

## WEEKLY NEWS

### Update from Christian Kingsley and Mark Siswick, Joint Executive Heads Wandle Learning Trust

Firstly, a warm welcome to Ravenstone Primary School who cemented our existing partnership by joining Wandle Learning Trust at the beginning of October. This brings the number of schools within the Trust to four, all of which are committed to providing outstanding, inclusive education to their local communities.

At our Paxton Academy in Thornton Heath children and staff moved into their purpose-built new school at the start of term. The contrast from their temporary accommodation could not be more striking and we're really proud of how everyone – from Reception right through to Year 6 - is adapting to their new surroundings and routines.

It really is a stunning building and the views from the rooftop playground expand right across south London. Paxton's new Headteacher Ms Moses also started in September and has been working hard on getting to know everyone, pushing ahead with school improvement priorities as well as involving children in agreeing a set of school values.

Pupils at Chesterton Primary School have enjoyed learning in their newly refurbished libraries this term. Work to redecorate and re-stock the Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 libraries took place during the Summer and not even staff knew about it until a surprise big reveal took place a few weeks ago. Teachers told us they had a job getting some book-loving children to leave at the end of their library session!

Huge congratulations to Chestnut Grove Academy who celebrated outstanding GCSE and A Level results this year. Building is also underway at Chestnut Grove, with a new Sixth Form Centre currently under construction and due to open next Summer. Covid has prevented them from offering in-school tours, but luckily their former head boy was on hand to help with a virtual tour, which you can see at this link:

<https://www.chestnutgrove.wandsworth.sch.uk/sixth-form/sixth-form-events>

To find out more about Wandle Learning Trust and our schools please visit [www.wandlelearningtrust.org.uk](http://www.wandlelearningtrust.org.uk)

### From the Headteacher: 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020

#### Dear Parents and Carers

With the festive period looming and only four weeks until the end of the Autumn term, we would like to thank you for your support and continuing to adapt to the changes we make across the school to keep the children, adults and the community at Paxton safe.

To avoid overcrowding, we continue to ask parents of Years 3,4,5 and 6 to not to enter the playground in the morning unless essential. Please make sure your child has everything they need in their school bag before they enter the school gates.

Our school policy of limiting visitors on site remains in place. Parents should not access the school site during the day unless for a pre-approved reason or appointment. If you have an appointment with a member of staff we would ask that you wear a mask or visor and that no more than two adults enter the reception area at a time to ensure social distancing.

Once inside the building, the fun begins. Staff ignite the children's curiosity and provide them with experiences which will prepare them for the ever changing world in which we live.

Last Thursday, our children joined forces with Joe Wicks in a marathon 24 hour work out challenge to help raise money for Children In Need. Across the day, it was wonderful to see the children take on the mission and work alongside Joe and support with their spider man lunges and bunny hops to help raise over 1.5 million for Children in Need!

#### Anti-Bullying Week (16th-20th November)

The theme this year is 'United Against Bullying'. We began with Odd Socks Day on Monday with the aim to ensure that children understand that they are all unique and that their differences unite them. A big thank you to all staff and children who took part – it was wonderful to see so many children come to school wearing odd socks to celebrate our diversity. During this week, we also have timetabled anti-bullying lessons and lots of discussions about what makes a good friend. Bullying has a long-lasting effect on those who experience and witness it. By channelling this collectively through our shared efforts and ambitions we can reduce bullying together. We all have our part to play in coming together to make a difference.

### School Uniform vs PE Days

Please can we ask that you ensure children wear their full school uniform including the correct footwear on non-PE days and to come to school in their Paxton sports kits on days when PE takes place...reminders below of PE days!

Year Group	PE Day	PE Day
Reception	Wednesday	n/a
Year 1	Tuesday	Wednesday
Year 2	Tuesday	Thursday
Year 3	Tuesday	Thursday
Year 3/4	Tuesday	Friday
Year 4	Tuesday	Friday
Year 5	Tuesday	Friday
Year 6	Monday	Friday

### Free School Meals



#### Are you entitled?

In England and Scotland, if you have children in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and they go to a state school they are entitled to free school meals regardless of your household income. From Year 3 onwards your children could get free lunches if you are receiving certain benefits. If you believe your circumstances have changed and you may be entitled, please get in touch.

### School Dinners

We have a fantastic hot school lunch offering from our school lunch provider, Pabulum...If your children are not school dinners, they may want to try it! Every day the lunches are freshly cooked and on site with... Meat free Mondays, Roast lunch Wednesdays and Fish on Fridays...with a vegetarian option every day, plus bread and x 2 choices of salads. Menus are available from the office.



**Christmas Lunch is on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December**

**Christmas Jumper Day is on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

### Traditional Dress/Cultural Heritage Dress Up Day

We would like to invite all children and staff to celebrate our cultural heritages and come to school in traditional/cultural outfits (e.g. a Sari, African print, Kilt, etc) or an outfit incorporating cultural heritage/flag.

Year Groups	Cultural Dress Up Day
3/4, 4, 5, 6	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> November
R, 1, 2, 3	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> November

### Telephone appointment Parents Evening

This year Parents Evening will be held during the first week in December. Parents will be given a time slot over a 2-day window. More information to follow.

### Parent governor elections

Thank you to those parents who have put themselves forward for the parent governor elections. We will be in touch shortly. If any other parents would like to get involved, please contact the office if you feel you (or someone you would like to nominate) have the right skill sets, along with the time to commit and the passion to make Paxton even better.



### Youngstars Wrap Around Care

Youngstars, is open to all children from Reception to Year 6 in the mornings from 7.30am until the start of the school day and each afternoon between 3:15pm and 5:30pm. To find

out more or book please click the link below: <http://www.young-stars.co.uk/schools/> or call 07749 343116

### Well Being: Tip of the Week - Pause and Breathe:

In a time filled with so much uncertainty, if you notice you are feeling stressed, overwhelmed or worried, take a moment to pause and breathe. Deep breathing calms our nervous system and increases oxygen flow to the brain. This helps us to think more clearly and enables us to problem solve.



The next time you are stressed, try breathing in through the nose, holding it for 5 seconds, and breathing out through the mouth for 7 seconds. Repeat this at least 5 times and see if that helps you to feel a bit calmer. To help you increase your awareness and make positive thinking the norm.

If you would like to begin to find out more about Mindfulness, the link below will take you to 24-hour FREE zoom webinars: [https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mindfulness-for-modern-day-living-free-webinar-tickets-128890353517?utm\\_campaign=post\\_publish&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=eventbrite&utm\\_content=shortLinkNewEmail](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mindfulness-for-modern-day-living-free-webinar-tickets-128890353517?utm_campaign=post_publish&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eventbrite&utm_content=shortLinkNewEmail)



### Attendance

Last week our rate of attendance for the school was 89.7%% vs our target of 97.0%. If for any reason children are unable to attend

school, please note parents have a legal responsibility to notify the school on the first day of a child's absence and need to inform us why they are unable to attend school.