

## WEEKLY NEWS

### From the Headteacher: 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents and Families,

This week, Paxton was again filled with smiles and the sound of childrens' laughter as we welcomed our new Reception class to the Paxton family. In the classrooms, the children have already begun to settle and demonstrate a positive attitude to their learning.

At Paxton, reading is at the heart of our curriculum and today, children from Years 1 Year 6 will all take home two reading books, their reading journals and a homework book.

As a staff, we recognise the importance of reading. During the Summer term, in preparation for the launch of the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds, staff within the Early Years and KS1 undertook training.

This week the new resources arrived and all children in EYFS, KS1 and KS2 where appropriate have completed a phonics baseline. Next week, children in Reception Years 1 and 2 will begin to take part in daily phonics lessons.

Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised is a complete systematic synthetic phonics programme (SSP) developed by staff within a WLT school. It provides a complete teaching programme preparing children to go beyond the expectations of the Phonics Screening Check and instil a love for reading. To find out more, [click here](https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/).



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To further embed that love for reading across the school, we have also introduced a weekly reading for pleasure slot so that all children across the school have protected time to share their reading material with their peers and their class teacher.

### Parent Workshops

At Paxton, we relish the opportunity to instil a love for learning and empower the children to become confident, independent learners. Today over 30 parents attended our first of three parents workshops on 'Homework'.



Each week, children from Reception to Year 6 will receive 2 books– one which they can read independently at a rate of 95% fluency and one which an adult can read to or with them in order to develop their comprehension and vocabulary.

Alongside reading, in order to build upon the language rich curriculum and share the learning with parents, staff explored ways to enable the children to develop their knowledge of spellings and increase their vocabulary.

Each week, instead of sending home spelling lists to practice, children will take home a set of words to share with family and take part in vocabulary challenges. This will help them to increase the number of words the children can confidently articulate and use in their written work.

In order for children to become confident mathematicians, the children will also be required to complete weekly number fact practice on 'Number Bots' in KS1 and 'Times Table Rock Stars' in KS2.

To book your place on the KS1 or Reception workshop, please click the link which was texted to parents or book a place at the office. It will also be an opportunity for you to meet with myself and members of the SLT, which I am very much looking forward to.

**KS1:** Wednesday 29th September 8:45am - 9:15am

**Reception:** Wednesday 6th October 8:45am - 9:15am

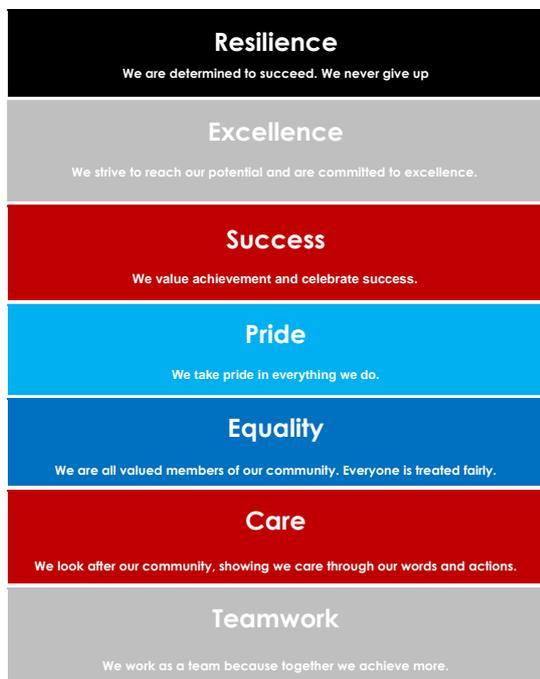
### Class Newsletters

Today, you will receive a copy of your child's class newsletter. Class newsletters provide parents with an overview and insight into the fun-filled, engaging, enquiry-based curriculum which will take place in the classroom this term.

Please make sure that you find the time to read through the information on the class newsletter and if you have any questions regarding the information that you discuss these with the class teacher at either parents' evening or arrange a suitable time at the end of the school day.

### Our Core Values

Our **RESPECT** values underpin everything that we do at Paxton Academy.



Next week our core value will be **Success**: We value achievement and celebrate success. In whole school and class assemblies the children will explore the meaning of success and how they can help each other to celebrate their achievements.

### Paxton's Local Academy Board

On Monday, Paxton's very own Local Academy Board (LAC) will meet for the very first time. Made up of members from the Interim Academy Board (IAB), parents and the local community they will set a strategic vision and targets to raise standards across all aspects of school life.

Through work in partnership with the school, they will provide a level of challenge and support to ensure that Paxton continues to strive for excellence. Judi Dumont-Barter and Sue Pidegon will co-chair the new role. To find out more about their vision for Paxton, they will hold a coffee morning during the Autumn term.

### Contact details

Last week we sent home contact sheets. Thank you to all the parents who have managed to check the information and return them to the school office.

Please note, if all of the information is correct and nothing has changed, still please sign the contact sheet and return it to the office by Monday.

It is important that we have the correct address, contact number and email for all parents and emergency contacts.

### School Uniform

During this week, I have noticed a number of children not dressed accordingly. Please can we ensure that children are dressed in the correct school uniform and are wearing appropriate footwear.

### Attendance

This week, children in Years 5 and 6 managed to achieve our whole school target of 97%. Let's see if more classes can achieve the target next week and get ever closer to 100%.

Class	Attendance
Year 1	93.9%
Year 2	86.8%
Year 3	95%
Year 4	95%
Year 5	97.2%
Year 6	97%

**Have a great weekend!**

**Theresa Moses Headteacher**