



P a d d o x

Paddox Primary Newsletter 26 May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I believe there has been some confusion around the start time for the school day. In line with government guidance, my understanding was that Mrs Le Poidevin had informed everyone, parents and staff that from September, the school day would start just five minutes earlier at 8.50am. I know that staff were informed but perhaps we were not as clear as we could have been elsewhere, if that is the case, then I apologise. From after half term, we will now make sure that doors open at 8:40am to ensure that there is still a ten minute window for arrival to happen which I hope will alleviate the pressure of there only being five minutes between the doors opening and the closing of the register. I will also look to adjust the gate and drive duty times to align with this. We will monitor the situation to make sure the system is working and adjust further if necessary. Sorry again for any confusion caused.

I had the pleasure of being involved with the Year 4 Camp Out last night. The team had done a great job of organising super activities for the children and of course the sun shone all day. As long as we don't dwell on the amount of sleep that was had by some, we can definitely say it was a huge success! Half

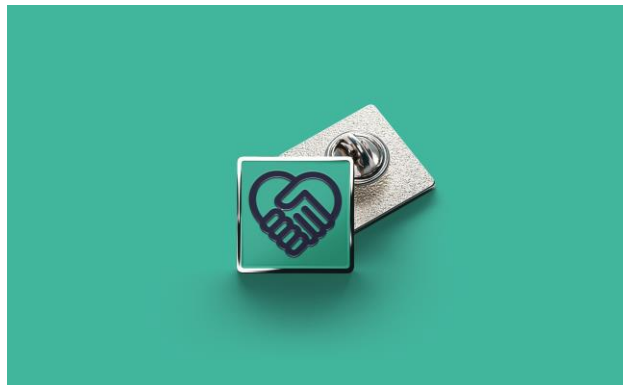
term will be a welcome break for them and for all of us and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Tuesday 6 June after our training day.

Best wishes,

Kate Guymer

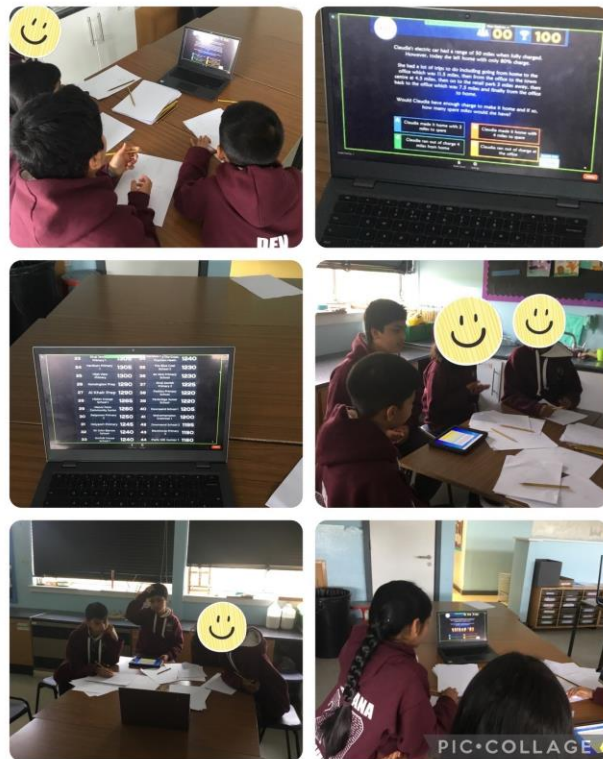
Headteacher

What's been happening in school this week?



1 - Anti-bullying Ambassadors 'respect' badge

We are proud to announce that the Anti-bullying Ambassadors have been awarded the 'respect' badge by the Diana Award! The children have been working hard, this past year, to create and deliver assemblies, invent initiatives, raise anti-bullying awareness and support children at Paddox. Representatives at the Diana Award were impressed with the variety and quality of what the children have produced. A special mention goes to Matilda who completed the lengthy application form independently!



A huge well done to our Year 6 Maths Team who took part in today's Quiz Club National Mathematics Competition. Through excellent teamwork and problem solving skills, the team achieved a final score of 1220, finishing in the top 10% of all competing schools - great work team!



On Wednesday, Reception, Key Stage 1 and Year 3 took part in a special event to celebrate the 30th anniversary of A Squash and a Squeeze by Julia Donaldson. We had a virtual workshop with the illustrator, Axel Scheffler, who shared a few Julia Donaldson stories with us and showed us how to draw some of his and Julia's iconic characters. We had a great time drawing along and listening to the stories and even enjoyed a special Squash and Squeeze song sung by Julia Donaldson herself!

Each class now has their own copy of the special anniversary version of A Squash and a Squeeze, or the newly published 'How to Draw Gruffalo and Friends'. These are also available at Hunts bookshop if the children would like their own copy.

The event will be kept on YouTube for one month for those who missed it, or if the children would like to watch it again at home - click here¹



2 - Neurodiversity and Inclusion

'The world needs different kinds of minds to work together' – Mary Temple Grandin

Last Friday, we were incredibly fortunate to be visited by five pupils from Houlton School who led powerful assemblies about neurodiversity and inclusion.

