



Cragside Church of England Primary School

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School Motto:
**“Let Your Light
Shine”**

Headteacher: Mr Paul W Rusby
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Joanne Parker
Assistant Headteacher: Mrs Caroline Bilton



Dear Parent/Carer,

Newsletter 20-9thFebruary 2018

Weekend Challenges

Thank you for the photographs and information that have been sent in for our weekend challenges. These included:

- As part of our healthy challenge, Kayleigh Cochrane (2EA) sent in some pictures of her enjoying some healthy eating.
- Isla Joyce (2EA) and Thomas Joyce (5HC) made a calculator to celebrate world number day.
- Also as part of our number challenge, Kaydon Brunskill (1SG) went bowling and found lots of numbers which were on the balls and score board and then spent time looking at the numbers on his height chart.
- For our Vietnamese challenges, Jake Miah (4ER) prepared Vietnamese rice noodles, with beanshoots, lemongrass, ginger and coriander.
- As part of our on-going kindness challenge, Isla Furness (1SG) and Alex Furness (5HC) have been added to the 'Galaxy of Stars' wall in their friend Dylan's hospital ward for all their help supporting the ward. Isla knows that Dylan can't use his hands, so she decided she would feed him his tea and his pudding. Well done for your kindness.

SUPERCLASS

Congratulations to all our classes who achieved SUPERCLASS this week. They included:

- Reception Explorers who voted to play on the KS2 climbing frames as their reward.
- 2EA who chose to watch a movie in their pyjamas whilst eating popcorn.
- 5HC who asked to bring their bicycles and scooters into school for a fun time on the playground.
- 1SG who voted to make some delicious pizzas.

Dig Up Week-A Message from Mrs Archer

A great week for archaeology as the children had the chance to dig up and rediscover their buried treasure! Lots of excitement and brilliant discussions about what happens to the things we leave behind! It was a great way to educate the children about how certain materials such as metal and plastic take such a long time to decay and as a result we have noticed lots of the children picking up litter around school and talking about the slogan Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. Thanks so much to everyone that got involved!

Half-term Holiday Reading Challenge-A Message from Mrs Bilton

We've just had a wonderful delivery of new books for our Reading Challenge so there's no better time to encourage your child to read as much as possible and sign their planners. Remember 25 tallies= a bookmark and 50 tallies= a beautiful book! It's also our Holiday Reading Challenge and we will be looking for lots of reading to award our High Flying Reading balloon in the first celebration assembly after the holidays. All reading is incredibly valuable so please encourage your child to read books, comics or anything else they enjoy. So please, keeeeeeep reading!



Year 3/4 School Games Gymnastics Competition

On Thursday, schools from all over Cramlington and Seaton Valley area gathered at the Northern Gymnastics Centre for the School Games Gymnastics Competition. Cragside took a very talented team coached by Mrs Austin and Mrs Halliday and from the moment they arrived they were a credit to our school. They all performed amazingly well scoring high in all events. Congratulations to Lily Murphy in 4JH who was awarded the top gymnast prize with a score of 9.9! We are delighted to celebrate that the Cragside team took first place in the competition overall and will now go on to represent the whole of Cramlington and Seaton Valley at the School Games awards. Well done to all who took part, the gymnasts were; Jessica Maddox, Kenzie Lee Frost, Lily Murphy, Layla Manfredi, Daisy Anderson and Heidi Watson. Thank you very much to Mrs Austin and Mrs Halliday for all the time spent coaching our talented gymnasts.

Messy Craft Church at St Nicholas' Church-Saturday 10th February 2018



The next Messy Church will be on Saturday 10th February from 10.30am at St Nicholas' Church (registration opens at 10.20am) with plenty of crafts, activities and games to take part in. Families are invited to come along and join in with lunch afterwards in the church hall. Entry is free, we typically have a wide age range present and we look forward to welcoming those coming for their first time as well as those returning.

