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Spring Newsletter 1 - Friday 12th January 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

Happy New Year! I do hope you all had a lovely time during the Christmas and New Year break.

If you have been to the School office or rung us this term you may have noticed that we have a new member of staff who has joined us in the main office; Miss Bella Cox will be working every day in the school office from now on, supporting our current staff. We would like to welcome Bella to our team and hope that she enjoys her new career at Little Paxton Primary School.



Mrs Anscomb has returned from maternity leave and so we also welcome her back to school. Mrs Anscomb is currently going to be working 2 full days on Thursdays and Fridays. She is going to be supporting various classes / groups / children during her time.

We are very excited that we are to have two visitors in school for the next two weeks; we will be welcoming two teachers from Shanghai who will be working in Y2 and Y4. You may remember that Miss Watts had the privilege to go to Shanghai last September when she spent time in these two teachers' schools.



We are very proud that Little Paxton has now been chosen to host the return leg of this teacher exchange. This exchange is a nationally run project, funded by the Department for Education and each County's Maths Hub was invited to take part. The teachers will be teaching just one maths lesson per day each in the selected classes. Our staff get the chance to observe the lessons and to see the methodology and strategies that they employ. The Maths lessons are planned in conjunction with our class teachers and so the content will be exactly what would have been taught during the two weeks. We will also be welcoming teachers from across



Cambridgeshire schools to observe some of the lessons as well as it is such a great opportunity for us all. Having seen the exchange last year when it was held at Thorndown Primary in St Ives, and seeing how the staff and the children benefited greatly from the experience, we are very proud and pleased to be hosting it here this year.

A reminder that the School/County's new attendance policy came into force at the beginning of January 2018. If you haven't had chance to look at it then it is on our website. If you have any problems accessing it then please contact the school office. This is very important if you are planning to request leave for your child during school time.





We are pleased to inform you that we have been accepted by Tesco to compete for some of their charitable funding; when you shop at Tesco in St Neots please make sure you ask for your blue token to

place in the voting pot for our school! This especially applies if you do the "scan your own shopping" as often the tokens are hidden away and you need to ask for them. The funding allocated can be quite significant so we are keen to do well. Please also mention this to your family and friends! Loves' Farm Tesco and Eaton Socon Express Tesco are also taking part. Thank you for your support.

Unfortunately we have already had two complaints about parking outside school this term! One was a car parking right on the corner of the junction opposite and one about a parent who apparently constantly drops her children off anywhere including on the pedestrian crossing, yellow lined areas etc. Please be aware that we are encouraging people to pass vehicle details and/or photos on to the police when they see such infringements and unsafe behaviours.



A reminder that we have many ways of contacting school if you have a question, query or complaint. This could be by phone, email, letter or Class Dojo. Posting issues on Facebook will not get answers from the school nor is it giving us chance to sort the problem for you. Thank you.

You will be receiving details about our next parents' evenings quite soon; this will include details about when the booking system will open online. The dates and times for the evenings are: Tuesday 6th February from 3.40pm – 5.40pm and Thursday 8th February from 3.30pm – 5.40pm and 6.40pm – 8pm. Please remember that our training day this term is **Monday 19th February** which is the day **after** February half term.



Kindest Regards

Diane Hawkes – Headteacher