

Bits and Pieces PAXTON M CLASS

Hunter Wetlands Education Centre



On Monday Paxton students attended an excursion to the Hunter Wetlands Education Centre as part of our Living World subject in Science. Paxton M, along with some students from Paxton C, were scientists. We walked for 3 kilometres along Ironbark Creek, passing through mangroves. We had fun discovering things along the way using very expensive equipment to measure the water quality of Ironbark Creek and local weather. We learned about the history and plants of the land including bush tucker, and the Awabakal and Darkinung People, it's time as the Newcastle Dump and local football ground.

In the afternoon we went dip-netting in one of the lakes to catch some small water insects. The insects were so small we had to use electronic microscopes to see them swim in petri dishes. We left the wetlands itchy and with little patience due to the intense mosquito presence.



Newcastle Writers' Festival



Last week we attended Cessnock Public School for a Newcastle Writers' Festival Author Visit. Tristain Bancks gave a presentation detailing his creative process, his relationship with his illustrator, and sharing some childhood stories. Some

writing tips he gave students included using and embellishing real events to create a fictional narrative, and moving the plot of a narrative forward by forcing characters to make decisions. Paxton M had an excellent time listening to and meeting Tristain Bancks.



Written by Paxton M with Miss McGaughey
Class teacher

OBSTACOOOL

On Friday of Week 10, we were very lucky to have 'ObstAcool' in our school for the day. Students had two 40 minute sessions in their class groups and were then invited to have a free jump as a reward for PBL in the afternoon. Thank you Obstacool!



Paxton Public School

SAFETY, TEAMWORK, ACHIEVEMENT AND RESPECT

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Term 1-Week 11 Friday 13th April 2018

Mrs Murphie would like to pass on her appreciation for the beautiful flowers and well wishes from the P&C, staff, students, and families.

Principal's Report

Staff Development Day Term 1 - change of date

Please be aware that the Staff Development Day for Term 2 which was scheduled for Monday 30th April **has been moved to Friday 11th May** (Friday Wk 2, Term 2). The date change is due to the Cessnock Community of Great Public Schools (CCGPS) holding a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Conference for teachers from our Cessnock schools to attend. **This means that all students and staff will return for the first day of Term 2 on Monday 30th April. Students will then not attend school on Friday 11th May.** We thank you for your support in this matter and if you have any questions about this please chat to Leeanne or myself.



NAPLAN: disability adjustments

In May our Year 3 & 5 students will sit the NAPLAN. Parents/carers and schools can request special provisions such as a scribe and extra time for students with a disability. If you would like more information about this please speak to Mrs Clark (Year 3) or myself (Year 5).

Paxton C and Mrs Clark's Report

Harmony Day

Harmony Day is a day about friendship and cultural diversity. We dressed in orange to represent inclusiveness. We had a picnic lunch together and painted a love heart canvas in the afternoon. It was lovely to have a day of caring for each other.



Bullying. NO WAY!

To recognise the National Day of Action against bullying we learnt about the importance of respecting each other despite our differences. Years 4-6 also participated in an anti-bullying webinar.

PSSA Cricket

In Week 8, our students teamed up with Mulbring PS to compete in the PSSA Cricket Competition. The girls were up against New Lambton PS and the boys played Kurri PS. Well done! (Thank you Ms Orr for coaching).



Soccer Gala Day

During Week 9, our primary boys teamed up with Congewai PS and Ellalong PS to play soccer for the Northern NSW Mini Roos. It was a fabulous Gala Day, according to Mr O'Driscoll and the students.

Newcastle Writers Festival

In Week 10, we were lucky to participate in the Newcastle Writers Festival. Years 3/4 travelled by bus to Bellbird PS to meet Yvette Poshoglian! (Author of Ella and Olivia, Frankie Fox and Escape from Cockatoo Island). Years 5/6 met Tristan Bancks! (Author of Tom Weekly and The Fall). What a wonderful opportunity provided by Sandy Ryan, Children's Librarian at Cessnock Library.



Hunter Wetlands Education Centre

On Monday, K-6 travelled by bus to the Shortland Wetlands as part of our Living World topic in Science. Students had the opportunity to learn about mangroves, nature, sustainability, bugs and insects. We used dipnets, thermometers,

microscopes, water tubes and water collectors to carry out experiments. Despite the mosquitoes, we had a lot of fun!



Assembly Awards

Congratulations to the following students on their achievements.