Exciting author visit for Key Stage 2 children-Kate Pankhurst-A Message from Mrs Bilton

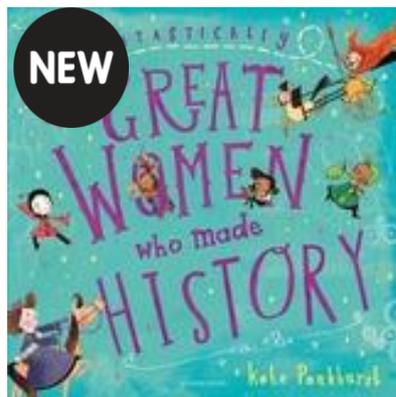
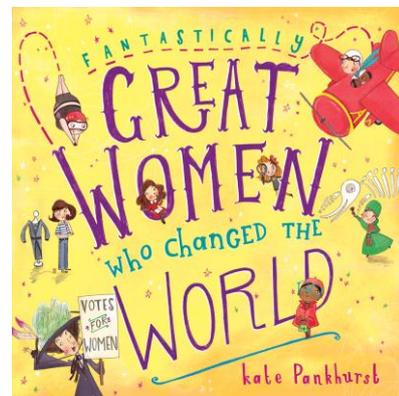


I am delighted that all of our Key Stage 2 children will be attending an event with author and illustrator, Kate Pankhurst, on Tuesday 20th February and will have the opportunity to buy signed and dedicated copies of her books. *Kate Pankhurst, descendent of pioneering suffragette Emmeline Pankhurst, has created wildly wonderful and accessible books about women who really changed the world. Discover fascinating facts about some of the most amazing women who changed the world we live in.*

The following books will be for sale at a discounted price:

Fantastically Great Women who made History –
RRP £6.99 –
Special event price £5.00

Fantastically Great Women who changed the World - RRP £6.99 –
Special event price £5.00



Attendance

Another really high attendance week...well done to our attendance heroes! The classes with the highest attendance last week were:

Early Years-Both classes had the same attendance score last week
KS1-Miss Grice's Class 1SG with 97% (third week running 1SG!)
KS2-Miss Rennison's Class 4ER with 98%!

Uniform

Thank you very much for all your help with our school uniform and helping all the children look so smart in school. Please would it be possible to mention that children should wear charcoal grey skirts or trousers and not wear black leggings. Thank you for your help in ensuring that children don't have tall heels on shoes to prevent them hurting ankles and earrings should not be worn in school. Thank you very much for all your help with our school uniform. We are very grateful to Mrs Freema Chambers for all the on-going hard work with the 'preloved' uniform scheme. I know how much that this is appreciated. Thank you to Mrs Chambers and all who help her with this.



Chinese and Vietnamese New Year Celebrations-A Message from Mrs Pringle



A big thank you to Mrs Cowie and the Year 5 team and Ms Dunn and the kitchen team for helping Cragside to mark Chinese and Vietnamese New Year in style! Mrs Cowie led some fabulous dance and language workshops with each year group taking part in a traditional dragon dance and drumming session. It was a very authentic experience for the children, with Mrs Cowie drawing upon her years of teaching in Vietnam to make this such an exciting and memorable event. Chinese style curry, rice, spring rolls and Chow Mein were enjoyed by many (including staff!) If you would like to join the celebrations in Newcastle, the event in China Town on Sunday 18th February, beginning at 11am. It would be great to see some of our children there enjoying this fabulous cultural event.

Mathletics

Apologies for the admin problems we are currently having with Mathletics. Mathletics will be up and running again the week after the half term holidays. Many thanks for all your patience.

Reception News



Thank you Reception children for a fantastic end to the half term. This week the children have had a very exciting time. To begin the week we completed some 'Plan, do, review sessions'- where the children made some very interesting creations and considered how they could make them even better after reviewing what they had made. Reception children then went on to think about how to keep ourselves safe when using the computer and internet, writing rules and sharing information. The Explorers and Discoverers had a fantastic time too learning about Chinese and Vietnamese New Year. They learnt songs, dragon dances, cooked and read non-fiction books about how people celebrate.

Reception have also loved rediscovering their Archaeological dig objects that were buried many months ago. Exciting to discover how they've changed! In Literacy we have written facts about Chinese New Year in Numeracy we have been thinking about simple addition. Thank you for all the Tapestry entries about Numeracy from children and parents. We love to see what you can achieve at home. Reading and Library books have all been changed. Please make sure your child reads their school reading books at least four times over the half term holiday. Hoping you all have a very lovely time and great rest. Thank you.

