

WEEKLY NEWS

From the Headteacher: 4th February 2022

Dear Parents and Families,

This week, Paxton has again been filled with smiles and the sound of children's laughter. Behind the scenes, staff have created an ambitious curriculum which extends and enriches the children's experiences. Throughout their time at Paxton, children are provided with opportunities to be successful and develop qualities which will enable them to celebrate success throughout their life. Our tag; Individually Excellent, Collectively Brilliant, creates a platform for staff to strive and deliver a curriculum which ignites the children's curiosity, instils a love for learning and enables the children to become ambitious and confident in their own skin.

On Monday, children in Years 4, 5 and 6 had the pleasure of an introductory workshop with the Yamaha Music School. I am pleased to announce that after the February half term, children in Year 4 will have the opportunity to learn how to play the keyboard. This is an amazing opportunity.

In the meantime, if your child is aged 8-11 years of age, they can take part in a free introductory workshop at Fairfield halls on Monday 7th February. Please email ffh-musiceducation@bhlive.org.uk to book a place.

On Tuesday, the children had the opportunity to extend and enrich their experience of Chinese New Year. In classrooms, children were able to further their knowledge and understanding of the festival and enjoy some of the celebrations. In Year 5, the children created paper lanterns. They learnt that lanterns embody letting go of the past and they that are almost always red which signifies good fortune.



Yesterday, Superintendent Andy Brittan and Steve Jennings visited Paxton. Throughout the morning, conversations focussed on the work which is taking place in the community to instil hope and discuss ways early intervention could be introduced in to primary schools.

During a tour of the school, Superintendent Brittan provided the opportunity for the children to ask questions about his role and love for his job. Paxton looks forward to working in partnership with Croydon to help change the narrative.

Today, we had the pleasure of welcoming Barnabus from Legacy Croydon. Legacy's Youth Zone is available for children aged 8-12 on Tuesday and Thursday, 4-8pm and Saturday and Sunday 11am-3pm. Membership to Legacy is £5 for the year or 50p a session. Children can also have a cooked meal for £1.

We hope that children from across Paxton will have the opportunity to visit Legacy in the Summer term to experience the range of activities on offer, including; indoor climbing, boxing, arts and crafts, cooking, dance and drama. They also have a library and a homework club. To find out more go to <https://legacyyouthzone.org/>

And it does not stop there, we also met with Palace for Life; who work with young South Londoners to help them make healthy, positive and safe choices now, and in the future.

During the Summer term, members of Palace for Life will deliver workshops of their new programme on Equality, for children in Years 5 and 6. A value which is very close to Paxton and plays a key role in all aspects of school life. Palace for Life will also run an After School Club for children in Year 2 called Moving Maths. Thank you to Rash, Sam and James for making it all possible.

To find out more about what Palace for Life do in the community click here <https://www.palaceforlife.org/>

School Council

This week, the School Council met with Miss Linke to share their thoughts on ways to make Paxton even better. Behind the scenes, the School Council have been busy completing their first mission. Thanks to Tesco's, Paxton was awarded £1,000 to spend on play equipment. School Council reps have gathered their classmates wish lists and an order has been placed.

Only Five School Days Left

With only five school days left to go before the end of Spring term one, Paxton still has so many things to look forward to. Next week, is Mental Health Week and children will be able to build on their self-awareness and develop their emotional resilience.

On Tuesday 8th February, Paxton will join in with the rest of the world and take part in Internet Safety Day. This year, the theme is 'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online'. In and outside of the classroom children will have the opportunity to explore ways to stay safe, whether that is whilst gaming and creating content, or interacting with their friends and peers. To find out more, click <https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2022>

As a school, we have a duty of care to safeguard children. Unfortunately, we have become aware that a number of children may have access to apps which are not age appropriate. Please can I remind parents that apps, social media and games such as TikTok, Instagram, Facebook and Fortnite have an age limit. This is to protect children and help keep them safe. If you need help or support in making your child's device safe, please speak to Miss Linke.

DJ Milktray

On Thursday 10th February, Paxton will host its first official disco. One of radio's finest; DJ's Milktray will be our DJ for the night. If you have not already purchased your tickets, please make sure you do by 4pm on Tuesday, as tickets are limited and we do not want any disappointed children on the night.

The night will be a night to remember forever, with unlimited popcorn and juice, along with heart shaped cookies and heart face painting for 50p. There will also be a range of hearts and craft activities for children to try out in the chill out zone. If you haven't yet bought your raffle tickets, there is still time. Please note: children will need to leave school at 3:15pm and return to school at 4pm ready to dance the night away till **5:30pm**.

OURCAMPS is back!

We are always looking for ways to extend and enrich children's experiences through fun filled activities. After the success of the Winter camp, OURCAMPS will be back during the Easter break. 'Our Camps' will be at Paxton, from **4th – 14th April, Monday to Thursday from 10am-4pm**.

Children entitled to **FSM will receive a free place and a hot meal**. Non FSM children are charged at £25 per day. To find out more or book a place click here: www.schoolcamp.org.uk

Our Core Values

Our **RESPECT** core values underpin everything that we do at Paxton. Next week our Core Value will be **Care**. We look after our community, showing we care through our words and actions.

Dates for your Diary

Friday 11th February – **End of Spring 1**

Monday 14th – Friday 18th Feb ****Half term****

Monday 21st February – **Children return**

Tuesday 1st March – Pancake Day

Wednesday 9th March – **Parents Evening**

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

Thursday 31st March – **End of Spring term**

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

Friday 1st April – **Inset**

Attendance

After the slight dip in last weeks attendance, the children are back in the building and we are much closer to our whole school target of 97%.

Congratulations again to Year 1 and 2 who managed to exceed our whole school target and to Year 3 and 6 who only just missed it. Well done to all the children and their families. With only five more school days before the February half term, let's see if we can get ever closer to 100%.

Class	Attendance
Reception	93.7%
Year 1	98.6%
Year 2	98.9%
Year 3	96.4%
Year 4	93.0%
Year 5	92.7%
Year 6	96.4%
Total	95.4%

Have a great weekend,

Yours **Theresa Moses (Headteacher)**