

P a d d o x

Paddox Primary Newsletter 27 January 2023

Dear Parent / Carer,

I hope you are all well and that 2023 has been kind to you so far. I am certainly looking forward to seeing the back of January next week as February always seems to feel a bit brighter. This week I wanted to let you know some of the key things that we are working on in school this year.

- We have a new phonics scheme called Unlocking Letters and Sounds in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and a new Maths scheme in Reception and Year 1. These were put in place to ensure our children got the best possible start in two very crucial areas.
- Across the school, we are looking at opportunities for greater depth in subjects beyond English and Maths – we want to know, what does a more able historian or artist look like?
- It is really important that all groups of children have every opportunity to be the best they can regardless of whether English is not their first language, they have additional special needs or come from a more disadvantaged background so we are focusing time and training into this area which we call our work with vulnerable groups.

- We have also adapted our curriculum so that it fits our school even better.

These are some of our top priorities and we hope that you agree that they are really important to us being successful.

My intention with the newsletter now is that you will hear from different people in school each week and find out more about what they are doing. There will be slots on curriculum, behaviour, special needs, pastoral support and the role of governors to name but a few. Mr. Beeston will be kicking it off next week. I really hope you find it useful.

Best wishes

Ms Guymer

Bedtime Stories for Years 1 and 2



1 - What a wonderful evening we had at our Bedtime Stories event on Thursday! All children in Years 1 and 2 were invited back to school in the evening to share bedtime stories with a range of storytellers. The children looked all cosy wrapped in their dressing gowns and pyjamas, cuddling their teddy bears and blankets, and we finished off the evening perfectly with a final story all together with a yummy hot chocolate! Thank you to all of those who came, we hope you enjoyed it!

The Orchard Before and After School Club

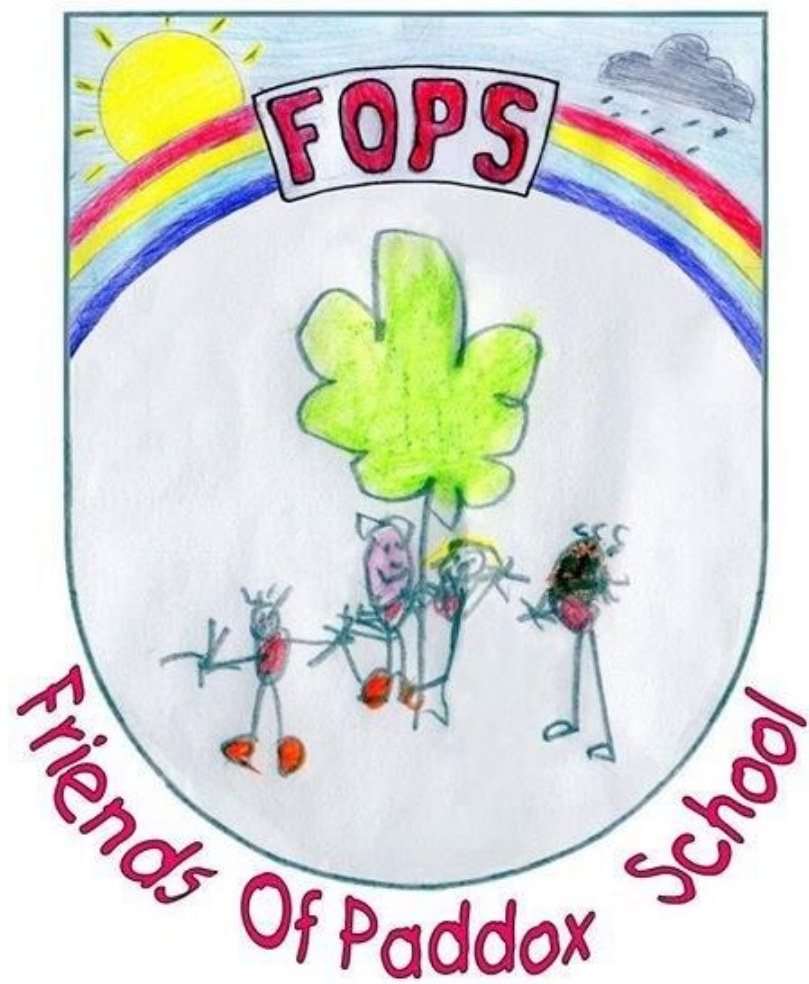


2 - The children who attend The Orchard have been enjoying some Chinese New Year activities.