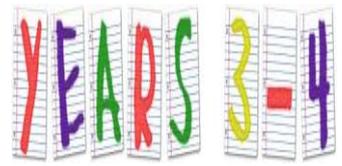
Key Stage 1 News



In Year 1 this week the children have enjoyed taking part in a whole host of practical and creative Chinese and Vietnamese New Year Activities. The children have participated in a dragon dance in the hall, played the drums to represent the dragon's heartbeat, painted Chinese symbols, made and tasted Chinese cuisine as well as being busy developing their geographical awareness using globes and atlases. We have had so much fun learning about this important celebration. In English the children have enjoyed watching Lost and Found as well as listening to the story version. The children thought about the penguin character and about how his feelings changed from feeling lonely and lost at the beginning to feeling loved and cared for at the end. They wrote some fabulous descriptions in their English books. In Science we have been continuing our work on materials. The children carried out an investigation, testing different materials against given properties, such as transparent or opaque and waterproof or absorbent. We hope that you all have a lovely half term break.

Well as the first half term of 2018 comes to an end Year 2 have spent some time looking back through our books to celebrate how much we have progressed, what fun we have had and how hard we have worked. The children really enjoyed doing this and were amazed at how far they have come! Parents will get a lovely surprise in Parents' Evenings during the first week back. We continued the hard work this week in English concentrating on spelling and learning the different rules when adding suffixes to a root word. In Maths we learnt how to round numbers to the nearest multiple of ten as well as revising the greater than and less than signs, working out which calculation was the greatest. We thoroughly enjoyed celebrating Chinese and Vietnamese New Year with our Dragon dancing and drumming session. We followed this up with lots of lovely crafts and some cookery. On Tuesday we thought about how to be safe on the internet. We talked about devices we have and showed what it means to be connected using circle time and wool! The children were very good at articulating how to keep themselves safe online. As if that wasn't enough excitement for one week, we also became archaeologists and dug up our possessions that we had buried back in November. This led to some wonderful discussion about caring for the environment and the damage that plastic can do. Well done to Year 2 for working so hard this half term. We are very proud of you. We hope you enjoy a fun-filled break!

Lower Key Stage 2 News



Lower Key Stage Two have been working really hard on our handwriting this week. It has been great to see the children working hard on this and that so many of them have a real sense of pride in their work. We plan to revise all the letters and sound patterns over the course of next half term and can't wait to see the progress the children will make with their presentation. We are really hoping that as many children as possible can earn a pen license by the end of the year. Thank you for supporting your child with their presentation of homework tasks.

Year 3 really enjoyed performing our collective worship this week. The children worked really hard to learn their lines, dances and songs. Their performance was really entertaining and informative as they took us on a journey around the world. Thank you to all parents and carers who attended and for supporting your child at home with learning their lines.

In English the children have continued to think about Gorilla by Anthony Browne. This week the children wrote an alternative ending to the story. In Maths the children have continued to work on fractions. They are now able to find equivalent fractions and place fractions on a number line.

Year 4 have really enjoyed learning about internet safety on Internet Safety Day where we thought about empathy with others when posting comments online, and learned about digital footprints and the fact that what we put online can be traced. For Chinese New Year we spent time learning about how the years were named and then created some beautiful artwork using marbling ink. In Maths we have been thinking about angles and how to use a protractor and in English we have been word detectives using dictionary skills and our phonics skills to help investigate vocabulary.

Upper Key Stage 2 News

This week has been yet another busy week for Year 5 and 6. We've been thinking about archaeology and biodegradable and non- biodegradable materials in our 'Dig-up week'. We've also celebrated, in beautiful style, Chinese and Vietnamese New Year.



Year 5 have had a lovely week celebrating Chinese and Vietnamese New Year. They have rewritten and illustrated the story of the Chinese Zodiac and were very enthusiastic to learn about the celebrations and New Year festivals. The children also enjoyed designing and making lanterns for the celebrations on Wednesday when they got to form part of the dragon and play drums in the hall. In English the Year 5 children have been learning how to use brackets, commas and dashes for parenthesis as well as finishing our book, Oranges in No-man's Land. In Maths lessons children have been adding money using two decimal places and have enjoyed linking it to real life by choosing different objects to buy.

