



# Cranford Park

C of E Primary School

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**Headteacher: Georgina Edwards B.Ed (Hons) NPQH**

## Newsletter 5 – January 2018

Dear Parents

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope that you all had a good Christmas break. Thank you for your support last term – we managed to pack a lot in and we have lots more exciting events planned for this term. Each of the class teachers will be writing to you with their Spring class bulletin to let you know what is happening this term.

### Phyllis Tuckwell Elf Run

Thank you for supporting this fantastic cause. We do not have a figure yet for how much was raised but children had lots of fun taking part!

### Studybugs

This app not only lets you report your child's absence quickly and easily, it also feeds directly into the NHS and other public health organisations in order to monitor children's illnesses and help to improve children's health. We started this initiative last year but have not had a great uptake so we really want as many people as possible to start using it. You will be receiving a text message tomorrow which will enable you to install the study bugs app on your phone. The data that is received is then used anonymously to look for trends and patterns in the local area and inform health organisations so that they can pick up on any outbreaks quickly in order to ensure a prompt response. The app will also give you guidance directly from NHS direct.



### Top 3 reasons to use Studybugs

1. It helps us know sooner if your child is unaccounted for.
  2. It's quick and easy to register and use and automatically reminds you to keep us posted.
  3. You'll be helping the NHS and other public health organisations **improve children's health.**
- (<https://studybugs.com/about/schools>)

### Parents' Evenings

These are scheduled for Tuesday 6th March (4.30-7.00pm) and Thursday 8th March (3.15-5.30pm). A letter will be sent home later in the term requesting that you book a slot to see your child's class teacher. We will then send a reply slip which will tell you the time you have been allocated. Please note that all clubs that are led by school staff will not run in the week of parents' evening (see clubs letter for more details).

If you have any questions or concerns please don't wait until the meeting; contact the class teachers directly so that things can be sorted out straight away.

### Cold Weather & Snow Closure Procedure

As we are due another cold spell, I thought it might be helpful to give a reminder of the procedure the school would follow in the event of significant snow fall over the winter period. The decision to close the school is based on conditions at the school and the health and safety of staff and pupils on their way to and from school, as well as once they are here on site. Please bear in mind that some members of staff are not local and may not be able to get to school and therefore we are not able to guarantee the health and safety of all the students. If the school has to close then the school website will be updated with a message on the home page [www.cranfordpark.hants.sch.uk](http://www.cranfordpark.hants.sch.uk). A message will also be broadcast on Heart

Thames Valley and Eagle Radio Stations. All schools in Hampshire that are closed are also recorded on this website <http://www.hants.gov.uk/education/schoolclosures/>.

And finally, for those parents who have registered for Parentmail and given us their contact mobile numbers and email addresses, a text and email will be sent.

## Attendance

The overall attendance for the whole school last term was 96.1%.

Attendance figures for each class are listed below. Well done **Earle Class** who had the best attendance overall!

	Attendance %		Attendance %
Whole School	96.1%	Drake Class	96.9%
Cook Class	92.3%	Carter Class	96.8%
Earle Class	97.2%	Columbus Class	96.2%
Armstrong Class	95.9%	Earhart Class	96.5%

Regular attendance at school is obviously crucial to children's education, which is why we send out the green, orange and red letters each half term. Whilst we would not encourage anyone to send a sick child to school, it is worth keeping in mind the long term picture. Attendance figures lower than 86% would be equivalent to a child missing a year of their primary school education!

We are still getting requests for children to be taken out of school for family holidays which do not count as exceptional reasons for a child to miss school and so will be classed as unauthorised absences and may well result in a fine. Please also bear in mind that authorising an absence is my decision and it is in my control to change an absence to "unauthorised" if it becomes obvious that a parent has not been honest about the reason for absence. This could result in a fine if the total of unauthorised absences reaches the threshold set out by Hampshire County Council (10 sessions in a 100 session period).

It is also essential that pupils arrive at school on time. Our school starts at 8.45 am but we often have pupils arriving 10 or 15 minutes after this. This is very disruptive to the pupils themselves and their classmates and teachers.

Our attendance policy states that on-going and repeated lateness is considered as **unauthorised absence and will be subject to legal action by Hampshire County Council** (see our Attendance policy for more details).

If you need support in improving either lateness or attendance please make an appointment to come and see me, so that we can avoid having to take this action.

## Clubs

Most clubs are due to start next week. Thank you to the staff and parents who give up their time to run these clubs. If your child has signed up for a club it is important that they do commit to it and attend every session unless they are ill. If they are not going to attend it is important to let either the office or the teacher running the club know so that they are not worried about children who have not arrived.

