



Cranford Park CE Primary School

NEWSLETTER

2: January 2023

What a wonderful couple of weeks we have had, with children enjoying their learning and excitedly telling me that they have 'grown their brains' with the challenges they have had.

Thank you for all your contributions to our Class Funds. The teachers are already busy planning exciting activities! Also, a thank you to all those who donated boxes of tissues or items for our lunchtime club, which have all gone down very well indeed! Keep it coming; thank you so much! 😊

PARENTS' EVENINGS

Hopefully you have all now received a hard copy of our Parents' Evening letter. Please be patient with us as we trial allowing both face-to-face and virtual meetings on the same night! Appointments will be scheduled from 3.30pm until 6.00pm on both days to allow you time to get your children home and sorted before appointments if you wish. This will be an opportunity for you to hear how your child is getting on and to get an indication of any support your child may require at this stage of the year. Please return booking slips as soon as possible to support the class teachers with organising the appointments. Thank you.



Watch out for video game, 'Huggy Wuggy', which has filtered through from social media sites but is **not suitable for young**

children. The main character is a blue bear-like character with long arms and rows of razor sharp teeth. He sings songs and hunts down players whilst they solve puzzles, thus encouraging children to mimic by being unkind to each other. Please contact us if you have any concerns about online safety, or would like more information.



I have been working with our highly capable staff to plan lots of exciting changes in the school. The children, too, have been feeding back their thoughts and wishes, which we are trying to accommodate. We will try to keep you informed about any changes, starting here...

Letting Us Know

Following pupil feedback about communication, all of the classrooms now have a special 'communication box' which the children can use to communicate with their teacher at any time. They can choose to write a note to their teacher, or can simply put their name into the box so the teacher knows they need time to talk. They can



write poems, tell the teacher what they did at the weekend, or share any worries they have. We hope this is just *another* way that our children can be heard.



We are delighted to have introduced some new awards for our children who demonstrate the school values of **peace**, **respect** and **courage**. In true democratic style, children can **nominate** their peers for the award each week, telling their class about positive behaviours they have noticed.



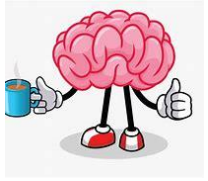
Courage

Respect

Peace

TOP PARENTING TIP!

Accept Mistakes as Learning Opportunities



One of the best ways you can model a **growth mindset** to your child is to speak candidly about the mistakes you've

made, or things you have found difficult, and what you've learned from them. Speak positively about your mistakes and struggles, and this will show your children that taking risks and making mistakes are a natural part of the learning process. Explain to your children that **trying hard** at things is what helps us grow, and you can't be perfect when you first try something challenging! By modelling **resilience** yourself, you will give your children something to aspire to!



We recently met with advisors from the Diocese to discuss our vision and values here at Cranford Park. Advice is that these should be reviewed every three years to ensure that they still reflect the current thinking and needs of the **existing** school community - that's **you!** We will therefore soon be sending out to you a questionnaire, asking you to vote on the three values **you** think are most relevant and useful for us to develop in our children here at Cranford Park at this time of their lives. What should we be focusing on for them? Our children, staff and governors will also be voting. We will then be considering, as a whole school, what our vision might be and we will be asking our pupils to try to symbolise this for us in their drawings to help us come up with a new vision statement! You could talk to your children about your ideas and watch this space for exciting developments!

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It's all Greek to me!

Our Year 6 children recently enjoyed an Ancient Greek Day! George and Naomi report below:



Our Greek day was on 18th January 2023. In the morning I looked at everyone's outfits; they were amazing! After our break we did food tasting. There were olives (ewww), plain

Greek yogurt (yuck) feta cheese (yum), flat bread (so good) and tzatziki (amazing). In the afternoon we did drama. We role-played people in Greek times in Athens and that was good. I got to shout, "The Persians have invaded Miletus!" Then we all went to the hall.



Reported by George H

We had our Greek day on Wednesday 18th January 2023 and it was amazing! We started by going in to the hall where we also saw the Yr 3 stone-age costumes and took photos. Everyone's outfits were extremely good and looked very Greek. The majority of the costumes were gods or goddesses and Emperors. During break, we acted as if we were in Ancient Greece which was great practice for drama in the afternoon. After break we got to try Greek food; a dip, some olives, breadsticks, Greek flatbread and yogurt. In the afternoon we did drama. We were no longer people born in the 20th century. We were men from Athens and we needed to vote. We beat every other city state until the day Sparta beat us. Athens was now over...just like our Greek day!

Reported by Naomi



Fire! Fire!

Our Year 1 and Year 5 children recently enjoyed their Fire Safety workshops! Tessa and Archie report below:



In our fire workshop we learned the main sources of fire. They included stuff such as matches, candles, electronics, cooking and smoking. The main things in a fire are air/oxygen, heat, fuel. We watched a two minute video showing how fast fire spreads. My class looked at a

few pictures showing what houses look like after a fire. A few people in my class did some acting too, on what to do if you are caught in a fire. You need to stop running around because that is giving the fire what it needs, which is air. When you stop you need to drop to the floor and roll so it traps the air causing the fire to burn out. They told us what to do if a fire starts in your house. The first thing you need to do is get out of the house and get the fire department...They told us about smoke alarms too and you need to test them every week. Every family should have a fire escape plan and might want to run their own practice drill with the family to make sure people know what to do.