Year 6 have continued to enjoy their English lessons this week - learning all about blood. They have created an e-book style page about the role of the spleen, written their own test style questions about blood pressure and created their own fictional recounts of an explorer's encounter with a blood-sucking creature! In maths, the children have been investigating missing angles in 2D shapes, drawing circles accurately using a pair of compasses and have begun looking at past SATs reasoning papers. In Topic, the children have continued to enjoy their study of World War II and have this week researched the key events and placed them in chronological order. They have also created some fantastic artwork based on the Blitz. In Science, the children carried out an experiment to investigate how exercise impacts heart rate and then analysed their data. We have also been celebrating Chinese and Vietnamese New Year with some cooking and dance. Well done, Year 5 and 6!

Chess Challenge-A Message from Mr Harries-Wood

It was lovely to have so many parents and grandparents at our chess club this week. The children really enjoyed playing our guests. Congratulations to James Notley who won the tournament! Well done to the children who brought in the correct answer to our last newsletter challenge. (Knight to 6F). I have kicked it up a level this week, enjoy the challenge! White to move! Checkmate in two moves.



15 Day attendance Challenge

Well done to all our children who managed to achieve 100% attendance during our 15 day challenge which finishes today. All the children have been given special stickers to mark their achievement.

Parents' Information Evenings

We look forward to seeing parents at our Parent Information Evenings are on Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st February 2018. Thank you to everyone who has already completed the online booking form. If you have any queries about how to make an appointment, please contact the school office who will be happy to help. If you know that you are unavailable on the 20/21st February, please would it be possible to contact your child's teacher to make an alternative appointment.

Don't forget
Parents'
Evening!

Lent challenge-A Message from Mrs Pringle

To mark the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday (14th February) we have set 40 challenges for you to complete as a family during this special time. Rather than the traditional 'giving something up' we would encourage you to do something for others instead. If you take any photographs of any of these challenges being completed, please email them in to me at jo.pringle@cragside.northumberland.sch.uk or the school email address admin@cragside.northumberland.sch.uk



Weekly Competition: Which World Cup Country Is Mr Davison 'Visiting' This Week...?

Well done to all of the children who correctly identified that the World Cup country I 'visited' last week was **Italy**. The three winners chosen out of the hat were **Owen Wall, Jake Miah and Faith Green** who each won a Kinder surprise, made in Italy. To be in with a chance of winning this week, simply identify the country I 'visited' using these clues:

* Football is one of the most popular sports in this country, along with cycling, tennis, judo and swimming.

* Famous footballers from this country include Eden Hazard, Romelu Lukaku and Kevin De Bruyne.

* This country is well known for its chocolate, beer and introducing Brussels sprouts to the world! If your child can identify this country, please enter by providing the country and their name either by emailing me admin@cragside.northumberland.sch.uk, contacting us on twitter [@cragsideprimary](https://twitter.com/cragsideprimary) or by using the old-fashioned answer on a piece of paper to my classroom 6RD. Three winners will be announced in next week's newsletter and will each receive chocolate, sweets or a snack made in this country. Good luck! Mr Davison



Half Term Challenge

Thank you very much for all the pictures that are sent or emailed in for our weekend challenges. Our half term challenges are:

- Tuesday 13th February is Shrove Tuesday. Please send in a picture of your child helping to make some pancakes.
- Wednesday 14th February is Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent. Please send in some pictures of your children taking part in some of the Lent Challenges.
- Mrs Bilton has sent home her half term reading challenge. Please send in a picture of your child 'extreme reading' during the half term break. This might be reading on top of a hill, in an exciting place or near a famous landmark.
- Friday 16th February is the start of the Chinese New Year which this year celebrates the Year of the Dog. Please send in pictures of your child making some Chinese lanterns, art work or preparing some Chinese food.
- Saturday 17th February is 'random acts of kindness day'. Please send in some pictures of your child performing a random act of kindness.



I hope that you have a lovely half term. Thank you very much for all your help during this half term. We look forward to welcoming all our wonderful children back to school on Monday 19th February for the start of Spring (2) and the start of the lighter nights and mornings! Spring is coming!

Yours sincerely,

Paul Rusby
Headteacher