



Cranford Park C of E Primary School

NEWSLETTER

1: January 2023

Welcome back to the spring term and a Happy New Year to you all! I do hope you had an enjoyable and restful Christmas break. I would like to thank you all for making me feel so welcome already. It has been lovely to meet some of you at drop off. I will be out there most mornings and will try to vary where I stand to catch you all at some point. I am gradually feeling less like a fish out of water as I get to know the school and I am enjoying getting to know your lovely children this week too. I hope to meet more of you soon.

We have had a busy start to the term and the children are already working hard. We have spoken to them about having a '**Growth Mindset**' and 'Growing their brains' and I have included some information about this below so you can talk about it with your child too.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

This newsletter will come out fortnightly from me on a Friday. I will share news about our achievements and activities in school, as well as give any notices and reminders. I will always provide a list of dates at the end, with new dates in bold to make them easier to spot. I am also



keen to share any significant achievements your children have outside of school – sports tournaments won, acts of charity, etc. If your child does something *extra special*, please do send a photo and a few details through to the office.



It was lovely to meet the 'Friends of Cranford Park' on Monday after school and we had enormous fun planning lots of fun events for you and your children! The F.O.C.P. are a very active group who generously give their time to raise much needed additional funds for the school, but are sadly rather small! We would love to expand the group, so please do come forward if you think you can help in any way at all! It would be especially nice to have some of our newer parents joining. The next meeting is on Monday 6th March straight after school – please do join us!



The F.O.C.P. and I would like to invite you all to a coffee morning at school from drop off on **Monday 30th January**. Come along with your ideas for fundraising, or simply come and enjoy a cuppa and a chat! All are welcome and I look forward to meeting you there.

'Tis the Season to be Snotty!

We are going through a lot of tissues at the moment and so would be very grateful to any parents who could pop an extra box or two in their trolley this week to donate to school! (not travel tissues please as the children can't get them out quickly enough!) Thank you.



Courage

Respect

Peace

PUPIL PREMIUM GRANT

Could you be entitled to extra cash for the school to help you and your child?



Did you know that the school may be able to get extra funding for your child? The government offer 'Pupil Premium' funding to pupils whose families meet the criteria below and the good news is, your child will **keep this funding for the duration of their time here, even if you only meet the criteria for a very short time!** I have even known separated working families to be eligible if they share parental responsibility when only **one** of the households meets the criteria, so if you think there is a chance you may qualify, do give it a go and contact the office. It is very quick for us to do a check for you using your date of birth and National Insurance number. The school will receive funding for your child, which is really helpful and we can use it to support your child's education in many ways.

A child may be eligible if their parents receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)



Could you run a lunchtime club or hear readers for us?

WE NEED YOU!



Thank you to all those who have already volunteered to help out with reading, clubs etc. We are very keen to have even more helpers in school, so do please do come forward if you can spare **any** time to do a regular slot in school, any day of the week, please do get in touch. We welcome parents, grandparents, or any other friends and relatives who would like to be more involved.

Clubs can be anything, from knitting to golf. All volunteers are required to undergo safeguarding checks. Please let the office know if you are interested in helping out!



Courage

Respect

Peace



Dig1t[®]
games



To liven up our Maths lessons, we have purchased Dig1t Maths games. These are games covering number objectives in the National Curriculum for our KS1 and KS2 children. The games, which are based on games you may know, such as 'four in a row', use dice, counters and/or number cards, so that every game is different each time it's played. Our intention is to use the games in class and then send them home for you to play with your children at the weekends. Of course, by then, they will be experts! 😊 Parents are able to purchase their own resource pack for use at home from the Dig1t website, or can avoid the postage charge by ordering these through the school.

Please let us know if you would like to order a bag through us. For more information see the website at: www.dig1t.com.



NSPCC
Number
Day
2023

This year we will be taking part in the NSPCC's Number Day on Friday 3rd February.

The whole school will be involved in a whole day of Number, completing activities that are cross curricular but with a Maths theme. We are also asking the children to 'dress as a digit' that day, perhaps wearing clothes with numbers on or getting really creative! In return, I would like the children to contribute **any coin of their own**. I am a huge believer in teaching children the true meaning of charity. It is all too easy to ask our parents for money, but giving a coin from their **own** money box, whatever its value, means a great deal more. So please do encourage your child to contribute from their **own** money on this day and, if they don't have any, perhaps they can earn some by doing some odd jobs around the house? You are, of course, welcome to donate as well if you wish and all the money raised will then go to the NSPCC.

SMART UNIFORMS

The children have arrived back to school looking wonderfully smart in their uniforms, but we have noticed a few slips here and there. Please support us to help our children look smart in their uniforms by making sure that your child has the following:

- All long hair should be tied back. If it is long enough to be in a pony tail it counts!
- Hair dressings should be plain, simple and preferably in school or hair colours.
- Only plain stud earrings should be worn. No other jewellery is permitted.
- Skirts should reach the knee.
- Key Stage 2 children should have ties done up and shirts tucked in.
- No nail polish is permitted.
- Children should be wearing school shoes, not trainers. Please ask if you are not sure, as I know some school shoes do *look* like trainers. If the children are wearing black trainer style shoes with their normal school uniform, please ensure the **WHOLE** shoe is black (including the sole) and there should be no white/coloured Nike 'tick' or stripes etc.

On PE days, it is fine for trainers to be a different colour. However, children should still be wearing their usual green Cranford Park jumper, cardigan or fleece.

Children grow fast, so don't forget there is good condition second hand uniform available for sale from the FOCP.