Reported by Tessa Y5



Today we met a fire fighter that came over and we learnt about different types of fire. You can start a fire by cooking, candles, chimneys, heat and fuel. We watched a video that showed us how fast fire can spread. Some people acted out a scene where someone blew out the candles and their clothes caught on fire. You have to stop, drop and roll and the fire will go out.

Reported by Archie Y5



Year 3 enjoyed a 'Stone Age Day' on Wednesday 18th January...



We all came into the class in fantastic stone age clothes. We learnt a lot of facts and news about stone age. They



used animal skin as clothes and over their tents. Stone age houses are very different to your house. There's a tent, a brick tent and a cave. The biggest is a long house. Stone age people moved where there was food. The people will die if they can't find food. There were no pets only beasts and bugs.
Reported by Chloe

This is what we did on our Stone age day! We had to act a lot and the first bit we did was a timeline of the stone age and the bronze age. Then the lady brought out a carpet. She rolled it out and it was a long house (a long house is one of the first houses). Then the man came out and he was wearing animal skin. He had fluff because he just killed the lady's sheep! The lady was really mad. She said, "I got this sheep from the forest." Then we talked about the long houses with them. At the end we all had a job name and the man was the leader and we were on a city hill.
Reported by Inayah



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Our regular cake sales start this Friday with **Year 2**, so please do support them! Each year group



will take a turn, so please do support all our classes by bringing in cakes when it is your turn to sell and by bringing your money on a Friday to help the cause. Each year group will be able to **keep** their raised funds to buy much needed resources for their own year group. Further dates can be found in our Diary Dates below.



We have ordered more Dig1t resource packs which should be with us around the half term break. If you would like one, please order using SCOPAY. If your child is in receipt of the Pupil Premium Grant, please contact us first.



Don't forget we are still keen to have parents volunteering to help out with hearing readers! If you can spare any time, please speak to the class teacher or office staff. Thank you!



A final thought...

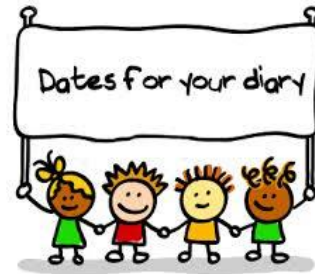
Children learn what they live

- If children live with criticism, they learn to condemn.*
- If children live with hostility, they learn to fight.*
- If children live with fear, they learn to be apprehensive.*
- If children live with pity, they learn to feel sorry for themselves.*
- If children live with ridicule, they learn to feel shy.*
- If children live with jealousy, they learn to feel envy.*
- If children live with shame, they learn to feel guilty.*
- If children live with encouragement, they learn confidence.*
- If children live with tolerance, they learn patience.*
- If children live with praise, they learn appreciation.*
- If children live with acceptance, they learn to love.*
- If children live with approval, they learn to like themselves.*
- If children live with recognition, they learn it is good to have a goal.*
- If children live with sharing, they learn generosity.*
- If children live with honesty, they learn truthfulness.*
- If children live with fairness, they learn justice.*
- If children live with kindness and consideration, they learn respect.*
- If children live with security, they learn to have faith in themselves and in those about them.*
- If children live with friendliness, they learn the world is a nice place in which to live.*

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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
- Friday 3rd Feb: Year 2 Cake Sale after school**
- w/b 6th Feb: Children's Mental Health Week
Safer Internet Week
- Wed 7th Feb: Y2 (Armstrong) Class Assembly**
- 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
- Friday 24th Feb: Year 1 Cake Sale after school**
- 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: Year 5 Cake Sale after school**
- Fri 10th March: FOCP BINGO Night
- Tues 14th Mar: Y5 (Columbus) Class Assembly**
- Wed 15th March: FOCP Gift Sale for Mothers' Day
- Fri 17th March: Old Clothing Collection**
- Thurs 30th Mar: EASTER FUN DAY! With 'Easter Tea' for parents from 1.30pm. Details to follow.
Break up for Easter Holidays at 1.15pm.
- Fri 31st March: Children return to school
- Mon 17th April: MUFTI Day for May Fair – details follow
- Fri 21st April: **Tues 25th April: Y4 (Carter) Class Assembly**
- Fri 28th April: Year 4 Cake Sale after school**
- 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 12th May: Year 3 Cake Sale after school**
- Tues 16th May: Y1 (Earl) Class Assembly**
- Friday 19th May: Year 6 Cake Sale after school**
- Friday 26th May: Year R Cake Sale after school**
- 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
- Tues 13th June: Y3 (Drake) Class Assembly**
- Fri 23rd June: SUMMER FAIR straight after school
- Tues 4th July: YR (Cook) Class Assembly**
- Fri 21st July: Term ends at 1.15pm



Thank you to all those who came in for the coffee morning today. It was lovely to meet more parents and to hear all your ideas. Please do let us know if you have any more ideas for events! ☺