¹https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GjN_zwPOoQg&feature=youtu.be

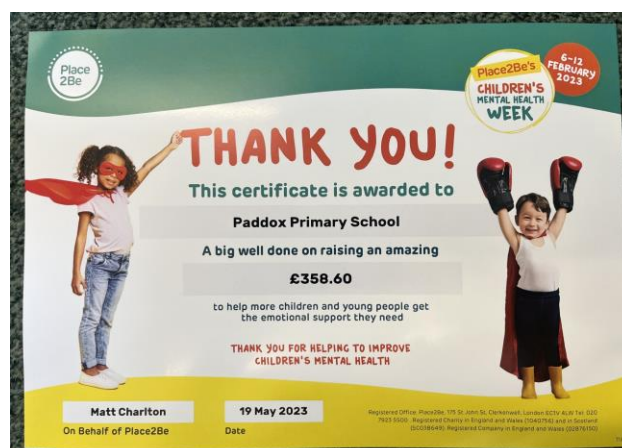
Four of the Houlton pupils led an assembly to our KS2 children and shared their experience of autism, ADHD and dyslexia. They also spoke about how their friends and the adults in their lives support them through any difficulties they face, with a particular focus on how they manage the demands of school life. A particularly poignant moment was when one of the pupils shared a poem he had written about neurodiversity, bringing some of our teachers to tears! Our KS2 pupils engaged so well with the assemblies by showing an immense amount of respect, by asking relevant questions and then engaging well in conversations with their teachers afterwards.

KS1 were visited by a fifth Houlton pupil later in the morning, who spoke to them about her experience of autism and what it means to have a brain that works slightly differently to other people. The KS1 pupils asked some fantastic questions, and were wonderfully welcoming towards their special guest.

We thoroughly enjoyed linking up with Houlton School to talk about inclusion – our children made the students feel very welcome, and as a result they are keen to come back to visit us in the future! Overall, as a staff team we felt very proud to be Paddox teachers that day, and there was a brilliant atmosphere around school. It was great to give neurodiversity the spotlight that it deserved, and long may the conversations continue!



3 - Please do read the letter emailed today about the new **Parentapps Connect** - this will be launching after half term and will be the new way we communicate with parents going forward.



4 - Following Children's Mental Health Week back in February this year, we raised **£358.60** for Place 2 Be - thank you to everyone who contributed.

P.E Update from Mrs Knight



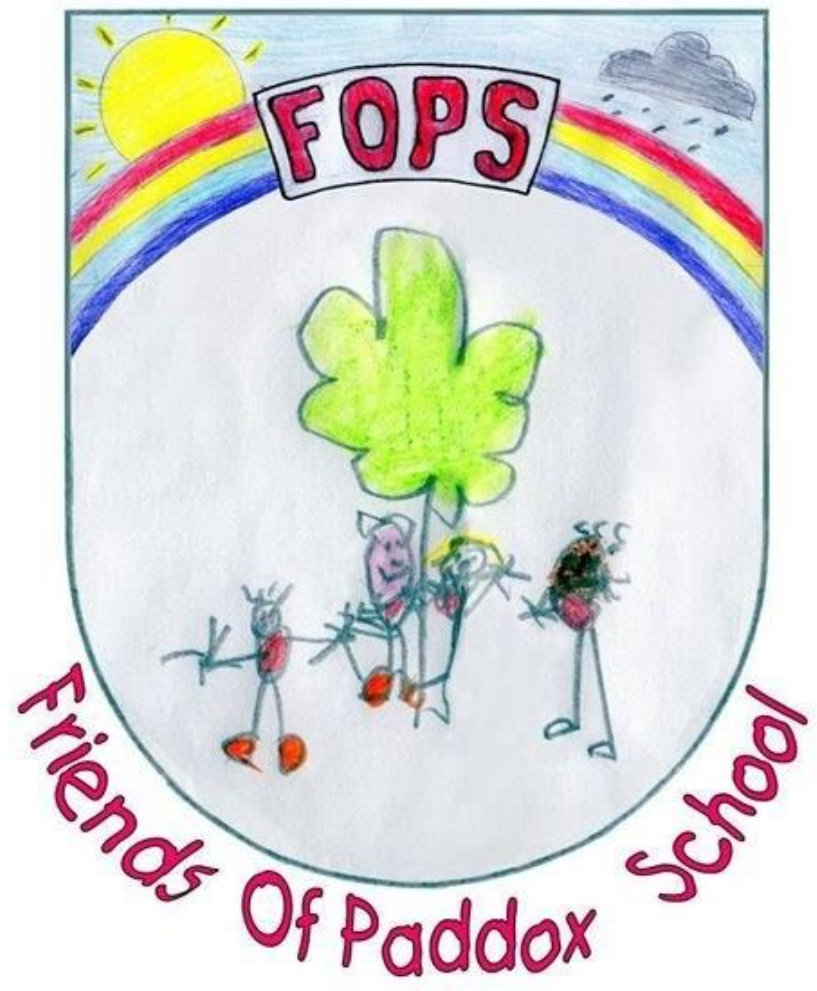
We are excited to announce that Bex Raynor, from Sheffield United, will be visiting Paddox on Thursday 29 June! She will be joining the children in sponsored circuit exercises. By now, your child should have brought home a sponsorship form which explains how the money raised will be spent, including funds for our school. Please let the office know if your child hasn't received a sponsor form. **Please also ensure your child comes into school in their P.E kit on Thursday 29 June.**

