



CRANMORE INFANT SCHOOL
we love to learn and together we grow



NEWSLETTER
April 2018

Our value this half term is **FAIRNESS**

Dear Parents and Carers,

A belated 'welcome back' - I hope you all had an enjoyable break. I can't believe we are now into the Summer Term of our school year, which we know will be very busy and exciting!

Peer to Peer Review

On Wednesday we had arranged a 'Peer to Peer' review, involving two Headteachers and a Local Authority Advisor. The focus of the visit was to validate our judgements on teaching and learning across the school, including pre-school children at Little Acorns, and our 30 hours' provision. Time was spent observing in all classrooms, talking to children, looking at children's work, school data and documentation, and interviewing staff.

We are thrilled with the outcome of the review and all the positive feedback that we received. Some of the comments that were made in the initial report are:

"Strongest practice demonstrates an effective link between assessment and planning to meet the needs of individual children";

"High expectations from staff support progress";

"Senior leaders share their determination to maintain high quality provision".

They also commented on the warm and welcoming school ethos and the sense of pride that both the children and staff have in their school.

The staff at Cranmore work incredibly hard to ensure the best outcomes for all children and it is good that this excellent practice has been recognised by external professionals. I feel incredibly privileged to be Head teacher at Cranmore and I am very proud of the children and the school. I would like to say a special thankyou to all the staff for their hard work and commitment, and for making Cranmore the wonderful school that it is!

Celebration of Success Days

Many thanks to those of you who came to join us. Staff across the school were really positive about these sessions, and the children clearly enjoyed sharing their achievements in learning with their families!



Parent Council

Parent Council met in March to help develop a 'Parent Code of Conduct' which has now been approved by Governors. (please see attached). We really value the strong partnership we have with parents and families and know that the success of the school couldn't be achieved without your support.

During the Parent Council meeting there were two parent items put forward for discussion:



Parent workshops/meetings

School always tries to spread these out across the year, although this is also dictated by national events, e.g. World Book day etc. Acknowledgement was made that parents like these and do want to continue doing them.

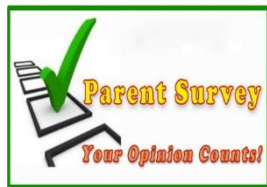
School will continue to be mindful when planning these events and if appropriate, give parents a choice of timings.

Class Dojo

Whilst school recognise the value of Class Dojo in terms of further increasing parental communication, some weaknesses to the system were also highlighted, including the increased staff work load. Therefore, school will not be using Class Dojo. Acknowledgement was made of the systems in place to ensure parents are well informed about their child’s learning, including weekly newsletters, celebration of success days, writing records, reading diaries and parent consultations.



A discussion was also had about the use of the ‘Zone Board’ and how positively this is used by all school staff to support and reward children’s behaviour.



Parent Views

Many thanks to everyone who has returned the parent questionnaires. You also have the option of sharing your views on Parent View and the link for this is:

<http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Attendance

During assembly on Friday we presented certificates and prizes to 68 children who achieved 100% attendance for the Spring Term. This is a fantastic achievement for which these children (and their parents) can feel rightly proud!



The ‘Always there Bear’ was presented to the Squirrels class for the best attendance last term.

Regular school attendance makes a huge difference to children’s progress in school so thank you again for your continued support in ensuring good attendance habits.

Below is a table reporting the attendance of each class to date for this academic year.

CLASS	% ATTENDANCE
Kingfishers	94.51%
Otters	93.06%
Foxes	94.72%
Hedgehogs	94.15%
Deers	96.00%
Rabbits	96.02%
Squirrels	96.41%
Robins	95.40%

Attendance figures are analysed by the school and the Local Authority on a regular basis and is also inspected by Ofsted. Therefore the Governors and staff would appreciate your commitment in ensuring our attendance is as good as it possibly can be. In order for attendance to be judged by Ofsted as ‘high’, the overall attendance of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 has to be above 95.7% Attendance below 90% is classed as ‘persistent absentee’ and may result in the involvement of the EWO.

Well done to Deers, Rabbits and Squirrels for exceeding this requirement.



