



22: March 2024

We've had some really lovely feedback lately, so thank you so much to all those who have taken the time to write in, or speak to us, to share how happy you are with what is going on in school. I always forward your positive comments on to relevant staff and as I have said before, it really does mean a lot to them. I am lucky to have a team who work really hard to get it right for our children and to create a school we can all be proud of. There is a wonderful sense of community developing in many of our year groups here at Cranford Park and teachers have been thrilled with the offers of support from parents, so thank you so much.

As I've said before, I am keen to hear your ideas, so please do let me know if you have any suggestions. I want to hear what your friends' and relatives' schools are doing too - we are not too proud to nab any good ideas! 😊



Are there any parents or relatives out there who have a Jig saw and could cut out some shapes for us from wood? Please get in touch if you know somebody who can help us, thank you!

Staffing Changes

Mrs Fox has recently decided that the time has come for her to move on from Cranford Park and so she will be leaving us at the end of this term. Mrs Fox has been at the school since September 2019 and has taught several year groups, including Year 4, Year 6 and now Year 2. She is now looking forward to spending more time with her husband and family, including her absolutely delightful grandson. We wish her all the very best of luck for the future. Mrs Russell will be taking over in Year 2 for the summer term, with Mrs Rees working the extra day in Year 5. We will then recruit a new teacher for September.

EASTER EVENTS

We are excited for our Easter events next week and would like to remind you that parents are invited to our **Easter Tea on Wednesday 27th March from 2pm**. The PTA will be serving refreshments in the hall and our classes will come in one at a time, wearing their Easter bonnets, to sing you a 'spring' song. We will start with our youngest children and work our way up to Year 6 before ending with a few songs from our choir. Children will also be making Easter baskets and chocolate nests that day, as well as having a fun Easter egg hunt courtesy of the PTA. The activities will all be funded with our class funds, so thank you for your contributions to this.

There will be another opportunity to hear our spring songs, as well as some other whole school songs, at our **Easter Service on Thursday 28th March** at St Peter's Church, Yateley. We will aim to start at **9.30am**. A reminder that we break up for the Easter holidays at **1.15pm** that day and that there will be no after school club running.

Bouncing for Books!



Our children had a wonderful time bouncing for books during our Book Week! Thank you for the contributions which have come in so far! Remember, the class with the greatest number of sponsors will win a 'treat' so **please do send your forms and sponsorship money back**, even if you only have one or two sponsors – every little counts! **ALL** the money received will be used to provide books for the children throughout the school. So far, Reception and Year 4 are leading but there is still time for other classes to catch up!

BOOK WEEK 2024



Enjoying our dress up day!



Well done to all those who entered our competitions. We really showed our value of creativity!



Congratulations to all the winners!



Our book cover doors look fabulous and we had so much fun creating them!



We enjoyed our visit from author Simon Murray and finding out all about Icky Doo Dah.



One Parent's Email:

I just wanted to say a BIG thank you for all the brilliant activities throughout Book Week - the boys absolutely loved it! We are so lucky to have such a wonderful school full of amazing staff.

Thank you

We were thrilled when our parents and other special people came in to join in the fun!



Bubble Painting Fun



BUTTONS WANTED!

As a child, I played for hours with my mother's button tin! I had favourite ones, would hold 'fashion shows', count them, sort the colours, assign characters to them and so on! Mrs Garrett is now collecting buttons for the Reception class to use in creative ways! If you or any relatives have any buttons you no longer need, please bring them in for our Reception class, thank you!



Letting Their Light Shine!



Our children have been really busy lately letting their light shine!



Bella took place in the steel city trophy in Sheffield. She was in Spice



Crystals team and it was live-streamed on you tube so if you want to see, search for steel city trophy day 2. Bella's team are on towards the end at about 3hrs 16mins on the video. Bella won a silver medal and as vice-captain went up on the podium!

Hannah was delighted when she received a much coveted 'Blue Peter Badge' and certificate for sending in the poem she wrote in her Forest School session.



Joshua recently won 'Player of the Match' for his team, Woodley United FC, who play in the Berkshire Youth Development League. He has been training really hard every week to improve his skills and is being a supportive team player. His hard work has certainly paid off and he was

recognised for a great effort during a very competitive match at the weekend, as shown by his rather muddy knees!

Congratulations to Rupert who recently passed his Grade 2 piano exam with a Distinction! He is quite rightly feeling very proud of his achievement!