Paxton S class	
Tyler Boorman	Immersing himself when learning about patterns in maths groups
Noah Blyton	Working hard in reading groups
Maximus Smith	Showing initiative in helping his peers
Paxton C class	
Reide Blyton	A great effort in Science
Ruby Strevens	Mature answers when learning about relationships in PDH
Taleana Gibson	Trying hard in Cricket
Paxton M class	
Nicole Siggins	A huge improvement in reading
Chaise Grunsell	Great recall of concepts in Maths
Aidan Dawes	Great work in spelling
Principal's Awards	
Makayla Ball	Working extremely hard in all areas of learning in Paxton C
Jeremy Dafer	Demonstrating perseverance during challenging tasks
Paxton Star Awards	
William Brown	Achievement in class
Emi-Jay Brown	Achievement in Mathematics
Taylah Orlowski	Trying hard in Maths (Achievement)
Reading Awards	
Emi-Jay Brown (25)	Ella Russell-Crowley (25)
Hayley Ball (25)	Tyler Boorman (50)
Jeremy Dafer (50)	

Wk	Date	Upcoming Events
11	Fri 13/4	Last day of Term 1
Term 2		
1	Mon 30/4	Teachers and students return
	Wed 2/5	Back to school breakfast
	Thur 3/5	Starstruck
	Fri 4/5	Zone Cross Country
2	Thur 10/5	Mothers Day activities
	Fri 11/5	Staff Development Day

Year 6 Disco

Earlier this term, to raise money for end of year celebrations, Year 6 hosted an awesome, groovy disco for everyone! We played party games and had delicious pizza for dinner. It was fantastic!



Easter Celebrations

On a hot but fabulous afternoon, we celebrated Easter. We created spectacular Easter hats, that we paraded and had an excellent egg hunt! Riley Young took out first place in the P&C raffle and Miss Orr won (almost) every other prize! We also had a lovely assembly to recognise student achievement. We had a very speggtacular day!



- Thank you! -

Thanks to all those who supported our recent Hot Cross Bun drive and Easter Raffle. All money raised goes to improving our school for all students and staff.

- Mothers' Day -

The P&C will be hosting their annual Mothers' Day stall on Thursday May 10th. A lovely range of gifts will be available for students to purchase from \$1.



Thank you for supporting Paxton Public School P&C
Together we can make a difference

Paxton S Class

Maths

Early number learning is important to the development of algebraic thinking in later stages. Repeating patterns can be created using sounds, actions, shapes, objects, stamps, pictures and other materials. Students are learning to communicate using the following language: group, pattern, repeat. The ability to recognize and create patterns helps children make predictions based on their observations; this is an important skill in math. Understanding patterns help prepare children for learning complex number concepts and mathematical operations. Patterns help children learn sequencing and to make predictions which leads to mathematical skills, logic structure in algebra, and to establishing order in life. As the children sort objects such as green blocks from yellow ones to build a tower, they begins to notice things repeat in a certain order by size, shape or colour.



Writing Groups

The main focus of our writing instruction in Kindergarten and Year 1 is to teach the basics of how to write, to show a purpose for writing, and to reinforce a love of writing. In Paxton S the students need to learn how to use their own sight-words, word walls or other environmental print, as well as use their knowledge of sounds. The students work together in small groups so the teaching explicitly targets their particular needs. Writing is a learned skill. It is best done through gradually encouraging the children to be more independent writers. We model the writing process that we want to teach, we do shared writing, interactive writing, guided writing, and then independent writing – but always supporting the writer at his or her stage of development with what is needed to move forward.

Happy Holidays, From Paxton S and Mrs Shoesmith



Paxton C Class

Science - Predators of the Living World

Science has been quite juicy for Paxton C in the last few weeks! We have learnt all about the relationships among different predators and prey, of the living world. We expanded our vocabulary by comparing mutually beneficial relationships (like bees to honey) with competitor relationships (lions and antelope). During Literacy, students wrote 'clue cards' to quiz their peers about predator—prey relationships. See if you can guess Reide Blyton's animal!

My animal eats...

Sharks, rays and fish.

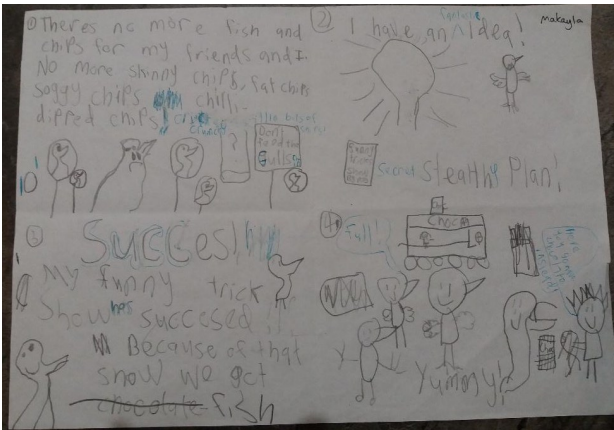
My animal is eaten by...

NOTHING!

It's an Apex predator!

Planning for great writing!

Our latest 'writing process' has been completed on the book called 'Chip' by Kylie Hayworth—an entertaining picture book that tells the story of a seagull named 'Chip' who survives by eating the fish and chip scraps of 'Joe's Van'! That is until he puts a stop to it! The seagulls have to devise a plan to trick Joe into feeding them again. Paxton C prepared wonderful plans that led to fantastic stories about many different ways the seagulls took revenge on 'Joe's Chip Van'. See Makayla Ball's wonderful plan!



Happy holidays, Mrs Clark