

WEEKLY NEWS

From the Headteacher: 29th April 2022

Dear Parents and Families,

At Paxton, we love any excuse to curl up and lose ourselves in the pages of a good book. At the start of the school year, we introduced Little Wandle Letters and Sounds. Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised is a complete systematic synthetic phonics programme (SSP) which was developed in partnership with one of the schools within our Wandle Learning Trust.

Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised draws on the latest research into how children learn best; how to ensure learning stays in children's long term memory and how best to enable children to apply their learning to become highly competent readers.

Alongside this, we have worked to build partnerships with organisations to help instil a love of reading across the whole school. Thanks to the London Book Project and their partners, today we received over 550 FREE books for the children to take home, become immersed in stories and without realising, their literacy improves.

As part of the inspiring Reflecting Realities project, created by the CLPE, each term, the children in Yr3 also have the opportunity to explore a different genre and meet an author, illustrator or poet of colour.



Today, as part of the focus on poetry, the children listened to the amazing Valerie Bloom, read 'Sandwich', a beautiful dialect poem which brings to life the events of a school trip and a sandwich.

To help us embed a love of reading, please can we request that children read or are read to each day for at least 10 minutes and that book bags are bought to school every day.

Enrichment

Alongside a love of reading and a language rich curriculum with reading at its heart, staff have created a curriculum which ignites the children's curiosity and opportunities to extend and explore the ever changing world in which they live.

Behind the scenes, staff are busy planning trips for children across the school and the office team are in the final stages of planning a whole school trip to the seaside at the end of Summer 2.

This term, staff have planned a range of trips to extend and enrich the learning and develop skills for life. This week, Yr5 have been arriving before the gates open at 8:35am and making their way to swimming in Thornton Heath. Next year, we hope to be able to offer this opportunity to all of the children in KS2.

Last week, we were delighted to have received an invite from St Joseph's College regarding a pantomime showing of 'Peter Pan'. Described as a very special matinee performance specifically aimed at primary schools, how could we say 'Oh no we can't' so we said 'Oh yes we can' and the children loved being a part of it. Thank you for inviting us.

In June, 36 children from Years 5 and 6 will also venture to the River Severn in Gloucestershire and spend a week at Wick Court Farm. Founded by Clare and Michael Morpurgo who set up the charity in 1976, children from inner cities now have the opportunity to visit their three Farms for City Children

During the week, the children will swap daily classroom learning for farm jobs and gardening, along with cooking, bird watching, a woodland afternoon and other seasonal activities such as fruit juicing and beekeeping.

But it does not stop there . . . After the success of the children in Reception witnessing the cycle of a caterpillar; from a egg to a butterfly, this term Paxton will receive our very own incubator. Across the school, the children will learn first-hand what happens during the 21 days a chick is inside an egg and witness them break through the shell to emerge into the world and their first few weeks of life as a chick.

Our RESPECT Core Values

The school's seven core values are embedded across every aspect of school life and underpin everything that we do. They provide a common language and a platform for the children and adults to recognise that impossible simply means I'm Possible!

Next week, our Core Value will be **Success:**



Five Star Rating

Since the start of the Summer term, we have had not one but two visits from the Food Standards Agency. Their job is to use their expertise and influence so that people can trust that the food they buy and eat is safe and what it says it is.

I am pleased to inform you that both

- Felix Project At Paxton Academy
- Pabulum Ltd At Paxton Academy

received the highest award: Five stars

Reception 2022

Last week, families of September 2022 Reception aged children were informed which primary school their child would attend.

To date, 38 children have been offered a place at Paxton. Over the next few months, we look forward to welcoming the children and their families. In the meantime, we will continue to host open events and invite prospective new families to visit Paxton. The next three events will take place on:

- Tuesday 3rd May at 09:00
- Monday 20th June at 17:00
- Tuesday 5th July at 09:00

To book click the link below

www.eventbrite.co.uk/d/united-kingdom--london/paxton-academy/

After School Clubs

There are still places available in the following clubs.

Monday

Spanish - Years 3, 4 and 5

Tuesday

Multi-Sports - Years 3, 4 and 5

Wednesday

Computing Club - Whole school

Thursday

SOUL Ltd - Years 4, 5 & 6

Booster - Year 6

Fridays

Science 'Cooking' Club - Years 3, 4 and 5

Please note; clubs run by Paxton, start at 3:30pm –4:30pm and will run for 5 weeks during Summer 1.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 2nd May: May Day School Closed

Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June: Summer half term

Friday 8th July: INSET day School Closed

Thursday 21st July: Last day of the Summer term School Closes at 2:15pm

Friday 22nd July: in lieu for the Queen's Jubilee

1st and 2nd September – Inset

Monday 5th September – Children return at 8:35am

Up to date

To keep up to date with all the latest events and happenings across the school day, visit our website www.paxtonacademy.org.uk, where you can view or sign up to our Twitter or Facebook page www.facebook.com/PaxtonAcademySportsandScience/ Paper copies are also available from the office.

Attendance

This week, the children are back in the building and it feels good. Congratulations to **Years 4 and 6** who managed to both exceed our attendance target and to **Yr 3** who only just missed it. Well done to all our children and their families.

| Class | Attendance |
|---------------|--------------|
| Reception | 91.2% |
| Year 1 | 88.7% |
| Year 2 | 94.2% |
| Year 3 | 96.2% |
| Year 4 | 98.4% |
| Year 5 | 94.8% |
| Year 6 | 99.1% |
| Total | 94.6% |

Have a great long weekend,

Yours **Theresa Moses (Headteacher)**