



Cranmore Infant School

we love to learn and together we grow



Welcome back to school
Our Value for this half term is Kindness

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back to the new school year! I hope you all had an enjoyable summer break.

Everyone at Cranmore extends a special welcome to all our new children and families, and we hope that you will quickly feel part of the 'Cranmore family'. It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back to school. The children have returned with such enthusiasm and it has been lovely to see classrooms filled with happy faces, busy learning and lots of excitement.

This first Newsletter has a lot of information so please note any dates on your calendar/diary. I know you won't want to miss anything! We will send out additional information about some events nearer the time but for others, this will be the only notification. All letters are e-mailed to parents via ParentPay so please be sure to activate your account. Please see the office staff if you are not currently receiving correspondence electronically. Also, please watch out for weekly year group newsletters that give valuable information about what is happening each week in your child's class.

The Cranmore Way

Last week, all of your child's teachers have been talking to the children about our whole-school behaviour approach, which we call '**The Cranmore Way**'. At Cranmore, we work hard to ensure that all of our children have a clear and consistent behaviour approach and expectation that they all understand. Therefore, importantly, we spend a lot of time explaining to the children why we have the routines, rules and expectations that we have as a school i.e. ensuring that our school is a calm, safe, happy place where everyone has the environment they need to all learn without distraction and where everyone has equal respect for one another. This means equal respect for all of the adults in school (whatever their role) and for all other children regardless of whether they are their peers or not. The whole system is based around ensuring that our children understand exactly what being '**Ready, Responsible and Respectful**' means and what it looks like in all aspects of school life. Alongside these **3Rs**, we also have other school rules and distinctive sayings e.g. 'Wonderful walking', so that children hear the same consistent messages.

You will also find attached a copy of our 'Parent Code of Conduct'.

Attendance – Every Day Counts

Regular attendance is really important for your child's learning, friendships and wellbeing. Every day in school matters, and even occasional absences can have an impact on children's progress and their ability to keep up with what is being taught. We understand that children are sometimes unwell and there will be occasions when absence is unavoidable, but we ask families to support us by ensuring children arrive at school on time and ready to learn every day.

If your child is absent and we have not received a reason for their absence, we will make contact with you on the first day of absence. This is an important part of our safeguarding procedures, as we need to know that all children are safe and accounted for. Please ensure that you let the school office know as soon as possible if your child is unable to attend, including the reason for their absence.



CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

You are very welcome to join our 'Celebration Assembly', which is held every Friday from 9:10am until about 9:30am. The first assembly is on 26th September.

A note will be sent home about 10 days before informing you if your child will be receiving a certificate and children are also invited to share any certificates, medals or awards they have achieved outside of school.



You are welcome to take photographs of your own child, but should these contain images of other children or staff they are not to be posted on social networking sites.

We also ask that out of courtesy to the children, family members stay until the end of the assembly.

Harvest Festival

We will be holding our annual Harvest Festival in school with just the children this year, with an assembly led by Reverend Day. We will be collecting items of food to share between our School Food Bank and the 'Helping Hands' charity to distribute to needy people in the Shirley area.





DON'T FORGET

Please help your child to remember to bring everything they need for school each day.

This includes:

their book bag (only one small keyring)

clear water bottle and healthy snack (water only)

PE kit (including their pumps)

They won't be able to participate fully in lessons without these things.

Thank you.



School Uniform

The children have returned to school looking very smart, so thank you for supporting us in following our uniform policy. Just a reminder that long hair should be tied back and hair bands and bobbles should be in school colours of yellow or green. Extreme hairstyles and patterns shaved into hair are not permitted. For safety reasons children are not allowed to wear jewellery of any kind in school, including watches. Pierced ear-rings are particularly dangerous and should not be worn under any circumstances.

If you need any help with school uniform please contact the school office, as we have lots of 'pre-loved uniform' available.



Universal Free School Meals

Please ensure that we are kept fully up-to-date with any dietary issues/food allergies. The system installed in the school kitchen informs the catering staff of any dietary requirements you have made known to us. As always, lunch menus are available on the school website and in the Notice Board attached to the bike shed.

Contact Numbers

Please can you ensure that school has the most up to date contact numbers recorded. It is essential we are provided with these so that we can make contact, especially in the event of an emergency. In line with safeguarding advice, we also require one 'out of home' contact number for every child please.





Parents' Consultations

We will be holding our first parents' consultations on 6th and 7th October between 3.30pm and 6.00/7.00pm. This is an opportunity for you to talk to your child's new teacher about how they have settled into their new classes and each parent is allocated a ten minute slot. We will send out more details about this nearer the time.