Please let us know if there is a genuine reason your child cannot comply, or if you need any help at all with the school uniform. Full details of our uniform can be found on the website: [School Uniform | Cranford Park Primary School](#).

Could we also please appeal to you to ensure that all jumpers/cardigans are named! It can be very tricky at the end of the day trying to match jumpers correctly to their owners. If you have a second hand one, please cross out any old name and write your child's name in. This will help teachers hugely to reunite children with lost clothing.

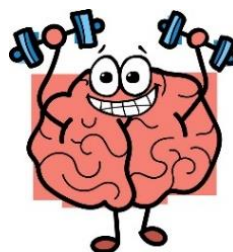
Thank you for your support!

Courage

Respect

Peace

Parent Power Growth Mindset



Our children have been exploring the idea of 'Growth Mindsets.' Research has shown that having a growth mindset can accelerate progress and that children with a growth mindset are more resilient and will embrace

challenges. We have been teaching our children that their brain is like a muscle and can get stronger if they keep trying even when things are difficult. By embracing challenges, they can *literally* grow their brains!

Growth mindset	Fixed mindset
Embraces challenges	Avoids challenges
Accepts criticism and negative feedback as constructive	Rejects criticism and is hurt by negative feedback
Equates reward with effort	Expects reward without effort
Persists in the face of setbacks	Lets setbacks derail them
Never gives up	Gives up easily
Learns from failure	To fail once is to fail completely
"Talent is developed"	"I'm no good at this"
"What more can I do?"	"Why should I bother?"



Over the coming weeks, I will share with you more of the ideas which we will be using to help our children develop growth mindsets. It would be wonderful if you could support us with this at home! The following very short video provides an overview of the idea:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M1CHPnZfFmU>

Can you help us?

Did you get lots of new toys for Christmas? Not got room on the shelf and need a clear out? We are looking for **donations** of the following – new or used - for our new lunchtime 'Mindfulness' club:

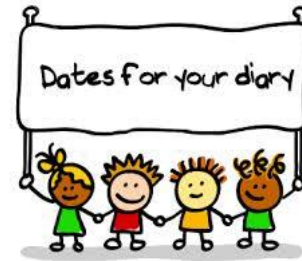
- Lego / construction
- Uno or similar
- Playing cards
- Any games such as Frustration, Pictionary, Scrabble, etc
- Colouring books
- Puzzles with 50 or 100 pieces
- Colouring pens that work well
- Craft activities





CYBERBULLYING

Did you know that more than 56% of young people say they have seen others be bullied online and over 42% have felt unsafe online. Cyberbullying can happen 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and can go viral very fast! Cyberbullying, or online bullying, is when someone uses the internet to bully someone else. It can be online, or through smartphones and tablets. It can take place over Social Networking sites, messaging apps, gaming sites and chatrooms. Cyberbullying can take many different forms, including harassment, impersonations, stalking or even exclusion (intentionally leaving someone out of a group). Anyone who makes threats on the internet could be committing a criminal offence according to UK law. It is worth noting that most Social Media sites recommend a **minimum age of 13** for their use. Of course, ideally, our children would not be on Social Media sites at all. However, I realise it is not always easy to prevent children from accessing these, so over the next few weeks, we will be offering you some 'top tips' for keeping your children safe online, starting with the Cyberbullying guidance below.



New dates are given in bold

Tues 24th Jan: Y1 and Y5 Fire Safety Workshops
Mon 30th Jan: Coffee Morning at drop off
Friday 3rd Feb: NSPCC Number Day
w/b 6th Feb: Children's Mental Health Week
Safer Internet Week
Friday 10th Feb: FOCP Discos – details to follow
Friday 10th Feb: Break up for Half-term
Mon 20th Feb: Children return to school
Tues 21st Feb: Parents' Evenings 3.30 – 6.00pm
w/b 27th Feb: Book Week!
Tues 28th Feb: Bounce for Books! Details to follow.
Fri 3rd March: World Book Day – dress up!
Mon 6th March: 3.15pm FOCP Meeting – all welcome!
Fri 10th March: FOCP BINGO Night
Wed 15th March: FOCP Gift Sale for Mothers' Day
Thurs 30th Mar: EASTER FUN DAY! With 'Easter Tea' for parents from 1.30pm. Details to follow.
Fri 31st March: Break up for Easter Holidays at 1.15pm.
Mon 17th April: Children return to school
Fri 21st April: MUFTI Day for May Fair – details follow
Mon 1st May: May Bank Holiday – May Fair in Yateley
Fri 5th May: Coronation Celebration Event
Mon 8th May: Bank Holiday for Coronation
Tues 9th May: KS2 SATs Testing begins
Friday 26th May: Break up for Half-term
Mon 5th June: INSET DAY
Tues 6th June: Children return to school
Friday 9th June: FOCP 'Freezy Fridays' begin
Fri 23rd June: SUMMER FAIR straight after school
Fri 21st July: Term ends at 1.15pm

How to support as a parent:

- Have an open conversation – offer support and remind your child it is not their fault and that no one deserves to be treated this way. Encourage your child to keep evidence – they can do this by taking a screenshot or keeping the messages received.
- Don't reply – most of the time the bully is looking for a reaction. Tell your child not to reply, instead to tell a trusted adult. Reassure them that even if they are at fault, they should come and talk to you or a trusted adult. You can then work out the best way to resolve the situation together.
- Don't restrict access to technology – taking the device away may prevent them from speaking to you about worrying issues in the future
- Discuss next steps – ask your child what they want you to do next. This might involve speaking to us at school to get support and advice, blocking the user or profile, or reporting the behaviour to the site or service it is on.

Courage

Respect

Peace