A crowdfunder page has been opened up for our school so you can add sponsorship details online - click [here](#)²

Any sponsorship money must be handed into the office no later than **Wednesday 21 June.**

²<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/the-paddox-primary-school-fundraiser>

Update from Friends of Paddox School (FOPS)



Firstly, a big thank you to everyone who took part in Walk to School Week last week. It was great to see so many of you walking, scooting and cycling to school. Tuesday saw the grand opening of the new bike hoops when the winner of our poster competition, Mia in Year 2, cut the ribbon! Then we had a great turnout on Wednesday for the Scoot n' Ride event on the field. The children had fun playing on their bikes and scooters and it raised over £40. A huge thank you to the police for attending and security marking the children's bikes during the event. The uniform sale on the same day raised another £80 – many thanks to all of you who came along to stock up on summer uniform.



Looking ahead now to the final half term of this year, plans for the summer fair on 7 July are well underway! We still have pitches available for stallholders, so if you have a small business selling craft

items or similar and would like to know more, please get in touch. Stallholders don't have to be Paddox parents so if you know anyone else who may be interested, they're welcome to contact us too. You can email us on friendsofpaddoxschool@outlook.com³

Important Reminders



Absence: If your child is not going to be in school please ensure you notify the school office via telephone on 01788 572340 or email to admin2625@welearn365.com⁴

If you wish to take your child out of school for any other reason other than illness or medical appointments, you need to request an **Application for Leave of Absence for a School Pupil in Term Time** form for each child. This should be completed and returned to the school office prior to the absence for Ms Guymer to review and respond. Please give as much advance notice as possible.

Please click here⁵ to read the information from gov.uk about requesting to take your child out of school during term term.

Lost Property: Please can you make sure that ALL items of uniform are **clearly labelled** with your child's name and class. LARRY is full again of unnamed lost property which we can't return to rightful owners! LARRY is wheeled out to the playground by the year 6 doors every Friday morning and afterschool (weather permitting). Please check to see if any items belong to your children.

Nut Free and Sesame Seed Free Zone: Paddox is a NUT FREE and SESAME SEED FREE ZONE. We do not allow these items in school. This also applies to **any school trips** that take place and require your child to bring a packed lunch. We have an increasing number of children with severe allergies to nuts and/or sesame seeds.

³<https://friendsofpaddoxschool@outlook.com>

⁴<mailto:admin2625@welearn365.com>

⁵<https://www.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence>

The items that should not come into school include nut based spreads like peanut butter, hazelnut spreads and snacks (e.g. Nutella), almond butter/spread, cashew butter/spread and salads that may have nuts or seeds included in them, as well as sesame seed snacks (e.g. Sesame Snaps, sesame bagels)*. Please make sure that your child is not bringing nut based or sesame seed products to school in their lunch boxes. *Please note this list is not exhaustive.

School Lunch Menu: the menu will be week number **1** when we return after half term. The price increases to **£2.42 per meal** per day (or **£12.10 per week**) payable **in advance** on Pay 360 Education Payments⁶ or cash only to the school office. The total for the whole half term is **£82.28**. Click here⁷ to see the school menu.

Dates for your diary



*Half term is Monday 29 May-Friday 2 June inclusive plus a Teacher Training day on Monday 5 June - children will return to school on **Tuesday 6 June***

⁶<https://www.pay360educationpayments.com/>

⁷<https://www.paddoxprimary.com/page/?title=School+Menu&pid=14>

Year 5 and Year 6 Athletics trip: Wednesday 7 June

Parent Council Meeting: Thursday 8 June

Class Photographs: Tuesday 13 June

New Reception Parents (2023/24) Information Evening: Tuesday 13 June

Year 6 (selected children only) Dental examination (part of The National Dental Epidemiology Programme): Tuesday 13 June

Year 4 and Year 2 Responsible Active Citizenship Fundraising: Thursday 15 June

Year 6 Brownlee Foundation Mini Triathlon: Monday 19 June

Year 3 Humanities Trip: Tuesday 20 June

Year 1 and 2 Football Festival: Tuesday 20 June

Reception Teddy Bears Picnic and Responsible Active Citizenship Fundraising: Tuesday 20 June

Year 2 Humanities Trip: Friday 23 June

Year 3 Responsible Active Citizenship Fundraising: Tuesday 27 June

Bex Rayner, Sheffield United Football player visits Paddock: Thursday 29 June

Year of Humanities Celebrations Days: Thursday 29 and Friday 30 June

All Summer Term dates are uploaded onto our school calendar on our website - please click here⁸

⁸<https://www.paddockprimary.com/calendar/?calid=3&pid=3&viewid=28>

Enjoy a (hopefully) sunny half term and see you all back in school at
8:50am, on Tuesday 6 June 2023

