



Dear Parents/Carers,

This week Miss Beaven, our Phonics Lead, welcomed a specialist literacy teacher from Ramsbury English Hub to work with our Reception and Year 1/2 teams. We know how important it is for our younger children to develop strong early reading skills as these underpin all learning. Over the past two years, we have worked closely with the Hub to strengthen our phonics provision at Paxcroft. I am pleased to report that this was a very constructive review, acknowledging the high quality of teaching and positive progress we have made so far.

We held a number of parent information sessions this week - our Pastoral team coffee morning and sessions on the forthcoming Year 1 Phonics Screening Check and the Year 6 residential visit to Mill on the Brue Activity Centre. Thank you to those who attended. I hope you found the session helpful.

Next Thursday we will be marking the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day. This will include a special themed lunch, an assembly and history lessons to develop the children's understanding of the significance of VE and VJ days in the context of WWII.

I hope you have a lovely Bank Holiday weekend. Fingers crossed that the recent sunny weather stays with us! We look forward to seeing the children back at school on Tuesday 6th May.

Best wishes

Mrs Lou Rhodes
Headteacher

Paxcroft Visit Goodson Lodge Care Home

On Monday, Mrs Brown and Mrs Williams took 8 children to Goodson Lodge Care Home to help them to prepare their garden for an annual competition later in the summer. The children supported residents to plant different kinds of seeds into small pots and large planters. They enjoyed making conversation with the residents about where these flowers would go and what the garden would look like when the flowers were fully grown. Before we left, the children were asked to paint their name on a pebble and add it to the Care Home's fairy garden.



The children were caring and attentive and certainly showed off our Paxcroft values. Well done to them all, and we look forward to being invited back for future opportunities to develop our community links.



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

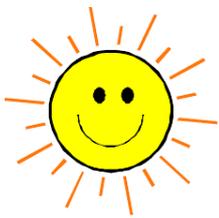


Congratulations to Olivia-Rose H, Thea H, Roman BM and Elijah BM who have all been recognised this week for being polite and respectful at lunchtime. Well done for demonstrating our Paxcroft Citizen Values.



Sun Safety.....

With this unusually hot weather please can we remind you to send your child into school with a named hat and water bottle. Please can we ask that you apply suncream to your child at home before they come to school. Where this is not possible please send your child to school with some suncream, so they can apply it themselves.



Times Tables Rockstars Leader board...

We recommend playing TTRS in Garage mode for 3 minutes a day and then free play until your heart is content in Studio or any of the other modes. This enables the algorithm to register which times tables that your child needs to practice.

Congratulations to everyone who has made it into the top three on the leaderboard this week!

Miss Beaven

	Y6	Y5	Y4	Y3	Y2	Teachers	Class
	Shai A	Gabriel W-N	Terrell S	Dexter H	Ryan T	Miss Smith	Swift
	Kiera R	Sienna P	George G	Frankie J	Dominic B	Mrs Sager	Skylark
	Holly C	Jake C	Oliver K	Laylen B	Maja K	Miss Granger	Kestrel

Our Learning this week...

Owls

Owls class have made us super proud this week. We had Ramsbury Hub in to visit us on Monday to see our phonics work and the children were a credit! We have continued our literacy work around 'Aaarghh Spider' by Lydia Monks. The children have been investigating and finding out all about spiders – are they bad guys or good guys? In maths we have been exploring odd and even numbers. With the beautiful hot, sunny weather, we have enjoyed making shady dens and playing with water and sand.

Woodpecker, Kingfisher & Nightingale

It has been a very hot and busy week for Key Stage 1. In Maths, we have been making equal groups, sharing them, and dividing by twos, fives and tens. In English, we have been learning the features of persuasive writing and have created our own flyers about the Phoenix meteor shower. In Science, we have been learning about living things and their habitats, and can now identify the differences between living and non-living things. In Geography, we have been exploring seaside locations around the UK, noting both similarities and differences.

Skylark, Housemartin & Swift

Another busy but warm week in Year 3/4. In English, we have been writing some poetry and making a secret notebook with our observations of the world around us and our feelings. In Maths, we have now come to the end of our second unit on fractions and will be starting time. Please practise reading analogue and digital clock times with your children. We have also started practising for our time tables check on the D of E website. Please keep practising on T.T. Rockstars at home. In Science, we have been looking at darkness and materials that reflect light well.

Osprey, Falcon & Kestrel

In English this week, we have been writing newspaper reports about the historic Apollo Mission when Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin landed Eagle on the moon. We have also practised grammar skills. In Maths, we have been revising aspects of Shape: translation and reflection as well as exploring Algebra. We have been investigating function machines and writing expressions. In our topic work, we have learned what GDP is, our major trading partners and what we import from them.