Teacher-led Afterschool Clubs Reminder

Please remember, **all** teacher-run afterschool clubs that would normally take place on Monday 30 January have been rescheduled to Wednesday 1 February (an email has been sent previously). Key Stage 2 Choir is **not** taking place at all next week - the next Choir afterschool club will be on Monday 6 February 2023.

Friends of Paddox School (FOPS) Update





3 - As many of you will have noticed, we now have a permanent clothes bank on the driveway. This replaces the Bag2School collections and means we can all donate unwanted clothes at any time instead of waiting for the next bag collection. FOPS will be paid 40p per kilo each time the bank is emptied so please help us fill it with clothes, belts, shoes and handbags!

School uniform donations for our preloved uniform sales should continue to be left in the yellow bin as usual. Thank you to everyone who has donated their outgrown uniform to us over the past couple of years. Since we started this initiative it has raised over £800 for our school (and has saved parents even more than that!).

This Saturday is the Hogwarts Experience! If your child is attending, please reread the letter to check what they should and shouldn't bring with them and please give them lunch before you drop them off.

Information for Paddox Families

Separated Families Workshop For Children

We are delighted to be able to host another weekly workshop for children who are living in a separated family. The family might be going through separation now, or it may have happened some time ago.

The workshop will run for 6-8 sessions to offer the children the opportunity to discuss their feelings about the separation and the difference it has made to their lives. The workshop is open to children from **year 2 to year 6 initially**. The sessions are due to start on Thursday 9 February and will take place during the afternoon at school. Places will be offered on a first come, first served basis.

Please contact **Kim Clarke** on **01788 572340** or email: **clarke.k1@welearn365.com**¹

¹<https://clarke.k1@welearn365.com>

Look Up Challenge

Look up



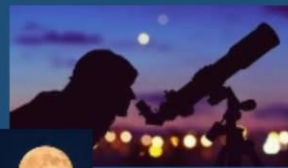
Dressing up warm, going into your garden in the dark, observing the magnificence of the night sky! Whether we are looking at the Moon with our eyes, using an app to identify the stars or even learning to use a telescope or binoculars, we can all get excited about a Star Gazing.

To enter our competition, simply send us a photo before, during or after your BIG NIGHT OUT 📱 with your child's name and class to:

Mrs Barnes: barnes.l3@welearn365.com

Or send it to your class teacher and they can forward it to Mrs Barnes.

Closing date 3/2/2023 You will receive a leaf for every entry and ASTRONAUT ICECREAM for the winning photos (1 per year group!)



Useful tips and ideas can be found here:

https://www.skyatnightmagazine.com/advice/skills/stargazing_for-kids/

https://www.nationalgeographic.co.uk/space/2020/04/need_new-idea-keep-kids-entertained-try-stargazing

https://www.amnh.org/explore/ology/astronomy/a_kid-s-guide-to-stargazing

Important Reminders



Healthy School: We are striving to be a healthy school. Please ensure that any snacks brought into school are in keeping with this aim. We are seeing an increase in the number of chocolate bars and crisps that children are bringing in to school.

Lunch Boxes: Please make sure lunch boxes and water bottles are named. Please check that your child is taking home their own lunchbox each day - a lot of children have similar lunch boxes so please do make sure they are taking home the correct one.

The Orchard Before and Afterschool Club: All information about The Orchard can be found on our website - please click [here](https://www.paddoxprimary.com/page/?title=The+Orchard&pid=580)² Bookings should be made by 10am on the Friday prior to the following week. Bookings and payments should be made via School Money. Please email admin2625@welearn365.com³ if you are unable to login to School Money.

²<https://www.paddoxprimary.com/page/?title=The+Orchard&pid=580>

³<mailto:admin2625@welearn365.com>

Dates for your diary



Saturday 28 January: FOPS The Hogwarts Experience - letters have already been sent out to successful Hogwarts students

Monday 30 January - Friday 3 February: Protective Behaviours Week

Tuesday 31 January and Thursday 2 February: Year 1 Group Assembly (emails have been sent informing parents of which day)

Wednesday 8 February: Parent Coffee Morning in the Paddock Centre / The Orchard Building from 9am

Monday 13 February: Year 6 Height and Weight Monitoring

Friday 17 February: Non school uniform day

Half term: Monday 20 February to Friday 24 February 2023 inclusive