Ruby and her sister Zoe recently enjoyed a visit to Chelsea's football ground with their grandparents, using the free tickets we were given! Ruby tells me she is a huge fan!


Adults can let their light shine too, using their gifts to help others and make the world a better place! Our thanks to Mr Sharman for fixing the Year 4 classroom door handle when it came off!

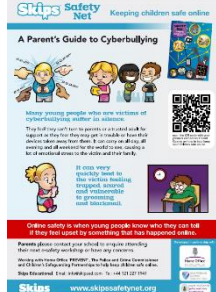


Thank you to Mr Wheeler who has fixed the table tennis net after it was damaged on a very stormy day.



Thank you to Chris Hibbert and John Sullivan from Koncept Home Improvements who fixed our broken window free of charge. We are very grateful!





Hopefully you have all seen our internet safety poster - a parent's guide to cyberbullying - which was sent out recently. Please ask if you require a hard copy.



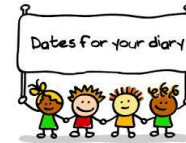
Our Year 2 and Year 4 children recently visited St Peter's Church where they took a walk through the Easter story, meeting and

interviewing characters from the story! Our children were impeccably behaved and asked some really excellent questions. We were very proud of them!



Budget

Some parents have asked me why our budget is so tight, so I thought I would have a go at explaining. Schools are funded by the pupil and primary schools receive about 4.5K for each pupil each year. So although our small classes are nice educationally, they are expensive to run! Once staffing (teachers, LSAs and admin staff) have been paid for, there is very little left in the pot for other things. This is why we ask for **voluntary** contributions from parents to help us out, but there is absolutely no obligation to contribute. We are very grateful indeed for **any** help we get. Some parents have recently requested that we ask for any **items** we need too and so the teachers are starting to do this as well. Our thanks to all of you who have been kind enough to purchase resources for us already. Again, there is no obligation to do so, but if we don't ask, we don't get, so we will continue to ask. 😊



New and changed dates are given in bold

- Mon 25th March: Class photographs
- Wed 27th March: Easter Fun Day with Easter tea for parents
- Thurs 28th March: Wear a hat day – **postponed**
- Thurs 28th March: Easter Service **9.30am St Peter's Church**
- Thurs 28th March: Break up for Easter Holidays 1.15pm
- Fri 12th April: Bikeability at school**
- Mon 15th April: Children return to school
- Mon 15th April: 3.30pm PTA Meeting – all welcome**
- Wed 17th April: Year 3 trip to Milestones Museum
- Wed 17th April: Y5 to Wellington College
- Wed 24th April: Y5 to Wellington College
- Fri 26th April: PTA Mufti Day for bottles (Lions fair)
- Wed 1st May: Y5 swimming
- Mon 6th May: May Bank Holiday
- Mon 6th May: Lions May Fair
- Wed 8th May: Y5 swimming
- w/b 13th May: Year 6 SATs Testing week
- 13th to 15th May: Y5 Residential to Runways End
- Fri 17th May: PTA Mufti Day for sweets
- w/b 20th May: Walk to school week
- Wed 22nd May: Y5 swimming
- Thurs 23rd May: Break the rules day! (shhhh!)
- Friday 24th May: Break up for half term
- Monday 3rd June: INSET Day
- Tues 4th June: Children return to school
- Tues 4th June: Y4 govt multiplication checks begin
- Wed 5th June: Y5 swimming
- Wed 5th June: Lions Club presenting books to school
- Fri 7th June: Y3 Residential Sleepover
- w/b 10th June: Y1 Govt Phonics screening checks
- Wed 12th June: Y5 swimming
- Fri 14th June: PTA Mufti Day for bottle tombola
- Mon 17th June: District Sports
- Wed 19th June: Y6 to Winchester Leavers' Service
- Wed 19th June: Y5 swimming
- Wed 19th June: Kids Out event – by invitation
- Thurs 20th June: Y5/Y6 group to Wellington- by invitation
- Fri 21st June: Summer Fair
- Fri 28th June: Sports Day (parents in afternoon)
- 8th-9th July: Y4 Residential Bushcraft Experience
- Wed 10th July: Basketball workshops
- w/b 15th July: Y6 Residential Week
- Tues 23rd July: Break up for summer holiday 1.15pm

Digesting the Science

Year four practically made the digestive system in their Science investigation and saw what happens to the food in our body from start to end! The children were very engaged in the task and could explain afterwards what the function of each body part is and the role it plays in digestion!

