



Cranford Park C of E Primary School NEWSLETTER

No. 32: October 2024

let
your
light
shine

Congratulations to Year 5 on their wonderful class assembly about World Food Day. Those who came to watch will know that we currently have an issue with our hall floor, which has risen slightly across the middle. We are not sure what is causing this swelling; we are told it is most likely something to do with a pipe underneath, but as school buildings generally have asbestos hidden underneath things, we do not want to disturb the floor by looking. We have therefore taped it off while we wait for it to be dealt with professionally. Please rest assured there is no danger, just inconvenience!

A huge thank you to those who attended the working party in school on Saturday 5th October. A lot of hard work was put into making our school a tidier, brighter and cleaner space. There was a lovely feeling of the community coming together to pitch in and I am very thankful for our wonderful staff and parents. Thank you to Annie Cooper and Vicky Wilcox for organising it all.



Compassion

Courage

Creativity

Parking and JRSO Training

As you may know, I have received a lot of complaints about the parking in the last few weeks. These have included several neighbours complaining about driveways being blocked and reports of 'near misses' which have been alarming! I have also been told about cars parked on the pavement so that buggies had to go out into the road to get past. Scary stuff!

Thank you for your friendly support while I have been on 'parking duty' in the mornings and afternoons. I have seen some scary moments myself, but have also realised that it isn't just our parents causing the issues, but the huge number of other cars and vans and the speed at which they travel down our road! We have been in touch with the council to see if there is anything they can do to help.



In the meantime, our JRSOs (Junior Road Safety Officers) have been trained up by Hampshire and are ready to go out on duty! Please be kind to them and park well, drive slowly and smile at them! 😊



A reminder:

- ☑ Please do not park across driveways, on corners, on yellow zig zags or double yellow lines.
- ☑ Please park 10 metres away from any junction and keep the area outside of the school clear so that our children can cross safely.
- ☑ If possible, park a bit further away and walk in.

Thank you for your support with this. I would much rather be focused on educating your children than responding to letters of complaint about parking!



Our iRock assembly was a huge success and we are delighted to have a big enough group to run the provision. We look forward to sharing our school band pieces at the next Summer Arts Festival.



Class Attendance

Some of you will have realised that we are looking at attendance monthly, as your children will have come home with a '100% September' certificate. Well done to you if they did! We are also looking at each class to see which class gets to keep hold of our attendance trophy each month. Congratulations to Y6 who won the trophy for September with a very respectable 97.8% attendance. Please help us to keep our attendance high! The results for each class are shown below:

- YR 95.0%
- Y1 95.8%
- Y2 91.7%
- Y3 95.7%
- Y4 92.5%
- Y5 96.8%
- Y6 97.8%

Got a child in Year 6?

Don't forget that the deadline for secondary applications is **Thursday 31st October**. If your child is being educated out of year group but **SHOULD** be in Year 6, you must still apply for a place, but can then seek to defer.

Year 6 induction days for Yateley are Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd July.

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Community Joy



Our Year 3 children have been bringing joy to the community by reading to and chatting with the elderly in the local care home each week. It is so lovely to see the relationships blossoming.



Creativity Shining Through!



In Art this week, Year 4 were exploring clay before making their own tiles with relief sculpture. They explored different geometric shapes, levels of 3D shapes and use of different tools to create patterns within the clay.



THIS HALF TERM'S WORSHIP THEMES

This half term we are learning about the Bible stories we have chosen to associate with our Christian values. These can be seen in our picture at the front of the school.

We are also celebrating Back History Month and learning why this is necessary and about the injustice in historical accounts. We discovered, for example, that Lewis Latimer was also important in the invention of the lightbulb, but his name is less well known than that of Thomas Edison.



Children have been following these ideas up in class with further activities. Year R enjoyed a

story called 'I'm going to be a princess.' The book is about influential black women in History and their professions. In the story, Maya wanted to be 'strong, bold and brave' like a West-African Princess, Princess Amina. Year R were gripped by the book and started to talk about what they wanted to be/do when they are a grown up. They enjoyed listening to and talking about all their ideas.