Safeguarding

Your child's safety is of paramount importance to us so please help to keep our school safe and secure.

- *Always ensure an adult brings your child into school and collects them at the end of the day, ensuring they always see them safely in through the door.*
- *Let us know if there is any change to your usual arrangements.* If someone unexpected arrives to collect your child we will not allow them to go, so please remember to let us know.
- *Always ensure mobile phones are not used on the school premises*
- *Respect the rules about parking near the school and never park in the turning area outside the gates, or across drive ways. Traffic wardens and the police will give a ticket to anyone illegally parked – and they don't accept any excuses!*
- *Cars are not permitted in the school grounds.* Blue badge holders please enter the car park to the right of the entrance, ensuring the children's safety at all times.
- *Dogs are not allowed in the school grounds – not even puppies.*
- *Always ensure you and your child dismount from bikes or scooters BEFORE entering the school grounds and ensure that they don't play ball games, so as to avoid any injuries to others.*
- *Children are not allowed to play on the outdoor play equipment, (including the Foundation Stage playground, and the music area) at the beginning and end of the school day.*

These rules are there to protect your children so thank you for your support with this.

Safeguarding, including Child Protection

We believe that every school should provide a caring, positive, safe and stimulating environment which promotes the physical, emotional, social and moral development of each individual child.

The safety and welfare of the children is of paramount importance to us and we have a comprehensive range of policies in place to safeguard children and to ensure their well-being. A copy of our Child Protection Policy can be found on the school website.

It is the statutory duty of all members of the school community to ask for advice and/or refer any concerns to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). This will usually be done by the Designated Safeguarding Leads for Child Protection, who are Mrs Ward (Head), Mrs Whittle (Deputy), Mrs Cash (Childcare Manager) and Mrs Jones (Deputy Childcare Manager). If a referral is to be made to Children's Services parents are usually informed beforehand but this may not be appropriate in some circumstances. We ask parents to understand that we always act in the best interests of the children in these cases.

Safeguarding remains everyone's responsibility. If you have a concern about the welfare or safety of a child, please speak to a member of our safeguarding team.

Car Parking

We are very aware that parking is notoriously difficult around school, but please be considerate when parking as we wish to maintain good relations with our neighbours. Parents should not park on the zig-zag lines, the pavement, the turning bay or block resident's drive-ways. Your complete co-operation in this would be very much appreciated.

Please also refer to the 'Safer Streets' leaflet.



The parking enforcement team and the police continue to hold regular patrols, and any vehicles parked in an inconsiderate manner will receive a ticket. The police are also encouraging the school, neighbours and parents to pass on the registration numbers of any vehicles that are parked inconsiderately.

School Nurse Suggests



I hope that a happy and healthy summer was enjoyed by everyone, as the children begin the new school year I would recommend using this as an opportunity to check up on their general health, are they up to date with their immunisations, have they been to the dentist recently and what about the optician? It is recommended that all children have a regular vision check at the optician, which is a free service and



invaluable in detecting vision difficulties and monitoring the health of the eyes.



Please remember that you can contact your school nurse at any time via the clinic base on 0121 746 4550 or through your child's school if you would like any support or advice.

Cranmore Infant Parent and Staff Association (CRISPA)

We desperately need new members to join our PA. If you would like to take an active role in supporting the PA please contact the school office.

The PA organises events and activities which raise valuable funds for school, which are used to enrich the educational experience for the children at Cranmore.



DBS: If you would like to help out in school you are required to complete an online application for a DBS certificate. Please provide your email address so that you can be sent the link. If you have a DBS but haven't volunteered in school for 3 months or more, it is now a requirement to complete a new one.

Communication with School

We really value positive and effective communication between home and school and want to ensure that messages reach the right member of staff. In the mornings, staff members on the school doors are primarily there to welcome children and ensure their safety as they enter school. For this reason, they are unable to enter into discussions with parents at this busy time. If you need to share a message, information or concern, please email the school office or speak to a member of the office team in person. They will ensure that your message is passed on to the relevant member of staff. Thank you for your understanding and for helping us to ensure that the start of the school day is safe, calm and positive for all our children.

We are really looking forward to the new term ahead and to working closely with you to ensure that all of our children have a happy, successful and positive year. Thank you for your continued support and partnership – we are excited about all that the year ahead will bring!

Very best wishes,

Mrs Rebecca Ward

Headteacher