

WEEKLY NEWS

From the Headteacher: 11th February 2022

Dear Parents and Families,

As we turn off all the lights, close all the doors and reflect, Spring term 1 has been filled with smiles and memorable learning moments the children will remember forever. It doesn't seem that long ago that we were wishing everyone a Happy New Year but six weeks later, Paxton has so many things to celebrate.

Both in and outside of the classroom, the school's Core Values are weaved across all aspects of school life and an inclusive ethos, empowers children and staff to strive for excellence.

Members of the Local Academy Committee (LAC) have played a fundamental role in creating a strategic vision which provides levels of challenge and support to ensure that the curriculum closes gaps in children's knowledge whilst being ambitious and instilling a love for learning.

During Spring 1, Paxton welcomed some of the most inspirational organisations from the local community and we look forward to continuing to build partnerships which will extend and enrich the children's social and emotional development.

A Snapshot into Spring 2

If you cannot wait to find out what staff have planned for Spring 2, curriculum webs for each year group can be found [here](http://www.paxtonacademy.org.uk/parents/keeping-in-touch).

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A Little Book Hut

Thanks to the London Book Project, the children at Paxton have been able to select books from our Little Book Hut. Across the school, children have enjoyed the opportunity to explore the titles, select their favourites and take them home to add to their own book shelves.

Reading for pleasure is so important. Please can we request that during the half term, children continue to read, or are read to, for at least 10 minutes each day.

A Bookmark Difference

At Paxton, reading is at the heart of our curriculum and in everything we do. Each week, children in Year 4 have the pleasure of reading with one of our Bookmark Volunteers.

The Bookmark Box provides the children with the opportunity to select from a range of carefully selected text to read with the volunteers, as well as partake in language rich games and activities.



Reflecting Reality

As part of their RE topic on Christianity, children in Year 3 discovered that Bishop Wilfred Wood, was the first black Church of England's Bishop who served in Croydon from 1985 to 2003.

On Thursday, they welcomed Bishop Grandison from the NTCG, Croydon. Dressed in his religious attire, the children asked him questions about his role and what Christianity means to him. Bishop Grandison said that it had been a privilege and that the children had provided him with moments to reflect and rejoice on his journey to date!



A Night to Remember

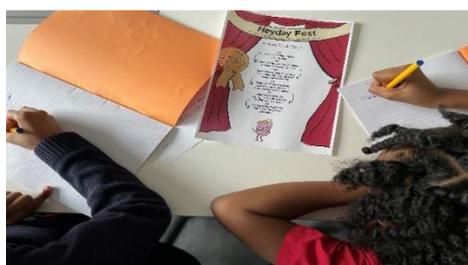
Last night, DJ Milktray hosted Paxton's first official disco. Behind the scenes, the PTA spent the afternoon blowing up balloons and preparing unlimited popcorn and juice for over 100 children. Jenny baked and decorated heart shaped cookies, whilst other staff prepared a range of hearts and craft activities for the chill out lounge. During the evening as the music played, children, parents and staff danced the night away. Thank you to everyone who made it a night to remember.

If you would like to get involved and share ideas on ways to fund raise across the school year, please come along to the next meeting on **Friday 25th February at 3:20pm**. Everyone is welcome.

Making a Difference

After the success of their first mission, 'Tesco community grants', where they had to gather ideas and spend £1000 on play equipment, the School Council have continued to share ideas and discuss ways to make Paxton even better.

Behind the scenes, they have begun to create their own website which will provide an insight into the work they do. Today, Year 5 and 6 members accepted their 'Heyday Fest' half term mission, to write a possible storyline for the School Council movie which they will produce, film, star in and watch at the BFI on the Southbank, in April.



OURCAMPS is back!

If you have not yet managed to log on and book your child's place at OURCAMPS, there is still time. OURCAMPS will be back at Paxton during the Easter break from

Monday 4th – Thursday 14th April: 10am – 4pm.

Inclusivity is at the heart of everything they do, and they will make every effort to insure every child has the opportunity to experience and enjoy OURCAMPS. During each day, the children will be provided with a varied range of activities and experiences to ensure that all children will go home having learnt and created something new.

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

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

Thursday 3rd March – World Book Day

Wednesday 9th March – **Parents Evening**

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

Friday 18th March – Red Nose Day

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

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

Friday 1st April – **Inset**

Attendance

After the success of last week, once again, the children are in the building and classrooms have been filled with learning.

Congratulations to **Year 2** who this week managed to achieve **100%**, and Year 3 who managed to exceed our whole school target. They were closely followed by Year 5 who only just missed it. Well done to all the children and their families.

Class	Attendance
Reception	92%
Year 1	95.5%
Year 2	100%
Year 3	98.8%
Year 4	91.9%
Year 5	96.6%
Year 6	91.4%
Total	95.1%

Before we switch off all the lights and close the doors on an amazing half term, I want to thank all of the people how have made it possible.

As Headteacher of Paxton, I feel privileged to share this journey with the children and their families. And, it is an honour to work alongside a team which goes above and beyond to inspire not only the children but empower each other to strive for excellence.

Have a great half term,

Yours **Theresa Moses (Headteacher)**