Thank you to all those who came along to the PTA meetings and AGM. Our PTA raised an impressive £7574 last year - £1500 more than the year before – all while providing a good balance of fundraising and fun activities for our children. They support us with many subscriptions and language programmes to enhance the curriculum,



as well as having purchased the outdoor learning shelter, which has been fantastic. Last year they achieved charity status. They also held the first

Christmas fair here for many years last year and are currently planning one for 2024. We still need help with events, so please do volunteer if you can. You could help before or during the events, from folding raffle tickets to manning a stall.

Our New Committee for this year are:

Chair: Annie Cooper
Uice chair Andy Garden
Treasurer: Sam Cheyney
Secretary: Gemma Healey

Remembrance Preparation

Yateley Town Council and the Royal British Legion have been collaborating on a project to create a Poppy Cascade on the hedge at the War Memorial. We were delighted to be asked to support this project and our children had a wonderful time helping to attach the poppies to the backdrop. Our thanks to Mrs Garden for co-ordinating the event.



Do watch out for the wall on display by the memorial this year!



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SMART Thinking to stay safe online!



Our Year 4 children recently taught us all how to stay safe online with their child-led worship. Children were taught to stay SMART as detailed below:



For more information and advice about keeping your children safe online, please ask in school.

Compassion in Action!



I often see great examples of our children showing our values. This week in Judo Club, one of our Y6 girls was supporting a Y1 who was new to the club brilliantly! He was showing **courage** while she showed **compassion**. Well done to them both!

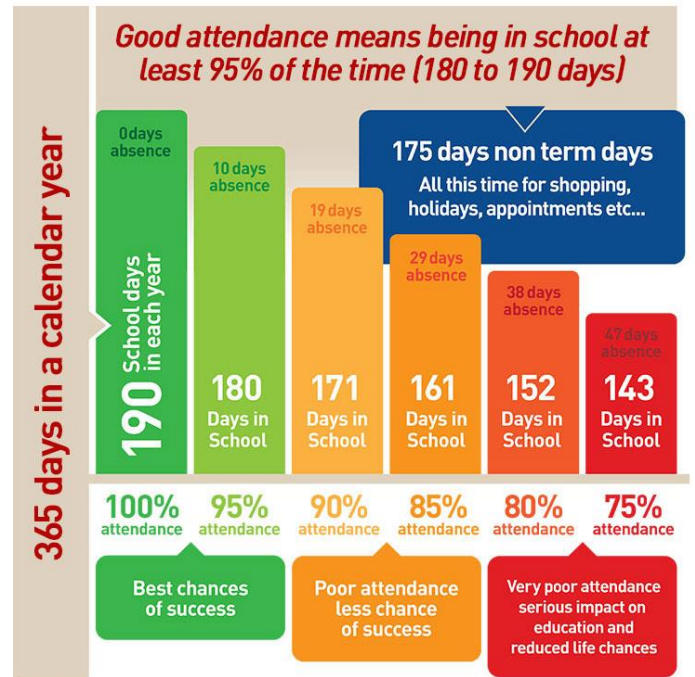


Compassion

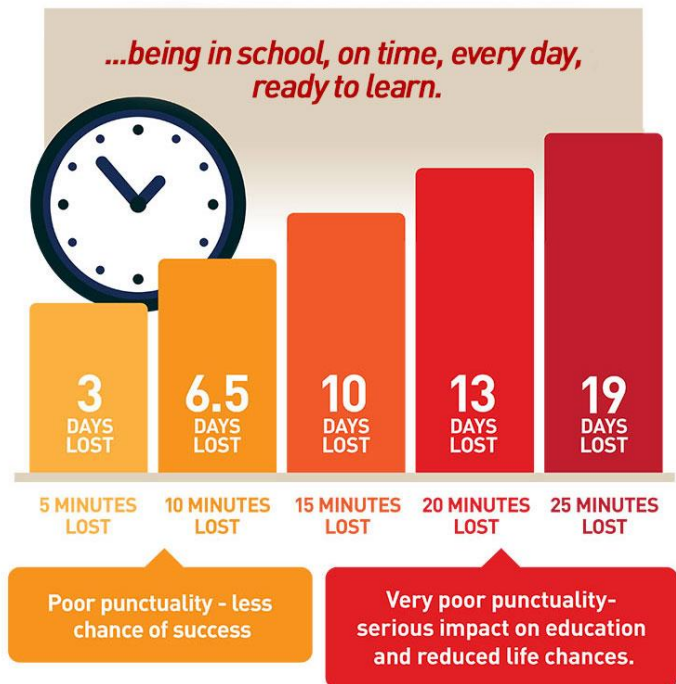
Courage

Creativity

KEEPING ATTENDANCE HIGH



DID YOU KNOW? A two week holiday in term time means that the highest attendance you can achieve is 94.7%



DID YOU KNOW? If you are 15 minutes late each day you will have missed a full 2 weeks of school in one year?



