



PAXTON PRESS 1st December 2023



**YOUR WEEKLY "HELLO" FROM MISS O**

To our wonderful Little Paxton families,

What a wonderful week we've had! There has been so much going on at school so there is lots to celebrate!

It was so lovely to welcome so many of you into school this morning to celebrate 29 of our wonderful children. We had 28 children who were presented with a Headteacher's Award for their brilliant work this half term. So many of the teachers talked about the children being fantastic friends; going above and beyond in their learning; being very kind and also being a delight to teach. It was a very proud moment for me as a Headteacher and their families as well. Mr Hacking, from the Rotary Club, also joined us to present Marko with the first Rotary Star award for this academic year. It was such a lovely celebration and that joy has spilled out into the corridors and classrooms today.

If that wasn't enough the school is filled with so many colours today! The children, and staff, have really gone all out with their colours and the school is very bright and cheerful today. Thank you for sending in such wonderful gifts for the hampers as well, they are going to be well worth winning at the Christmas Fayre! Remember to get your raffle tickets! Massive thanks to the LPSA for organising.

The Little Paxton Christmas Committee (yes, we are being super festive this year) have organised a real tree for the school hall. We are so thankful to Mrs Darlow's husband's company, Rexroth, for sponsoring our tree! It will need decorating so we are asking children (or adults) to make, or buy, a decoration for the tree and come into the hall to add it to the tree. Be as creative as you like!

We are welcoming back to school Miss Dyson and Miss Wong (from the Faculty of Education in Cambridge) who will be working with our Year 6 children. They were so excited, and surprised, to be placed at Little Paxton again. Additionally, we are delighted to welcome Miss Calvert and Miss Steely who will be placed in Year 4. All 4 ladies have already thrown themselves into life at Little Paxton joining in with colour day! We really are looking forward to working with them.

Mr Saxby and I have been busy out and about in school completing learning snapshots of what is happening in our classrooms. Every time I walk round I feel a massive sense of pride in the brilliant teaching that is happening across the school and the fantastic engagement of our children. I am so delighted with the pace at which the school is improving and our direction of travel. The Local Authority have also been very complimentary about our school this week, which was so nice (and encouraging) to hear. We have had quite a few potential families visiting the school this week who have all said how nice the school is! One of the parents said, "You have a really lovely school! We were really impressed". Well done Team Paxton!

All that's left for me to say is have a wonderful weekend and we look forward to seeing you all again next week. It's definitely beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

Miss Owen

## SOMETHING SMALL ABOUT US ALL



### Gemma Wright - Finance and HR Admin

Having attended the school myself, when Mr Summerell was head, over 20 years ago, I have now been working at the school for over 2 years. I am a busy mummy, with two daughters, I am actively involved in supporting them at dance and cheer competitions. I contribute to the team as an adult cheerleader for Falcon Flames and occasionally take on coaching responsibilities. If we're not at a competition, you'll find the whole family, including my husband Stephen, enjoying bouldering—an activity that has become a whole day experience. Random fact... I am qualified as a cricket umpire! Finally we have our mischievous cat, Tiago, who keeps things lively often bringing unwanted presents.





## Mrs Fairbairn

I love working with Mrs Webb not only because she's awesome but also because she's my friend too!! We couldn't find a photo of us together for some reason so we'll have to take one at our Christmas party!

I grew up in Torquay and love going back in the holidays to see my parents and swim in the sea!



## Mrs Webb

I absolutely love working as a teacher and with all the fabulous children at Little Paxton, but it makes it even better that I get to work with Mrs Fairbairn! I've been teaching for 14 years now and love coming to work, but in my down time I'm an avid reader and I love a good thriller! I used to play netball quite a lot which I really miss but with family life that has taken a back seat! One thing that people comment about me is that they can hear me before they see me! Not sure that's a compliment but I'll take it as one!





## Messages from Team Paxton



What a fun filled few weeks we have had all across school. As I am writing this message I can see Christmas decorations sparkling around the classrooms and music playing.

The Year 2 Christmas production is in full swing and we are almost ready to go. The cast are working hard learning their lines and singing and dancing away. I'm so excited to see the final product as I am sure you

are too. We have been working hard in class too and still keeping up our normal routines as much as possible.

Year 3 are doing a brilliant job with their Maths learning, I know this because I am lucky enough to teach them Maths on a Monday afternoon. They enjoyed a trip to Paxton Press and although the ground was frozen, were able to dig up and discover some fossils.

During my learning walks (as part of my role as Phase Leader) I have been impressed me with the children's attitude to learning and their behaviour has been fantastic. I am so proud of all that they have achieved so far. Keep working hard Year 2 and Year 3!

