie Evans - Pastoral Support Advisor**

Jackie will be the first point of contact for parents/carers and assist in establishing good relationships with children, parents and carers; providing advice, guidance and support to children in their personal, social and emotional development.

Jackie will provide pastoral support to children, predominately those identified with higher needs and children experiencing difficulties on a day-to-day basis.

#### **Mrs Claire Jessup - ELSA**

Claire is an Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA), who has a wealth of experience of working with children and wants to help your child feel happy in school, to enable them to reach their potential educationally. Claire's aim is to remove the barriers to learning and to have happy children in school and at home. ELSA sessions are planned and designed to be interactive and fun, addressing any social or emotional issues they may be facing. Access and referrals for ELSA are completed by the Class Teachers, which helps to provide a focus to the sessions and support your child in school more effectively. If you would like to know any more about the ELSA role and what it can offer, please go to the school website for more information.

#### **Mrs Maggie Williams - Parent Support Advisor**

As a school, we recognise that parenting is rewarding but can be challenging so, we will continue to provide 'Early Help' which involves working directly with parent/carers in a supportive and non-judgemental way with the child at the forefront of everything. Support is varied and needs led. Maggie works with many outside agencies and services to support families with whatever they may need. For more information, please go to the school website.

## **PAXCROFT COMMUNITY LARDER**

We would like to remind our families about our Paxcroft Community Larder (grey cabinet) which is located outside the staff entrance, near the steps and Slow playground.

Parent/carers can collect from/donate to the Paxcroft Community Larder daily on school days between 8.30am – 4.00pm. **Please note, it is your responsibility to check the 'best before/ 'use by dates' on any items you take.**

Donations of:

Rice, Pasta, Flour, Sugar, cereals, tinned foods. Foods that you would normally donate for the harvest would be greatly appreciated. We would also appreciate donations of toiletries and sanitary products, as well as snacks and treats. **All items donated MUST be unopened, and in date.**

**Thank you for your continued kindness and support.**

### *Job Vacancy..*

Paxcroft Primary School is looking to appoint a School Cook to join our happy and flourishing school on a full-time basis. Supported by our Assistant Cook, you will be responsible for planning menus and preparing, cooking and serving meals that meet the mandatory Nutritional Standards. On an average day, you will be serving between 100 and 150 meals.

If you are interested in the above position, you can apply via either Wiltshire Council website or the School Office.

## *Is your child due to start school in September 2024?...*

Please see below our Open Days for September 2024:

- Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> September, 9.30am
- Sat 14<sup>th</sup> October, 10am
- Tues 14<sup>th</sup> November, 9.30am

Please contact the School Office to book your place!

## *Attendance ...*

This week's whole school attendance ...

86.06%

## *Celebrating Achievements ...*



Congratulations to Zuzanna who has recently got a new belt at her Taekwondo club. She is very pleased with herself and so she should be! Well done, Zuzanna.



Congratulations to Lawrence who has been promoted to sixer at his Cubs Group. Good work, Lawrence!

Very well done to Rosa, who has passed her level 3 swimming and has moved up to level 4. Congratulations, Rosa!



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](mailto:admin@paxcroft.wilts.sch.uk) and we will endeavour to add to the Paxcroft Post.

## *Teacher Development Days for the next academic year...*

Thursday 4th January 2024  
Friday 5th January 2024  
Monday 10th June 2024

## *Our learning this week...*

### *Owls*

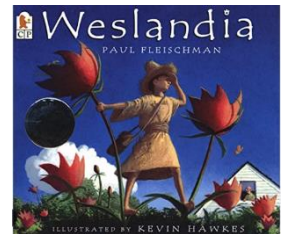
This has been a very exciting week for our new Owls Reception class as the children have been enjoying their first day in school. They have had fun exploring their new classroom and making new friends. At the start of the week, the teachers thoroughly enjoyed visiting the children in their homes and getting to see all of their toys! Thank you to all the parents for being so welcoming. It helped us to get to know you and the children so we can ensure that they have a positive start at school.

### *Woodpecker, Kingfisher & Nightingale*

This week in year 1/2 we have been spending time establishing routines and building positive relationships. The children have settled into their classes really well and our key focus this term will be independence. This will involve getting dressed, managing and organising our personal belongings and organising our learning resources in class.

### *Skylark, Housemartin & Swift*

Welcome back! We hope you all had a restful summer break. It has been lovely to see the new Year 3/4 children in Swift, Housemartin and Skylark this week. They have already started working hard and we are looking forward to the fun and exciting things to come. Your child will be provided with a reading book and spellings list shortly, please could you help them to practise at home. Our Topic work for this term will be based on 'Trailblazers'. We will be learning about a variety of inspirational people from the past and present. We look forward to meeting you all on Monday.



### *Osprey, Falcon & Kestrel*

The children have made an excellent start to the year and have come back full of enthusiasm for learning, which is great. It has been lovely to see the children's happy faces, keen to get stuck into a new year of learning. Our first topic is entitled "They made a difference" and we will be investigating the lives of significant individuals, who have made stands for equality: Nelson Mandela, Ruby Bridges, Martin Luther King, Emily Pankhurst and Emily Davison.

We have been reading *The Arrival* by Shaun Tan, a visual text, which tells the story of a man arriving in an unfamiliar, sometimes strange world and making predictions and inferences. In English, we have established our non-negotiables for our writing and practising conditional sentences.

A very well done to everyone on an extremely positive start to the year!

Year 5/6 team.

## Celebrations



Class	Citizen Values	Learners' Values
Woodpecker	Emily A- Independence	Ollie M - Resilience
Kingfisher	Orlaith W - All values	Orlaith W - All values Archie H - Independence
Nightingale	Jason P - Kindness	Sofia V - Independence
Skylark	Sienna C - Kindness	Elijah M - Resilience
Housemartin	Jacob K - Kindness & Respect	Amiyah J - Positivity & Resilience
Swift	Noah B - Kindness & Respect	Samuel W - Positivity
Osprey	Ruby L - Respect	Wyatt B - Positivity
Falcon	Charlie M - All Values	Jacob BH - All Values
Kestrel	Callum B – Kindness	Jake M - Resilience



## Diary dates for Autumn Term 2023

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> September	Y3/4 Meet The Teacher
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> September	Y5/6 Meet The Teacher
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> September	Y1/2 meet The Teacher
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> September	Pastoral Tem – Coffee Morning 8.45 – 10 am
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	Open Day Reception 2024 Intake
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> October	Y1/2 Woodland Walk – Details To Be Confirmed
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	Hello Yellow – World Mental Health Awareness Day
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents Evening – Details To Follow
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents Evening – Details To Follow
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Last Day Of Term 1



## *Letters & Communications issued this week*

Item	To	For
Message From Mrs Rhodes	Whole School	Information
Art Club	Selected Children	Information
Library Re Opens	Whole School	Information
Sun Safe	Whole School	Information
Consent To Walk Home	Y5/6	Information
Paxcroft Vision And Valves	Whole School	Information
Meet The Teacher	Whole School	Information
Mr Newbury Football Club	Selected Children	Information
Gymnastics Time	Selected Children	Information
Gymnastics – No Spaces Available	Selected Children	Information
Pastoral Team – Coffee And Chat Morning	Whole School	Information