Letting their Light Shine!



Fraser, Dexter, Elliot, Talia and Rae ran in a cross country race against 15 other schools recently. It was a very long course and they paced themselves brilliantly, showing such determination and courage throughout. A huge well done to them all for persevering even when the going was tough. With over 150 children taking part, they should all be very proud of themselves for representing the school so well.



Noah has also been letting his light shine in his Playball Club and won the 'Star of the Week' trophy. It was only his third week there so he was trying very hard. He quite rightly feels very proud of himself. Well done, Noah!

Our congratulations also to Mianke and Janco who did really well in their first ever Taekwondo competition, with Janco finishing in second place in his age and

weight category and Mianke winning 2 out of 3 of her sparring matches. Well done to them both! Do let me know if your child has 'let their light shine' outside of school!

Year 5 Community Teaparty



Our Yr 5 children represented the school beautifully last week when they attended a St Peter's Church 'Home Alone'

event. The children baked cakes, flapjacks and biscuits for the attendees which they took along and served to them. They then sang a series of songs to entertain their audience while they drank their coffee and enjoyed their cakes. Well done to them all!



Don't forget to join us for our Harvest Festival on **Thursday 24th October at 9.30am at St Peter's Church**. Each child should bring an item of food to school that day to donate to the Yateley Community Pantry. Pasta, pasta sauces, tinned and packet foods are all welcome and of most use to them. Please check the sell by date before donating. Thank you.

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University Spotlight

Our children continue to enjoy the University of Cranford Park. The **Faculty of Athletics** have been focusing on their running technique, investigating how they could make themselves run faster by changing their stance, starting position, use of arms and so on. They even watched Usain Bolt and other Olympic runners to analyse their technique.



They have also been working on their agility by completing lots of challenges including the fitness and agility ladder, sprints, a T made from cones which required quick changes of direction and speed, partner ball toss, hurdles and bear crawls. The children worked really hard and many said it wasn't as easy as they thought it might be, which is music to my ears – they know I love to see them challenged! They showed great resilience throughout – well done to them all!



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Meanwhile in the **Faculty of Communication and Collaboration** the children worked in three teams to see which team could build the tallest tower. It was a close competition, but the winning team's tower stood 27cm high!



COULD YOU RUN AN ACTIVITY FOR US?

Do you have a special skill that you could share? Can you spare an hour each week on a Friday afternoon?

We are still looking for volunteers to enhance our **University of Cranford Park** offer.

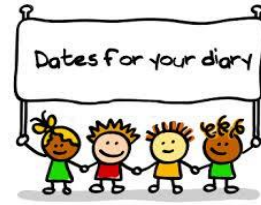
Perhaps you can teach children about a car engine? Arts and Crafts – knitting? Sewing? First Aid? Or can teach crafts such as papermaking and decoupage? Maybe you can share your work skills? Or a hobby that you have? **Maybe a grandparent, neighbour or other friend or relative could come and help us out?**

Please contact me if you can help! Safeguarding checks will need to be carried out on any volunteers.



BUTTONS BEADS AND SEQUINS NEEDED!

If you have any old buttons, beads or sequins lying around please donate them for our Faculty of Fashion for their latest projects. Many thanks!



New and changed dates are given in bold



Year R have been having lots of fun with their 'Funky Fingers' (fine motor) activities. They have been: hammering, screwing, threading, hole punching and using tweezers! These are the sorts of

activities we can make more fun by using our Class Fund donations from you, so please do donate if you haven't already. Many thanks.