Kind regards, Mr Crabb

## Headteacher's Awards



This week we had an exciting assembly where two children from each class were awarded the Headteacher's Award for the Autumn Term. Their parents and carers were invited to watch them receive their awards. We have selected some of the reasons below.

The awards went to

**Sparrow** - **HALLIA** for settling so well into school, for being a fantastic role model to other children and being a joy to teach. **ALBI** for being a kind friend, for having great ideas and always giving his best effort.

**Lark** - **EOGHAN** for being an excellent role model, joining in with learning and settling into Early Years really well. **RAE** for settling into Early Years well, for being enthusiastic and trying super hard in phonics.

**Starling** - **FRANKIE** for always bringing her best self and being a delight to teach. **HARRY** for going above and beyond in his learning and being keen to learn more.

**Woodpecker** - **BEN** for always working hard, showing outstanding behaviour and being ready to learn. **FREYA** for her enthusiasm and can do attitude, trying hard and always approaching everything with a smile.

**Raven - EVALYN** for being a hard worker, a caring friend and always looking to improve. **HARRY** for being passionate about his learning, a great team player and a polite boy.

**Pigeon - SAVINA** for having a great work ethic and always doing the right thing with a smile on her face. **SEBASTIAN** because of his effort towards his work, his ability to take on advice and for trying his best.

**Merlin - LAYLA** for being kind and caring and always wanting to be helpful. **JAMES** for always trying his best and wanting to **learn more**.

**Nightingale - OLIVER HE** for always working hard, being kind and caring. **POPPY** for always showing an eagerness to learn.

**Kite - CHARLIE** for being a model student who embodies the values and ethos of Little Paxton so well. **MYRA** for being a truly vibrant and kind hearted child whose bubbly personality brightens the classroom.

**Wren - ELLA** for being ready to learn, brightening everyone's day and being passionate about your learning. **MATTY** for his amazing writing that is always a joy to read.

**Kingfisher - ALBERT** for consistently demonstrating the school values, being enthusiastic about his learning and a positive member of our class. **SOPHIE** for being incredibly kind and thoughtful, works hard across the curriculum and is a delight to teach.

**Dove - JOSIE** For always demonstrating the school values and having a positive attitude to learning. **ISAAC** for working incredibly hard in all lessons and being an excellent role model.

**Hawk - NATHAN** for always giving 100%, being a kind friend and being a pleasure to teach. **PAIGE** for her excellent attitude to learning and making a fantastic start to year 6.

**Robin - Matty** for being so enthusiastic with his learning. For listening and having a great attitude. **ALICE** for being fabulous, conscientious and hard working. For taking help and advice onboard so well and always striving to improve.

## Rotary Star

Marko in Starling Class was nominated to receive a Rotary Star Award because he has overcome so much, moving to a new country and starting school. He has had to learn a new language and has done this very quickly and he is always happy and kind to other children.





## Message from our Chair of Governors

Hello to the little Paxton families,

Last week, you will have seen our announcement that the current interim leadership arrangements will continue for the remainder of the academic year. This week, I had the pleasure of attending a review meeting with members of the local authority and was pleased to hear them speak so positively about the school. I am sure you will want to join me in thanking Miss Owen and her team for the excellent work they are doing.

I also wanted to reassure you that as governors, we are beginning our work behind the scenes about plans for future, substantive leadership arrangements. We will keep you updated.

This is a great time to be a governor at a school, and we still have one vacancy for a parent governor and two vacancies for co-opted governors. The latter do not need to be parents of children at the school. Full training and support is provided for governors, we have reduced the number of meetings and want to emphasize that you do not need to have a background in education to be a great governor. If you would be interested in the parent governor post or the co-opted governor post, please could you email me by the end of term at [mhowells@littlepaxton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:mhowells@littlepaxton.cambs.sch.uk), we can have an informal chat – with no obligation if you would like to find out more.

Looking forward to hearing from you

## Well Done Ruby!

Great work from Ruby in Woodpecker Class for receiving her BLUE PETER BADGE! She followed Mr Simkin's instructions in an earlier Paxton Press and was luck enough to receive her badge recently.



LPSA Hamper Raffle





# Hamper Raffle 2023

Raffle tickets will be sent home with the children. Every child will get two books each which can be purchased by their household, or they can also be offered to relatives, friends and neighbours\*. If you would like more books of tickets, please go to the school office.

## Tickets £1 each or £5 a book

**MERRY XMAS**

Area reserved for gluing

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Little Paxton School Association

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

All tickets and unsold tickets to be returned to the promoter before the draw date.



