



Dear Parents/Carers,

We've had such excitement this week! Our author/illustrator visit yesterday from Mark Robinson was truly fantastic - the children were inspired and enthralled (and the staff were too!). It was so lovely to see so many different dragon illustrations from the children themselves and they were really proud of what they had created under Mark's guidance. I was also really pleased to see the book sale after school so well attended - what better way to foster a love of reading than having your own version of a text at home, after having it read to you by the author, and signed to boot! My thanks to Miss Beaven for organising the visit - Miss Beaven has also been very keen for us to put up the video of her being chased by a dragon onto the school website, so watch this space.



As I write this, Mrs Brown and I have just finished putting a few finishing touches on the Paxcroft lantern for the Trowbridge Lantern Festival and Christmas lights switch on. We have some Y6 volunteers who are helping us out and have made some lanterns of their own, which are looking fantastic. My thanks to the volunteers who are coming along and to Mrs Brown for getting us involved and spearheading the design and creation work.

I hope to see some of you at the festival this evening - you won't be able to miss us!

Have a lovely weekend,

Best wishes,

Mr Alex George

Acting Headteacher

Author Visit...

On Thursday, Mark Robertson, a local author and illustrator came to visit our school. He even brought a pet dragon with him, who Miss Beaven had a very scary encounter with on the playground! Mark spent time talking through his journey into writing and illustrating, explaining his ideas and inspirations for his books. Some children were fortunate enough to handle some dragon horns and show off their loudest roar! Mark then had a lovely time in Owls class, sharing some of his funny stories with the reception children. I think a particular favourite, was a story about a dog named 'Cat.' Following this, Mark spent time delivering a 'Dragon Drawing Workshop,' to each phase, providing an insight into his creative process, allowing the children to learn alongside him, step by step and create their own dragon illustration to bring home. It really was a wonderful, inspirational day.



Outside Achievements...



Huge congratulations to Eleanor W in Osprey who has completed her Stage 3 swimming this week. Well done!!



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.

Notification of Absence and Late arrivals ...

Please can we remind all families that if your child is unwell and will be absent from school, that you send an email to absence@paxcroft.wilts.sch.uk or phone the School Office on 01225 762244 by 9am on each day of absence.

Registers are taken at 8.45am and any child arriving after this time should be brought to the School Office to be signed in by a parent or carer. Children will then be taken to class by a member of staff to minimise disruption to learning.

Our Learning this week...

Owls

Owls have begun to look at a new book in Literacy this week all about trains. They have created some amazing train tracks to link with the character in the story. In maths we have been further exploring 3D shapes. The class made an incredible obstacle course using 3D shapes found in the Play Pod – amazing teamwork. We have talked about Anti-bullying Week and have read the story of Elmer and how he is different to the herd and very kind and funny! We are super proud of our Owls for the way they conducted themselves during the 2-minute silence on Remembrance Day. The class have decorated the window with some beautiful tissue paper poppies to mark the occasion



Woodpecker, Kingfisher & Nightingale

This week has been an action-packed one for KS1! In Maths, the children have been working on addition and subtraction within 20, using tools like the part-whole model and number bonds to sharpen their skills. In English, KS1 have been busy learning the techniques they'll need to create their very own dinosaur information books. We were also thrilled to welcome special guest Mark Robertson, author and illustrator, who captivated the children with his amazing stories and led an exciting dragon-drawing workshop. In Science, the children explored the importance of exercise and how it helps us stay fit and healthy. They discovered why keeping active is so essential for a strong body and mind. It's been a fantastic week of learning and creativity!

Skylark, Housemartin & Swift

Another busy week! On Monday, we held a 2-minute silence for Remembrance Day. Photos on Tuesday, RE Day on Wednesday and a visit from a children's author and illustrator, Mark Robertson on Thursday. In Maths, we are continuing with our work on adding and subtracting up to 4-digit numbers. In English, we have been continuing to develop our understanding of the different characters in our Accidental Trouble Magnet class book. We have started our exciting Geography topic on Raging Rivers and our Science on States of Matter. Please remember next week the Year 4's have their Braeside residential (wrap up warm), leaving on Wednesday and returning on Friday.

