



Cranmore Infant School

we love to learn and together we grow

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



Dear Parents and carers,

A very sincere and heartfelt welcome to the new school year. I hope you all had a wonderful summer break, despite the obvious challenges. 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'.

I cannot begin to describe how wonderful it has been to finally have the children all back at school. There is a real buzz around the school and I am extremely proud of how the children and staff have adapted to the new 'normal'. Overwhelmingly, the children have come in happy and settled quickly, which is fantastic! I think this says a lot about how pleased they are to be back and how well you have prepared them for the return to school.

The staff have worked tirelessly to ensure classrooms and outdoor areas are set up to ensure both they and the children are safe, with rigorous procedures in place to promote effective hygiene practices, including regular hand washing and cleaning of frequently touched surfaces.

I am sure that you are aware through news feeds and through social media that there are growing numbers of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Birmingham and Solihull. Several schools in the locality have been affected by this, resulting in closures of classes and year groups.

This is a stark reminder that we are still in the middle of a serious pandemic and although we have protective measures in place in school, there are still genuine risks of the spread of this infection. I am so very proud of the way in which we have returned to school as a community, but I would also like to stress the importance of everyone doing their bit to keep themselves and others safe at all times. As a school family I know that our primary concern is the safety and wellbeing of one another, so here are a few reminders: Please also see the additional attachment.

- Please continue to be punctual with drop-off and collection times and refrain from gathering together for conversations (In particular we ask that parents do not congregate around the school gates in between dropping off and collecting children and do not arrive more than 5 minutes before their allotted time to enable the previous 'bubble' to arrive and be dismissed safely).*
- Only one parent/carer dropping and collecting children.*
- Maintain social distancing where possible as adults.*
- Be vigilant about reporting any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 in your household to the school office and isolate at home.*
- Adhere to the Government 'Track and Trace' guidance.*

We do have robust procedures in place to respond to any such incident and will communicate accordingly to staff and parents, to avoid confusion, or unnecessary worry.

From week beginning 14th September, all children are to be dropped off at their allotted time (see below). We appreciate that this may be an inconvenience, but we are aware that some children are missing important learning time when they are arriving late.

RECEPTION (Foxes and Hedgehogs) **8:30am**

YEAR 1 (Deers and Rabbits) **8:40am**

YEAR 2 (Squirrels and Robins) **8:50am**

NURSERY (Kingfishers) and LITTLE ACORNS **9:00am**

Should you or your child have any worries or questions, please do communicate these with us (either telephone or email the school office), as always the children's happiness and well-being is our priority.

School Values

Our school values are: **Responsibility, Respect, Sharing, Kindness, Fairness and Integrity.** These are displayed within school and are regularly shared with all the children. The commitment of children, parents, staff and Governors to keep these values makes Cranmore a happy and successful school.

DON'T FORGET

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

This includes:

their book bag,

clear water bottle and healthy snack (plain 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. Pierced ear-rings are particularly dangerous and should not be worn under any circumstances.

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.





Contact Numbers

It is a requirement that the school holds at least 2 emergency 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.

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 to school and collects them at the end of the day, ensuring they always see them safely in through the gate.*
- *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.*
- *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.*

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.

In brief, 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 Head teacher, Rebecca Ward who is the Designated Safeguarding Lead for Child Protection. 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.

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.

Cranmore Infant Parent and Staff Association (CRISPA) AGM

CRISPA is a group of friendly parents and staff who do an excellent job of organising events that raise valuable funds for school. All funds raised are used to enrich the educational experience for the children at Cranmore. As your children attend Cranmore you are automatically a member and any help you can give to events or fund raising activities is much appreciated. Our fundraising opportunities have been heavily affected this year due to COVID, so please let us know if you have any ideas to raise funds for the school, whilst abiding by current government guidelines.

Parent Consultations

We will be holding our first parents' consultations on 14th and 15th October between 4.00pm and 7.00pm. Due to the current restrictions these will be virtual and booked online. We will send out more details about this nearer the time. This is an opportunity for you to talk to your child's new teacher about how they have settled into their new classes, each parent will be allocated a ten minute slot.

It has been lovely to catch up with many of you and I very much look forward to working in partnership with you in the coming days and months. Thankyou for your on-going support and co-operation.

Very best wishes,

Mrs Rebecca Ward
Headteacher

TERM/HOLIDAY DATES 2020/2021

Autumn Term 2020

Term Starts: *Tuesday 01 September 2020

Half Term: Monday 26 October 2020 to Friday 30 October 2020

Term Ends: Friday 18 December 2020

Spring Term 2021

Term Starts: *Monday 04 January 2021

Half Term: Monday 15 February 2021 to Friday 19 February 2021

Term Ends: Thursday 01 April 2021

Summer Term 2021

Term Starts: *Monday 19 April 2021

Half Term: Monday 31 May 2021 to Friday 04 June 2021

Term Ends: Wednesday 21 July 2021

***INSET DAYS**

Tuesday 1st September 2020

Monday 2nd November 2020

Monday 4th January 2021

Monday 19th April 2021

Thursday 6th May 2021

May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 03 May 2021