

WEEKLY NEWS

From the Headteacher: 10th December 2021

Dear Parents and Families,

Oh, so many Reasons to Celebrate

At Paxton, we love nothing more than to curl up and lose ourselves in the pages of a good book. This year, behind the scenes, staff have been creating a curriculum which celebrates the children, their families, their heritage and the community.

This week, Paxton has been even more special. Since September, when Ms Linke joined Paxton, not a week has passed without her finding an excuse to order, purchase or locate a great book. Through the careful selection of titles, Ms Linke has worked with staff to enrich the curriculum with text which reflect our reality, enable the children to identify with characters and recognise that impossible simply means I'm Possible!

Wonderful World of Books

From the moment, children start at Paxton, they are introduced to the wonderful world of books. Across the school, staff have been trained in the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised, who believes Teach Reading: Change lives!

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

Today, Thanks to the Book Trust, the children in Reception will all get to take home their very own copy of 'I am a Tiger' written by Karl Wheel, with illustrations by Andy Collins.



Battle of the Books

Over the last few weeks, the children in Years 5 and 6 have been reading SIX books as part of the Battle of the Books. Yesterday, three teams from Paxton went into battle with three teams from Winterbourne.

After the first 6 questions only two teams had scored points on the board. However, as the questions got harder, the three teams from Paxton began to warm up and the tension grew. As the last question was read out, a total of 12 points were at stake: Can you name the SIX book titles and the authors? With only 3 points separating the top three teams, Team Victory had no space for error.

Then the announcement came;

Team Victory . . .

11 points!
#2021Winners



We Need You!

First and foremost, I would like to Thank all the parents and families of Paxton, for your continued support and offer you the chance to get even more involved and help make a difference to the children.

Last year, Paxton ventured in to a brand-new partnership with Bookmark; a children's literacy charity that links schools and volunteers to provide children with extra reading support and help instil a love for reading.

This year, Bookmark is looking for volunteers to read one-to-one with children, aged 5-9 at Paxton. All volunteers will be provided with full training and become part of Bookmark's supportive, sociable volunteer community. Volunteers will also be taught techniques on how to read and play literacy games with children from Years 1 to 4 and have the opportunity to work with children on 6-week programme, twice a week for 30-minutes.

If you'd like to find out more, you can register [here](#) or get in touch with the Bookmark team at info@bookmarkreading.org.

Pop Up Book Hut

Just when you thought we couldn't read any more, next half term, Paxton will get its very own Pop Up Book Hut. In January, the Children's Book Project, will deliver us our very own Pop Up Book Hut, together with the equivalent of three age relevant books per child.

The idea is that any child can take any book home and can keep it. There is no need for children to bring the book back or put a book in, in order to participate. Children's Book Project, aim to remove all barriers to participation.

At the end of the term, any remaining books will be gifted to children within Paxton. To find out more <https://childrensbookproject.co.uk/>

Our Core Values

Our **RESPECT** core values underpin everything that we do at Paxton. Next week, our Core Value will be Teamwork.



Paxton PTA Raffle

Throughout the week, donations of all shapes and sizes have continued to arrive, filled with all things festive. So far, the PTA have raised just over £300. Tickets for the Christmas raffle cost £1 each and are currently on sale. If you have not yet bought your tickets, they will be on sale **Monday** at the start and end of the school day at the front and back gates.

Prizes include:

- Three Luxury food hampers
- 1 small festive hamper
- 1 x bottle of Malibu
- 1 x bottle of Stone Ginger wine
- 1 x bottle of Prosecco
- Boxes of chocolates
- Pamper hamper
- Selection of toys . . .to name a few

If you would like to get involved in the PTA to share ideas to fund raise across the school year come along to the next meeting **Thursday 13th January**. Everyone is welcome.

Festive Christmas Tree Cookies

A HUGE Thank you, Jenny our Catering Manager who decorated over 100 Festive Christmas Tree Cookies to help raise money for the PTA.



OUR CAMPS

Don't forget, to book your place! With only 5 school days before the end of term, 'Our Camps' still have a few places at Paxton from **Monday 20th – Thursday 23rd December** 'Our Camps' will be from **10am – 4pm**. Children entitled to **FSM receive free place + Hot meal**. Non – FSM costs £25 per day. To find out more or book a place click here: schoolcamp.org.uk

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 16th December – Nasal Flu Vaccinations

Thursday 16th December – **Christmas Lunch**

Friday 17th December – **Christmas Parties**

****School finishes at 2:15pm****

Tuesday 4th January – **Inset Day**

Wednesday 5th January – **Children return**

Thursday 13th January at 9am - PTA

Attendance

This week, the children in Year 2, have managed to exceed our whole school target of 97%, closely followed Years 5, then 4 and 1.

Well done, to all the children and their families. With only 5 more school days left to go, let's see if all classes can achieve the target next week and get ever closer to 100%.

Class	Attendance
Reception	86.6%
Year 1	95.5%
Year 2	99.4%
Year 3	91.5%
Year 4	95.9%
Year 5	96.4%
Year 6	92.3%
Total	93.9%

Have a great weekend,

Theresa Moses – Headteacher