



Dear Parents/Carers

Remembrance

Throughout this week the children have been learning about the significance of Remembrance Day and why this is important. The whole school-children and staff-came together at 11am in the school hall to mark this with a 2-minute silence with quiet reflection. We were proud of the respect shown by the children and their thoughtful comments during class discussions/assemblies.

Outdoor Learning Days

This week we launched our first Paxcroft Outdoor Learning Days for children in KS1 and KS2, with activities led by Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and school staff. Feedback from the children was very positive and we will be looking to build further opportunities for outdoor learning into our curriculum throughout the year.

"Outdoor Learning Day was brilliant when we made the coolest den that I've ever seen. It had sticks for the structure and a blanket over the top to stop us freezing. We also found woodlice and worms when we were insect hunting and we had to build a home for an animal. My group made a home for an owl. We dug a hole to make a cave so it would be warm." **Jacob, Year 3**

"I loved the the tip tap challenge because it was so fun to work as a team and discover new things to learn and build." **Hollie, Year 6**

School Improvement

We remain focused on our school improvement priorities for this year. This week Mr George and I have been carrying out lesson observations across the school. Today our Maths Lead, Mrs Dennett, and I have been working with a specialist teacher from the Maths Hub to develop our Maths curriculum to ensure it helps to support children's conceptual understanding as they progress through the school.

Thank you for supporting our School Fayre (Fri 2nd December) with your donations of chocolate. I hope you have a relaxing weekend.

Lou Rhodes, Headteacher

Monday 14th November, School Photos

Just a reminder that the school photographer will be attending on Monday to take individual and sibling photographs. Please can all children attend school in full school uniform- school jumper or cardigan, no PE hoodies, please. If it is your child's birthday over the weekend or on Monday, they are welcome to choose another day next week to wear non-school uniform.



Monday 14th November-Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Week 2022

On Monday we will be participating in Odd Socks Day. This marks the start of Anti-Bullying Week. It's an opportunity for children to express themselves and celebrate their uniqueness. All they have to do to take part is wear odd socks to school. Throughout next week the children will be involved in various activities to raise awareness and to support the anti-bullying message.

For more information, you can visit the following website.

<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/>

Mrs Aland, PSHE Lead

Buddies and Paxcroft Playground Pals

Recently, we have set up a 'Buddy System' in school. Groups of children from KS2 have been buddied up with groups from Reception and KS1. Over the last week or so, the buddy groups have met up and spent some time getting to know each other. Going forward, these groups are going to meet up regularly to read together and will be available during lunchtimes to help each other out when needs be.



As well as the class buddies, children in Y5 and 6 were given the opportunity to apply to be a '**Paxcroft Playground Pal**'. These Playground Pals will be responsible for helping to organise games and will be on hand to help out any children who need a helping hand during the lunch break. There was a huge number of applications for the eight positions, we will change the children carrying out this role termly. The first group of Playground Pals will be Harriet G, Juliet MJ, Harry T, Maci B, Elliot C, Olly, Isla H and Jim A. I am sure they will all do a sterling job!

Mrs Aland, PSHE Lead

Friday 18th November, Children in Need- message from the School Council

'We are pleased to be leading this year's Paxcroft fundraising activities for Children in Need.

This will take place on Friday 18th November. It will be a non-uniform day with children permitted to wear brightly coloured clothes to school and to bring a small donation of 50p to £1.



Look out for us on the day as we will be at the entrances to the school wearing spotty t-shirts and holding buckets for donations.

To try to raise as much money as we can, we will also be volunteering to wash staff cars for a donation!'

Paxcroft School Council

Reception-Communication and Language Parent workshop

This week we held the first of our parent workshops to help parents to support their children's learning at home. We focussed on the importance of communication and vocabulary in development of speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. It was great to see so many families at this event and we hope that you found it useful.

There are two further workshops this term:
Wednesday 16th November - Reading and Writing
Thursday 24th November - Maths



Miss Heathcote, Early Years Lead

Year 5/6 LIONS ROAR Design Project

During the past two weeks, Year 5/6 children have been taking part in the ROAR project.

"The Lion's ROAR project 2022 is a project where we had to think of a problem and create a solution to it. We had to build a prototype and write a speech with a jingle or rap. The winners of the competition were Sara R, Lulu H and Layla B from Osprey. Their problem was whiteboard pens running out. The solution was a refillable pen with a percentage checker on the side to show how much ink is left". **Jim A (Osprey class)**



The winning group will now be entered for the semi-finals of the competition. Good luck!

Our learning this week...

Wren & Robin

This week Robin and Wren class have had a lovely week learning all about Diwali, the Festival of Lights. We have made some salt dough Diya lamps and investigated making Rangoli patterns. We have also learnt about Remembrance Day and coloured our own Poppies. The children are making super progress with their sound knowledge during Sounds Write and are really trying hard to blend and segment. Look out for this week's new sounds and words coming home. In Literacy the children have been writing Diwali cards to their friends and family and in Maths we have been identifying 'more than', 'equal number' and 'fewer than'.