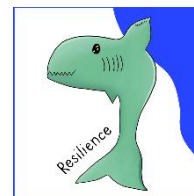
Kestrel, Falcon & Osprey

Year 5/6 have had a busy and varied week. On Monday we commemorated Armistice Day and the children have drafted and decorated war poems to respect this. In English, we have started work on a new book called 'The Promise' and have analysed the illustrations and the contrasting endpapers to make predictions about what the actual promise might be. On Wednesday, we had our second R.E. day and we explored the question whether you need to be a religious person or to have faith in order to live a good life. We investigated Humanist beliefs and world view and contrasted this with other world faiths. We were very impressed by the children's thoughtful questions. In Maths, we have been working on properties of number. This includes tests of divisibility, factors and primes. Finally, we enjoyed exploring the work of local author and illustrator, Mark Robertson.

Celebrations...



Class	Citizen Values	Learners' Values
Owls	George H – Kindness and Respect	Penny B – Independence and Resilience
Woodpecker	Iga S – Kindness	Hamish L – Independence
Kingfisher		Maja K – Independence Szymon J – Independence
Nightingale		Brooke N – Positivity Max D – Independence
Swift	Maisie B – Kindness & Respect	April S – Independence and Positivity
Housemartin	Hope C – All Values	Angad B – Independence in Maths
Skylark	Eadie K-T – Kindness and Respect	Riley R – Positivity
Osprey	Maria N – Respect	Isabelle M – Resilience
Falcon	Juniper A – All Values	Filip L – Positivity
Kestrel	Jake M – Respect	Lawrence F – Resilience



Paxcroft Citizen Cups



Jack H – All Values

Eva-Grace W – All values



Diary dates from November 2024

Monday 18th November	Open Day 2025 intake (9 – 11am)
Tuesday 19th November	Reception class Ambulance visit (at school)
Wednesday 20th November	Reception class PCSO visit (at school)
Wednesday 20th November	PSA meeting, 6pm
Monday 25th November	Y5/6 Visit to STEAM museum
Thursday 28th November	Non-school uniform – Chocolate donations for the Christmas Fayre
Friday 29th November	TD Day – School closed to pupils
Friday 6th December	Non-school uniform – Bottle donations for the Christmas Fayre
Monday 9th & Tuesday 10th December	Bikeability Group 1
Tuesday 10th December	Reception Nativity Performance – 1.45pm (More information to follow)
Wednesday 11th December	Flu Immunisations
Wednesday 11th & Thursday 12th December	Bikeability Group 2
Thursday 12th December	Reception Nativity Performance – 5pm (More information to follow)
Saturday 14th December	PSA Christmas Fayre (10 – 2pm)
Tuesday 17th December	KS1 Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 18th December	KS2 Christmas Lunch
Thursday 19th December	Carols on the playground (2.45pm)
Friday 20th December	Last day of term 2

Letters & Communications issued this week

Item	To	For
December Dinner Menus & Christmas Dinner Order Form	Whole School	Information & Action
Payment for Christmas Dinner	Whole School	Information & Action
Snacks	Whole School	Information
Literacy Letter	Reception	Information & Action
Steam Museum	Year 5 & 6	Information & Action
Forest School (w/c 18 th November)	Selected pupils	Information
Lantern Parade tonight	Selected pupils	Information



2024/2025

Meeting dates for your diary

Wed 25th September	Mon 17th March
Mon 21st October	Mon 28th April
Wed 20th November	Wed 21st May
Mon 27th January	Wed 18th June
Wed 26th February	Mon 7th July

All meetings start at 6pm at Paxcroft School

Every Parent, Carer and Staff of Paxcroft Primary welcome
Come along and find out how you can support