COST OF LIVING SUPPORT

Many families are worried about the cost-of-living increases and how these impact on managing day to day life, and there is now lots of information available online to support you. For our area you can go to: [Cost of living support hub | Hart District Council](#)

- Tues 22nd Oct: Parents' Evening – details to follow (not Y3)
- Wed 23rd Oct: Parents' Evening – details to follow
- Thurs 24th Oct: Harvest Festival 9.30am St Peter's
- Thurs 24th Oct: Parents' Evening – Y3
- Fri 25th Oct: PTA MUFTI Day for screw top bottles.
- Fri 25th Oct: Break up for Half Term Holiday 3.15pm
- Mon 4th Nov: Children return to school from 8.30am
- Mon 4th Nov: Class Hamper Collections begin**
- Tues 5th Nov: Y5 & Y6 Steel Band Workshops**
- Fri 8th Nov: Y6 Cake Sale after school**
- w/b 11th Nov: Anti-Bullying Week
- Tues 12th Nov: Y5 & Y6 Steel Band Workshops**
- Tues 12th Nov: P.T.A. Meeting 3.15pm in hall
- Wed 13th Nov: Open Morning 9.30am: prospective parents
- Fri 15th Nov: Y1 class assembly 8.50am parents welcome
- Fri 15th Nov: Y5 Cake Sale after school**
- Fri 15th Nov: BAG2SCHOOL Clothes Donation
- w/b 18th Nov: P.T.A. Raffle goes live!
- w/b 18th Nov: Flu jabs
- Fri 22nd Nov: Y3 and Y2 Cake Sale after school**
- Fri 29th Nov: School 'DECS Day' – details to follow
- Fri 29th Nov: Cake donations for Christmas Fair please!**
- Fri 29th Nov: P.T.A. Christmas Fair
- Sat 30th Nov: Yateley Lions Christmas Fair
- Thurs 5th Dec: World Culture Day – details to follow
- Thurs 5th Dec: EMTAS Coffee Morning – by invitation
- Fri 6th Dec: Y4 Cake Sale after school**
- Mon 9th Dec: P.T.A. Elfridges Sale
- Mon 9th Dec: KS1 to St Peter's Church - Home Alone
- Tues 10th Dec: P.T.A. Elfridges Sale
- Tues 10th Dec: P.T.A. Meeting 3.15pm in hall
- Fri 13th Dec: Y6 class assembly 8.50am parents welcome
- Fri 13th Dec: YR and Y1 Cake Sale after school**
- Tues 17th Dec: Christmas Jumper Day
- Tues 17th Dec: Christmas Dinner Day
- Wed 18th Dec: Pantomime visiting school!
- Thurs 19th Dec: KS2 Xmas Service at the church 1.30pm
- Fri 20th Dec: MUFTI Day for Foodbank donation
- Fri 20th Dec: Break up for Xmas holiday at 1.15pm
- Mon 6th Jan: INSET DAY
- Tues 7th Jan: Children return to school from 8.30am
- Mon 13th Jan: Choir to sing at St Peter's – Home Alone
- Fri 17th Jan: World Culture Day** – please speak to Miss Portch if you can teach us about another culture
- Wed 22nd Jan: Y5/Y6 Cross Country Event**
- Tues 28th Jan: EMTAS Coffee Meet 2.30pm** – by invitation
- Fri 31st Jan: PTA Ballsy BINGO 7 – 9pm**
- Tues 4th Feb: Y5/6 Choir to Young Voices at the O2**
- Fri 7th Feb: Save the date for PTA kids event**
- Tues 11th Feb: Safer Internet Day**
- Fri 14th Feb: Break up for half term**
- Mon 24th Feb: Children return to school**
- w/b 3rd March: **Book Week**
- Tues 4th Mar: Bounce for Books sponsored event**
- Thurs 6th Mar: World Book Day – Dress up day**
- w/b 10th Mar: **STEM Week**
- Wed 19th Mar: 8.30am EMTAS Meet Up – by invitation**
- Wed 2nd April: EASTER FUN DAY**
- Fri 4th April: 9.30am Easter Service at St Peter's**
- Fri 4th April: Break up for Easter at 1.15pm**
- Tues 22nd April: Children return to school**
- Tues 22nd April: Y4 Residential Visit to Minstead**

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