Woodpecker, Kingfisher & Nightingale

This week has comprised of many different areas of the curriculum. First, we completed a unit on DT and looked at where different food comes from. We also made a 'Tortilla Calzone' as a healthy snack. On Tuesday, we had our termly RE day where we thought about why Christmas is special to us and special to Christians. Wednesday was our Outdoor Learning day and luckily the rain held off. We had great fun building dens, looking at minibeasts and creating nature art. Along with these activities, we learned about different animals; their homes, food and whether they hibernate. We found different kinds of seeds around the school grounds and discussed seed dispersal. On Friday, we spent the day thinking about why we have Remembrance Day and the symbol of the poppy.



Skylark, Housemartin & Swift

What a busy but exciting week we have had! We started and ended the week talking about Remembrance, why we wear poppies and being mindful of the sacrifices different people have made. On Wednesday, we had our second RE day. We found out about different festivals from Sikh, Hindu, Christian and Jewish religions and discussed similarities between them. We talked about our favourite festivals and celebrations and completed some fun activities throughout the day. On Thursday, it was our first Outdoor Learning Day. We had a fantastic time exploring the outdoors. We looked at animal habitats and found a beautiful slow worm. We also worked together to build outdoor shelters.



Kestrel, Osprey & Falcon

It has been another busy week in year 5 and 6. We started the week off with our first Outdoor Learning Day, working alongside Wiltshire Wildlife Trust. As well as honing our forest school skills with den building and bug hunting, we also worked in groups to build a 'Tip Tap' – a simple but effective structure to wash hands. We had to lash canes together to create a structure and think about how we could tip the water container using a foot peddle. It was great fun and brilliant to see the children using different sets of skills. We also brought our LIONS ROAR project to a close by presenting our ideas to our peers. Congratulations to Lulu, Sara and Layla - the winning group, with their innovative whiteboard pen, will be presenting their idea in a National final in December.

King's Coronation: Additional Bank Holiday Monday 8th May 2023

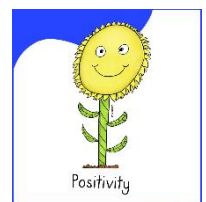
In light of the announcement of His Majesty's coronation on Saturday 6 May 2023, an additional Bank Holiday has been announced on **Monday 8th May. School will be closed on this day.**



Celebrations



Class	Citizen Values	Learners' Values
Wren		Charlie H - Positivity Cody D - Independence
Robin	Eva-Grace W - Respect	Rory S - Positivity
Woodpecker		Evelyn Mc - Independence Amiyah J - Independence and Positivity
Kingfisher	Isabelle N - Kindness	Reece Y - Resilience
Nightingale	Elizaveta H - Respect	Imogen S - Independence
Skylark	Riley L - Respect Alayah S - Kindness	
Housemartin	Iga T - Kindness and Respect	Patryk S - Positivity
Swift		Maria N - Positivity and Resilience Adriana S - Positivity
Osprey	Sophie M - Kindness	Layla J - Resilience
Falcon	Dexter M - Kindness	Maci B - Resilience
Kestrel		Jacob P - Resilience Kaileb N - Resilience



Paxcroft Citizen Cups



Bonnie D - All values

Noah N - All Values



Diary dates for Autumn Term 2022

Monday 14th November	Individual School Photographs and Sibling Photographs
Monday 14th November	Odd Socks Day to launch Anti-Bullying Week
Mon 14th – Friday 18th	Anti-Bullying Week and UK Parliament Week (all week)
Tuesday 15th November	9.30-11am Open Morning for Reception pupils starting school in 2023
Wednesday 16th November	9am – Robin and Wren Reception Parent Workshop - Reading and Writing
Weds 16th - Fri 18th	Braeside Residential Visit - Year 4
Friday 18th November	Non-Uniform day. Children in Need – wear brightly coloured clothes and bring a donation
Thursday 24th November	9am - Reception Parents Workshop - Maths
Friday 25th November	Non-Uniform day. Bring a bottle donation for the School Xmas Fayre Tombola
Wednesday 30th November	Trowbridge Museum Trip Woodpecker 9-11.30 am Nightingale 10.30-1.15 pm Kingfisher 12.30-3pm
Tuesday 13th December	Key Stage 2 Christmas Dinner
Tuesday 13th December	6pm - Reception Nativity Performance
Wednesday 14th December	1.45pm - Reception Nativity Performance
Thursday 15th December	Key Stage 1 Christmas Dinner
Friday 16th December	Last day of term
Mon 18th December – Monday 2nd Jan Christmas Holidays	
Tuesday 3rd January 2023	TD Day. School Closed to all pupils
Wednesday 4th January 2023	Start of Term 3.

Letters & Communications issued this week

Item	To	For
Photo Reminder	Whole School	Information
Curriculum letter	Reception	Information
Speaking and Listening Booklet	Reception	Information
Non Uniform Reminder	Reception	Information
Mill on the Brue	Y6	Information and Action
Dinner Menu Message	Whole School	Information
Paxcroft Hoodies	Whole School	Information
Y1/2 Trip	Y1/2	Information
Braeside Presentation	Y4	Information
Dance Festival Auditions	Y5/6	Information and Action
Payment Card	Whole School	Information
Y1/2 Outdoor Learning Day Rescheduled	Y1/2	Information