### Christmas Hamper Raffle

Your chance to win one of our sought after themed class hampers packed with lovely festive goodies!

**Draw Date: Wednesday 14th December**

Hamper made by Little Paxton School, 18th Dec 2023

**£1.00**

Drawn by Bette Nelson 077 7000 0000

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Little Paxton School Association

Return this part of the ticket in an envelope along with the correct money or cheque (made payable to 'Little Paxton School Association') to purchase the tickets. Envelopes to the school office/LPSA drop box.

Keep this part of the ticket at home

\*Purchasing tickets is completely optional. Please could you return any unsold tickets to the office.

## School Christmas Lunch - 13th December



Just a reminder to order lunches for next week please. We had a lot of lunches not ordered today as we enter the new months page on Aspens. Please also ensure any outstanding credits are cleared.

## House Points

### **Overall:**

*Joint first we have Willow and Birch*

*Joint second we have Sycamore / Oak*

### **Weekly scores:**

*Oak - 2785*

*Birch - 3301*

*Willow - 2141*

*Sycamore - 2585*

## Individual appointments with Education Inclusion Adviser Charlotte Dean



Final date for the year -

**14th December 2023**

To make an appointment, please email [charlotte.dean@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:charlotte.dean@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) - she will contact you to confirm a time.

Education Inclusion Family Advisors offer you an opportunity to ask for information, advice and support on any issue affecting your family life in a relaxed environment. These areas include:

- Challenging behaviour Routines
- Supporting emotions and wellbeing
- School transitions
- Parenting strategies
- Building resilience and confidence
- Any other family challenges you might be facing

## Reminder of dates coming up



**Tuesday 5th December** - Flu Sniff for all years - **Have you opted in?**

**Friday 8th December** - Santa Dash in Christmas clothes - during the school day

**Monday 11th December** - Years 3, 4 and 5 - Merlin, Nightingale, Kite, Wren, Kingfisher, Dove, Hawk and Robin classes **Christmas Concert - St James' Church - 7.00pm**

**Tuesday 12th December** - **Christmas Production** by Years 1 and 2 Starlings, Woodpeckers, Ravens and Pigeons - 1.30pm

**Tuesday 12th December** - Years 3, 4 and 5 - Merlin, Nightingale, Kite, Wren, Kingfisher, Dove, Hawk and Robin classes **Christmas Concert - St James' Church - 7.00pm** **KS2 Christmas Concert - St James' Church - 7pm**

**Wednesday 13th December** - Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Dinner Day

**Wednesday 13th December** - Christmas Fayre - 3.15pm - 6.00pm - **Whole School Christmas singalong** - 5.00pm - 6.00pm

**Thursday 14th December** - **Christmas Production** by Year 1 and Year 2 Starlings, Woodpeckers, Ravens and Pigeons - 9.30am

**Friday 15th December** - Early Years Nativity Tea Party for parents - 2pm

Sunday 17th December - Little Paxton School team will be helping Santa on his sleigh around the village

**LAST DAY OF TERM** - Wednesday 20th December - Non uniform - Wear something christmassy

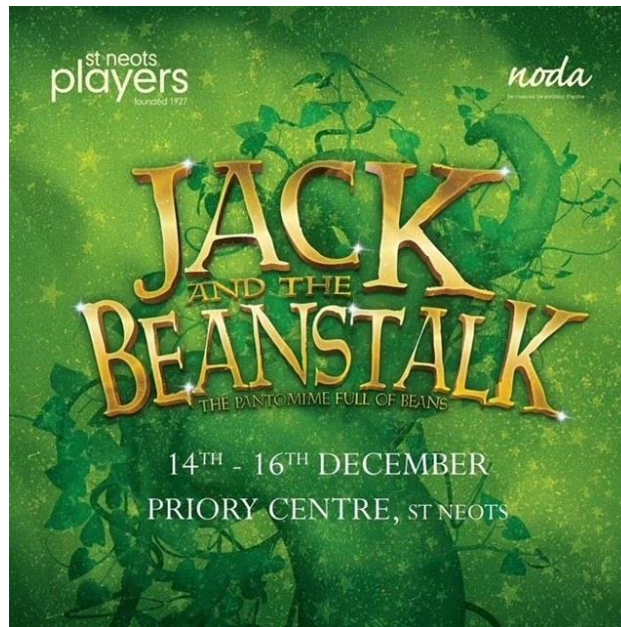
(There may be additions to these dates and possible changes)



## OUT OF SCHOOL

### Jack and The Beanstalk

A great chance to catch some of our pupils and parents performing!!



### Christmas arrangements for Treetops



Thank you for reading!

Wishing you a fabulous weekend - Team Paxton

