

2020

CRANMORE INFANT SCHOOL

We love to learn and together we grow
January 2020



Our value this half term is **SHARING**

Dear Parents/carers,

The staff and I would like to thank you all for the many Christmas cards, gifts and good wishes received at the end of last term and welcome you to this new school term by wishing you a very happy and healthy new year. I hope you all had an enjoyable break!



Attendance

47 children received 100% attendance certificates for the Autumn Term, which is a fantastic achievement. A big well done to all those individuals and their families! Children received a certificate and prize in assembly.

We are only too aware that at this time of year, a number of 'bugs' are usually caught by the children which can affect their attendance. However, with the exception of genuine illness it is crucial for your child's education that they attend school every day.

Below is a table reporting the attendance of each class for the Autumn Term.

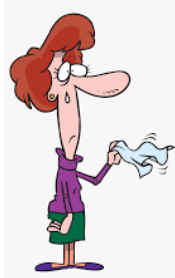
CLASS	% ATTENDANCE
Kingfishers (F1)	92.27%
Otters (F1)	87.69%
Foxes (F2)	93.43%
Hedgehogs (F2)	93.78%
Deers (Y1)	96.24%
Rabbits (Y1)	97.43%
Squirrels (Y2)	96.74%
Robins (Y2)	95.23%

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 96%

Well done Deers, Rabbits and Squirrels classes for exceeding this requirement!



Staffing



We are very sorry to be saying goodbye to Mrs Tombs as she has made the difficult decision to take early retirement in July, to follow her life-long interests in travel, music and further education. She has been a real asset during her nine years at Cranmore and we are extremely appreciative of all her hard work and commitment in her role as Deputy Head teacher.

We will shortly be advertising for Mrs Tombs' replacement and will update you in due course.

Squirrels and Rabbits classes

An update on staffing arrangements for after the Easter holidays. Mrs Freeman will be returning from maternity leave and will be taking over from Miss Smith (who as you are aware will be starting her maternity leave) in the Squirrels class.

Mrs Barran will be returning to her role as Teaching Assistant, and we are delighted to have appointed Mr Murphy on a temporary basis to teach the Rabbits class.

Both teachers will have time with the current class teacher, and meet the children prior to starting, to ensure a smooth and progressive handover and we are confident that there will be a seamless transition for both classes.

Mrs Barran will be joining the Reception Team, and Miss Baker will sadly be finishing her temporary contract with us. I am sure you will join me in thanking her for all her hard work and wishing her all the best for the future.



CRISPA fundraising

The total amount raised from the discos, Christmas cards and Christmas fayre was over £2000 which is a fantastic amount! A huge thank you to CRISPA (parents and staff) for all their hard work and time - It is very much appreciated! The money will go towards funding a large, new outdoor play area. Thanks for all your support and we look forward to your continued efforts to achieve our goal.

Winter Clothing

With the cold weather now with us we would very much appreciate your support in helping the children to be appropriately dressed.



- Please ensure your son/daughter brings a warm coat to school, preferably with a hood, as they go outside every day and we want to ensure they remain warm.
- Wellington boots are desirable on wet and snowy days, and mittens are much easier to put on than gloves!

In order to try to minimise lost items please ensure everything is labelled appropriately with your child's name. Thank you.



Holiday Club We are again offering holiday club Monday 17th to Friday 21st February 2020, 8am-6pm

Please return your booking form to the school office and contact Katie Whitehouse (Little Acorns Manager) if you have any queries.



Parental Help

We continue to ask for parental help during the day and welcome mums, dads or grandparents, so if you are able to help, we really do value your support. A DBS Check is required (please see a member of the office staff for further information).

PAYMENT FOR ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

Over the last few years we have found that the amount of money received from parents for school trips and visitors is not covering the overall costs. Unfortunately, we will not be able to continue these activities unless sufficient parental contributions are received. Current financial constraints on school budgets means that we cannot afford to continuously subsidise these costs. We always endeavour to give parents sufficient notice of upcoming events to ensure ample time to make payments and it would be extremely unfortunate if we could no longer offer these activities due to a lack of funds received from parents.



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.



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.



POLITE REMINDER

Can I please remind parent's that it is not permitted to park in the staff car park under any circumstances without a Blue Badge.

VISITORS TOILET

We have recently noticed an increase in children coming through the office to use the visitor's toilet at the beginning and end of the day. This is presenting us with a serious safeguarding issue as we have children on sight in the hall in after school clubs and also Little Acorns Kids Club Children. We must insist that children only use the visitors toilet in the case of an emergency.



URGENT REMINDER

We have been notified by Solihull Admissions that there are still a number of Children who have not yet applied for a Reception/Junior school place for September 2020. Can you please ensure that you make your applications as soon as possible as the closing date has already passed.

**.....and finally, a reminder of dates for the spring term
we will try to notify you as soon as possible of any changes to
these dates....**



Spring term

Wednesday 22 January, 9:10

Tuesday 28 January 9:00-10:00am

Tuesday 4 February

Wednesday 5 February

Tuesday 11 February

Friday 14 February

Monday 24 February

Monday 24 February

Tuesday 3 March

Yr 1/Yr 2 Numeracy Workshop

School Nurse Drop-in

Parent Consultations

Parent Consultations

Safer Internet Day

Finish for half-term holiday

Children return after half term break

Year 1 Sight Tests

Year 1 Scootability

Thursday 5 March	Bedtime Reading/Parents literacy meeting
Thursday 5 March	World Book Day
Friday 6 March	World Maths Day
Thursday 12 March	Nursery Writing Workshop
Wednesday 18 March	Family Assembly (more details to follow)
Thursday 19 March	Family Assembly (more details to follow)
Friday 20 March	Mother's Day lunch – Year 2
Wednesday 25 March, 2:30pm	Rocksteady Concert
Tuesday 31 March	Yr1 and Yr2 Celebration of Success
Wednesday 1 April	Nursery & Reception Celebration of Success
Wednesday 1 April	Intra sports
Thursday 2 April	Intra sports
Friday 3 April	Finish for Easter holiday

Summer term begins Monday 20 April

Thank you for your ongoing support.
Best wishes,

Rebecca Ward