School Uniform

In the hope that we haven't seen the last of the sunshine, children are able to wear their summer uniform. You can choose to wear the same as the Winter uniform or:

- Emerald green cardigan or sweatshirt; plain or with our school logo
- White polo shirt; plain or with our logo
- Yellow and white check dress or grey shorts
- White or grey socks
- Black shoes in a sensible style with flat heels



Hair bands and bobbles should be in school colours of yellow or green, and extreme hairstyles and patterns shaved into hair are not permitted. Children should not wear ear-rings, due to safety reasons, or nail polish.



Sun cream should be applied before school and can be reapplied by the children themselves at lunchtime if needed. All children will also need a named sun hat in school.

Staffing

We are very sorry to be saying goodbye to Mrs Buddrige as she starts her retirement in July. We are very appreciative for all her hard work during her time at Cranmore and I am sure you will join me in wishing her all the very best for the future.



New Parent Governor

We are very pleased to welcome Mrs Holly Dennis to our Governing Body, (who has children in Reception and Year 2). She joins Mrs Natalie Steele and Mrs Gaynor Keeley as Parent Governors.

Staff Training – Thursday 3rd May

Just a reminder that school will be closed on Thursday 3rd May. Staff will be working to review and further develop the curriculum and will also having training on the new Data Protection Regulations.



Kids Club will be open should you be requiring child care. Please contact the school office for more information.



To ease congestion along Northland Road and at the school gates, can we kindly ask that parents bringing and collecting their children using a taxi service are dropped/wait at the Cranmore Boulevard end of the road. We are continuing to receive complaints and are finding that a number of these are due to taxi's blocking the turning area. Thank you for your support.

New Arrangements

Thank you to everyone for settling in to the new morning drop off and afternoon pick up arrangements. The children themselves are being very independent and have impressed us in how they are able to organise themselves.



Please can I just remind you of the following points:

- Messages are passed to the member of staff on the playground and not at the door.
- Please do not leave your child in the playground. It is parents' responsibility to bring your child to the door and ensure they have safely entered the school before leaving.
- Older siblings can come through the Nursery doors and walk through the school to their class, if they wish.
- Parents are not permitted to come into the class or walk through the school.
- Please can you ensure children do not play on the outdoor equipment (including in the Nursery and Reception play areas).

Many thanks for your ongoing support.

Very best wishes,

Mrs Rebecca Ward
Headteacher



Thursday 3 May	INSET: School closed for staff training
Monday 7 May	May Day holiday
Tuesday 8 th May 6:00pm	New Nursery Parents Meeting
w/b 14 May	Walk to School Week
Thursday 17 May	Empty Classroom Day
Friday 25 May	Finish for half-term holiday
Monday 4 June	Back to school after half term break
Thursday 7 June	Reception Trip to Twycross Zoo
w/b Monday 11 June	Y1 Phonics Screening Check
Wednesday 13 June	Father's Day Lunch – Year 1
Thursday 21 June	Summer Disco - Year 1 and 2
Friday 22 June	Summer Disco – Little Acorns, Nursery, Reception
Wednesday 27 June 9.15 am	Nursery and Reception Sports (all welcome)
Thursday 28 June, 9.15am	Years 1 and 2 Sports (all welcome)
Saturday 7 July	Summer Fair
Monday 9 July	Transition meeting FS2 to KS1
Wednesday 11 July	Transition meeting FS1 to FS2

Wednesday 11 July 3.15-5.00pm	Year 2 Leavers Party
Friday 13 July	Class Swap Day
Tuesday 17 July	Thank you Tea
Monday 23 July 2.00pm	Leavers' assembly (Year 2 parents welcome)
Tuesday 24 July	Children finish for summer holiday

TERM/HOLIDAY DATES 2018/2019

Autumn Term 2018

Starts: Monday 3 September 2018

****Half Term: Monday 29 October 2018 to Friday 2 November 2018**

Ends: Friday 21 December 2018

Spring Term 2019

Starts: Monday 7 January 2019

Half Term: Monday 18 February 2019 to Friday 22 February 2019

Ends: Friday 12 April 2019

Summer Term 2019

Starts: Monday 29 April 2019

Half Term: Monday 27 May 2019 to Friday 31 May 2019

Ends: Monday 22 July 2019

INSET DATES

Monday 3rd September 2018

Monday 5th November 2018

Monday 7th January 2019

Thursday 3rd May 2019

Monday 22 July 2019

Monday 6th May 2019 – May Bank Holiday

****Please note the change to the original published dates for October half-term**