## Uniform

As part of taking pride in our school, it is important that children take pride in their appearance. All children in the Key Stage 2 Classes (Drake, Carter, Columbus and Earhart) should be wearing the Winter uniform: grey skirt, dress or trouser, white shirts with ties or white blouse (no polo shirts), green jumper or cardigan with school logo. Sensible black shoes (not trainers). White, grey or black socks or tights. Long hair (shoulder length or longer) should be tied up for Health and Safety reasons and any hair accessories, such as clips, hairbands or bows, should be in keeping with our school uniform (i.e. school colours or neutral colours and not too large!). Children should also not have extreme haircuts – this includes having hair shaved shorter than a grade 2, having patterns shaved into the hair, hair dyed unnatural colours, excessive hair gel etc. or have nail varnish or temporary tattoos.

Don't forget that the Friends of Cranford Park (our PTA) sell uniform from the green container on the KS2 playground after school every Wednesday and they also take donations of used uniform for re-sale.



### **New Equipment**

I'm sure you will have noticed the new equipment that has been installed thanks to the grant from the Big Lottery Fund.

The multi-gym (on the Key Stage 2 side of the school) is for use by years 3,4,5 and 6 and may be used before or after school by KS2 children **as long as they are supervised!**

The dino-climbing wall (on the Key

Stage 1 side of the school) is for use by Years R, 1 and 2. This **should not** be used unless supervised by a member of staff.



### **Dates for Statutory Assessments**

In line with the new Attendance Code of Conduct and Policy I am required to inform you that Year Six Statutory Assessments will take place during the week commencing Monday 14th May 2018. Year 2 Statutory Assessments will take place during the month of May 2018 and the Year 1 Phonic Screening Check will take place week commencing Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2018. You are NOT allowed to have any unauthorised absence during these periods without incurring a penalty notice and related fine.

### **Parking and driving near school**

There are more than 200 children arriving at and leaving our school at the beginning and end of the day, and that doesn't include the younger siblings and children attending pre-school. In order for them to do so safely and avoid any accidents it is vital that everyone uses the local roads safely and with consideration for the safety of these children. Parking on the corners of roads, parking on the pavements so that pushchairs and wheelchairs cannot get past, blocking the views of pedestrians and speeding down these roads will all put pedestrians at risk. Please do not put any child at risk of harm just to save a few minutes of time.

### **Class Assemblies**

Class assemblies take place on Wednesdays at 9.00am. Parents and Grandparents are invited to come and see their children. Please come to the main entrance and sign in at reception at 8.50am on the day of your child's assembly. The dates are as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Class</b>
17 <sup>th</sup> January	Armstrong (Y2)
7 <sup>th</sup> February	Drake (Y3)
21 <sup>st</sup> March	Columbus (Y5)
2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Earle (Y1)
4 <sup>th</sup> July	Cook (YR)

We do hope that you are able to join us.

### **Starting school in September 2018?**

Applications have now closed, so if you have forgotten to apply you will need to complete a late application. Please come in and speak to us or contact the Hampshire admissions team.

**Yours sincerely**

**Georgina Edwards**  
Headteacher

<b>Dates for your diary</b>	
<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Armstrong (Y2) Class Assembly
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Meeting for Year 5 parents about Runway's End trip 3.05pm in Year 5
<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January</b>	Saxon and Viking drama workshops for Years 4 and 5
<b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January</b>	Stone Age and Greek drama workshops for Years 3 and 6
<b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Drake Class (Y3) Assembly
<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Year 2 Pirate Day Mufti day for all other classes £1 Finish at <b>3.05 pm</b> for half term
<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Half term</b>
<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Pupils back to school</b>
<b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March</b>	World Book Day
<b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	Kerry Gibb – visiting author
<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Dance rehearsal for Royal Albert Hall performance at Wildern School
<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Parents' Evening : 4.30 – 7.00 pm
<b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Parents' Evening : 3.15 – 5.00 pm
<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 1 and 2 to The Living Rainforest
<b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year R to Adventure Farm
<b>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	Sport Relief Week
<b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March</b>	Columbus Class (Y5) Assembly
<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Dance rehearsal for Royal Albert Hall performance at Wildern School
<b>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Mufti Day -50p Finish at <b>1.15 pm</b> for Easter Holidays
<b>Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Easter Holidays</b>
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Pupils back to school</b>

### School nurse website

Please have a look at the website below for advice and guidance on whether your child is well enough to be in school.

[www.southernhealth.nhs.uk/schoolnursing](http://www.southernhealth.nhs.uk/schoolnursing) linked from our school website links page!

Southern Health   
NHS Foundation Trust