



Cranford CE Primary Newsletter

Date: 19/01/2024

Working together for all children to prosper, be full of hope and be excited about their future

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope this newsletter find you well and that you are surviving the cold weather in the mornings. We are very much into the swing of things here at Cranford and we have lots off exciting activities to share with you all!!

We have a close relationship with the Mintridge Foundation, in fact their founder Alex Wallace was a student with us and has very fond memories of her time at our school. So, it is always a treat to be able to invite their ambassadors into school. This week, Ben Gallagher, who is an Invictus Games medallist and in training for this year's Paralympic Games in Paris, deliverered an inspirational assembly. Ben has achieved remarkable things despite some tremendous adversity in his life. It is so important that the children hear from amazing role models, and I know that many of the children were inspired to refocus on their goals. Ben will be working with several of our older pupils as a mentor over the coming months: offering advice and guidance as they move onto the next stages of their educational journey.



As you will be aware, we are always looking for ways to promote reading in our school, so it was lovely to be able to invite one of the more mature members of our school community into our school this week. Anne astounded us with her energy and enthusiasm, and I know that the children from Elms class loved spending time with a beautiful book and getting lost in Anne's story telling skills. They even got to cuddle some of the characters from the book!



The hard work on developing reading start straight away at Cranford and we are rightly proud of our phonics provision. The team do an amazing job and the result is that the children in Acorns and Elms have a brilliant start to their 'reading journey'. It was lovely to receive a letter from Minister for Schools, Damian Hinds congratulating us on our brilliant Phonic Screen Check Scores which place us in the top 1% of all primary schools. More importantly, all the hard work means that our children develop the key skills to ensure that they have every opportunity to flourish and prosper in the future!!



I am writing to congratulate you on your school's outstanding achievement in the 2023 Phonics Screening Check.

We want to ensure every child develops a firm grasp of phonics as the basis on which to improve standards of reading. As such I was delighted to see your results.

With 100 per cent of pupils in Year 1 at Cranford CofE Primary School meeting the expected standard in the check, your school is in the top 1 per cent of all primary schools in the country.

The latest figures show that 83 per cent of pupils who met the expected standard in the check went on to achieve at least the expected standard in reading at key stage 2 in 2023, which underlines the importance of developing the ability to decode words effectively at an early age.

Your particular success in teaching phonics and early reading so effectively means your pupils are developing a firm foundation, from which they can become increasingly fluent and develop a lifelong love of reading.

I would like to thank you for your commitment and success in this vital area of a child's early education and congratulate you, your staff and pupils again on all you have achieved.

Yours sincerely,



Damian Hinds
Minister for Schools

Last week, you will have received messages from class teachers (during the parent drop-ins) and myself around reading expectations at home. I have spoken to several parents about the difficulties that reading at home can present for parents. As a school, we will always try to support members of our school community, so if you are struggling with anything - please do not hesitate to contact myself or you child's teacher.

Have a wonderful, restful weekend. Make sure you wrap up warm and I will see you on the school gates on Monday.

Mr Tyman

Safeguarding Matters

Always be aware of what children are doing when they're on mobile devices (phones, tablets and laptops), computers and game consoles. Make sure they're only accessing age-appropriate content and games, whilst talking to them about the dangers of talking to, or sharing information with, people they don't know.

If you are concerned about the well-being of any child or adult, please speak to either Mr Charteris or Mr Tyman (our safeguarding leads). For out of hours concerns please contact Northamptonshire MASH (multi agency safeguarding hub) on:

0300 126 7000

or out of hours: **01604 626 938.**

Online Safety:

Keeping children safe online is vitally important but also an increasing challenge for parents and carers as children now have so much more access than ever before to the virtual world. We teach online safety in school and to support you at home we would highly recommend downloading the free National Online Safety app which has free guides, resources and courses to keep you up to date. Information can be found here on how to download it:

<https://info.nationalcollege.com/mobile-app>

Winter Prayer

In the midst of Winter, when the days are cold and wind can pierce remind us of the warmth of your love.

In the midst of Winter, when days are short, dawn comes late, and dusk arrives early remind us that in the darkness your light still shines. remind us that Easter is but a short time away.
Amen.

Key Term Dates:

Monday 22/01/2024- Young Voices Concert

Tuesday 23/01/2024- Oaks Class NPAT Samba session

Wednesday 24/01/2024- Police to visit Acorns

Thursday 25/01/2024- Thursday Night Girls Football Year 5/6

Friday 26/01/2024- Celebration Assembly

Monday 29/01/2024- Mrs Kemp's Year 5/6 Choir after school

Monday 29/01/2024- Cranford AGC meeting

Tuesday 30/01/2024- Oaks Class NPAT Samba session

Thursday 01/02/2024- Thursday Night Girls Football Year 5/6

Friday 02/02/2024- Celebration Assembly

Friday 02/02/2024- PDET Maths Enrichment Day - Year 5

Friday 02/02/2024- Year 6 to visit Village Hall- to make Tea and Coffee for the community

Monday 05/02/2024- Year 4 Swimming

Monday 05/02/2024- Elms Reading Club with Ann McCall

Monday 05/02/2024- Mrs Kemp's Year 5/6 Choir after school

Tuesday 06/02 /2024- Oaks Class NPAT Samba session

Wednesday 07/02/2024- New Age Curling KS1 - more info to follow

Thursday 08/02/2024- New Age Curling KS2 - more info to follow

Thursday 08/02/2024- Thursday Night Girls Football Year 5/6

Friday 09/02/2024- Celebration Assembly