Celebrations...



Class	Citizen Values	Learners' Values
Owls	Sophia W – Kindness & Respect	Theodora RB – All Values
Woodpecker		Olaf R – Positivity Iga S – Positivity
Kingfisher		Thea H – Resilience Arthur L – Independence
Nightingale		Aman K – Independence Max D – Independence
Swift		April S – Positivity & Resilience Kaia B – Positivity & Resilience
Housemartin		Carter C – Positivity Meia C – Positivity
Skylark	Eadie KT – Kindness	Ollie R – Positivity
Osprey	Zuzanna H – All Values	Rhys B – Resilience
Falcon		Faye W – All Values Gabriel WN – All Values
Kestrel	Rosa N – All Values	Noah B – Independence





Paxcroft Citizen Cups



Dominic B – All Values

Lily W – All Values

Outside Achievements...

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.

Diary dates from January 2025

Monday 5th May	Bank Holiday – School Closed
Thursday 8th May	Celebrating VE day, including 'Street Party' Themed Lunch
Monday 12th – Thursday 15th May	Y6 SATs week
Monday 19th May	PSA Meeting, 6pm **New date**
Tuesday 20th May	Reception – Trip to Bath Farm
Friday 23rd May	Last day of Term 5
Monday 2nd June	Teacher Development Day – school closed to pupils
Tuesday 3rd June	First Day of Term 6
Thursday 5th June – Saturday 7th June	Year 6 Residential Trip to Mill on the Brue
Thursday 12th June	Year 6 Trip - Junior Good Citizen – more information to follow
Friday 13th June	Non-Uniform Day for Chocolate Donation (Summer Fayre)
Wednesday 18th June	PSA Meeting, 6pm

Friday 20th June	Sports Day
Friday 27th June	Reserve Sports Day
Friday 27th June	Non-Uniform Day for Bottle Donation (Summer Fayre)
Saturday 5th July	PSA Summer Fayre, 11am – 3pm
Wednesday 9th July	PSA Meeting, 6pm
Tuesday 15th July	Year 5/6 End of Year Production, 6pm - more information to follow
Wednesday 16th July	Year 5/6 End of Year Production, 1.45pm
Thursday 17th July	Year 5/6 End of Year Production, 6pm
Friday 18th July	KS1 Trip to Steam Museum
Monday 21st July	Y6 Leavers Assembly, 9am - 10am
Tuesday 22nd July	Y6 Leavers BBQ, 5.30pm – 7.30pm

Letters & Communications issued this week

ITEM	To	For
Reception trip to Bath City Farm	Reception	Action
Y6 SATs Breakfast	Year 6	Information & Action
Curriculum Letter & Pick and Mix Homework	Whole School	Information & Action
Class and Year 6 Leavers Photos	Whole School	Information & Action
Year 6 Residential Meeting, 4pm	Year 6	Information
Phonics Screening	Selected Pupils	Information & Action
Pastoral Support Team Coffee Morning	Whole School	Information
Sports Day	Whole School	Information
Year 6 End of Term Events	Year 6	Information
Year 1/2 Trip to Steam Museum	Year 1 & 2	Information & Action
VE Day 80: Thursday 8 th May	Whole School	Information
Clubs	Whole School	Information
Mill on The Brue	Year 6	Information & Action
Junior Good Citizen	Year 6	Information

We know children love spending time outdoors, whether in the garden, park or beach, however, their skin is more delicate than an adult's and can easily be damaged by the sun, even when it doesn't seem strong.

SUN SAFETY



Use a sunscreen with a minimum SPF 50 and at least 4 stars for UVA protection.



No sunscreen offers 100% protection so cover up with loose close weave clothing (such as cotton) and a wide brimmed hat to protect the neck, ears and face.



Wear sunglasses, ideally with wrap around lenses or wide arms, which carry CE and British Standard marks.



Generously apply sunscreen (5 teaspoons to cover the whole body) 15 to 20 minutes before going out.



Reapply every two hours or immediately after swimming or sweating.

Seek shade between 11am - 3pm when the sun is at its strongest. Always keep babies and toddlers in the shade if you can.



By following these simple tips your child will be able to stay safe and enjoy the sun. Remember parents, set your child a good example by also following this advice, and the whole family can have a happy sun safe summer.



For more information about the British Skin Foundation see www.britishskinfoundation.org.uk

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Self Defence half day workshop

WEDNESDAY 28TH MAY

TROWBRIDGE
1.30PM - 4.30PM. AGE 11-18
COST £25

Mighty Girls & Helen from Systema bring you:

- Practical self-defence techniques
- A focus on movement, breath work, relaxation, and posture
- Enhance self-awareness & resilience
- Help equip you to handle various situations effectively

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Wiltshire Council