

Cranford Park C of & Primary School

NEWSLETTER

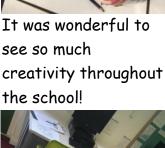
4: March 2023

We have had a great start to this half term and our children thoroughly enjoyed our 'Book Week' activities.



















Our classroom doors (decorated as book covers) look absolutely fabulous and really show off our children's creative skills! Do come and take a look if you haven't seen them!





CRAFTY PARENTS!







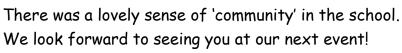




















COMPE FOR COOKS



All of our children had a wonderful time bouncing for books in

our Bounce for Books event. Our thanks to the P.T.A. for supplying a bouncy castle for us!



Please do contribute something, however small, as it all makes a difference. It is not too late for a donation and *every penny will be spent on books* for all ages. In fact, Mrs Russell has started buying already! Thank you!



Please do **return your sponsor forms** to us, *even if you have paid online*, so that we can count your sponsors.



Remember...

We will give a MUFTI DAY as a prize to the class who bring in the greatest <u>number</u> of genuine sponsors of £1 or more!









Reading Champs!





Thank you to all those who came in to read their favourite story to the children! Our children really enjoyed having all the different storytellers!

If you would ever like to come in to read the class a story, please do get in touch with the class teacher!

Designer Champs!



Thank you for all your hard work making costumes. We saw some really ingenious ideas!





POTATO FUN

Congratulations to Luca Y6 (Dogman), Rae Y4 (Harry Potter) and Lola Y1 (Puss in boots).







A huge well done to all those who entered our 'Decorate a potato' competition. The entries all

















As a school we have bought into the 'Purple Mash' resource for our IT and Computing. Children can access this fun resource

at home too for a wealth of educational opportunities! Watch out for your child's login and instructions coming home soon.

TOP PARENTING TIPS

School Anxiety and Resilience

Even though there is a sense of 'returning to normality' we should never underestimate the impact that the covid years have had on our children. Generations of our children have not had to 'Brave the World' but have been kept safely in our care and away from others. Nobody was in their personal space as we all kept ourselves apart, they spent many happy hours attached to their parents and they did not experience the 'risk taking' and 'freedom' that helps young people to develop resilience.

As a result, we are seeing an increase in Mental Health issues nationally and a huge increase in children suffering with anxiety specifically. Children 'knocked' by the normal stresses of everyday life are not *bouncing back* in the way that they would have done in the past.

One way this is manifesting itself across the country is in the significantly increased levels of emotionally based school avoidance (EBSA). Thrive have offered some tips to support young people with high levels of anxiety around coming to school.

What used to be known as 'school refusal' (now called Emotionally Based School Avoidance) refers to when a child's anxiety reaches a level where they can't go to school.

It can be helpful to normalise anxiety and let children know that school is a demanding place, so lots of people feel anxious from time to time. Work with the child's strengths and areas of interest and resilience - point out past successes and positive relationships. It may help to keep a book of 'fun memories' of school – write down the stories of times they have enjoyed for reminding them later.

There are lots of possible reasons for a child's level of anxiety to build to the point that they don't feel able to go to school, so it is helpful to have a meeting with a member of staff from the school, the child and a parent, to devise a tailored plan for what can be adapted to reduce some of the anxiety. The stress hormone cortisol is often higher in the morning (to help get us out of bed!), however this can make feelings of anxiety worse in the mornings. It can therefore be helpful to focus on morning routines to start with - maybe arriving 10 minutes early to do a 'job' or chat with a mentor. This also provides them with a 'safe space' in the school.

Sometimes the child can't express why they are anxious. Rather than ask 'what's wrong?', Young Minds recommend drawing an 'anxiety iceberg' with them. Here's a video explaining how: https://youtu.be/s5I- qvDmJ9I

If you have any concerns about your child in school, please do come and speak with the class teacher as soon as possible. We all want the same thing – happy, successful children!

Uniform - please can we remind that **PE clothes** need to be correct uniform too. Also, we do not allow nail varnish or any jewellery except small stud earrings. Thank you.



New dates are given in bold

Mon 6th March: 3.15pm FOCP Meeting – all welcome!

Fri 10th March: Year 5 Cake Sale after school Tues 14th Mar: Y5 (Columbus) Class Assembly Tues 14th 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.

Fri 31st March: Easter Service at St Peter's Church

9.30am - details to follow

Fri 31st March: Break up for Easter Holidays at 1.15pm.

Mon 17th April: INSET DAY

Tues 18th April: Children return to school

Fri 21st April: MUFTI Day for May Fair – details follow

Fri 21st April: PTA Bingo Night

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 (Earle) 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: 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