



# 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**



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**Challenge Award**  
FOR EXCELLENCE IN PROVISION FOR  
ABLE, GIFTED & TALENTED PUPILS  
JANUARY 2016



Dear Parent/Carer,

## Newsletter 2: 15<sup>th</sup> September 2017

### Weekend Challenges

Congratulations to all the parents and children who took part in the Great North Run and the Junior Great North run last weekend. I hope that your legs are starting to feel less stiff now! Well done to Mr Davison, Mr Harries-Wood, Mrs Urwin, Mrs Cant and Mrs Taylor from our staff team who all completed the run which was a wonderful achievement. I think that all the runners are absolute superstars!

Thank you for the photographs that were sent into our school email address and Twitter account relating to the weekend challenges. These included:

- As part of our Roald Dahl challenge, Kayleigh Cochrane (2EA) made a cauldron of worms and slime from the Roald Dahl book, 'Disgusting Recipes'
- Inspired by George's Marvellous Medicine, Rhys Pattison (2JP) created a special bright orange mixture that George would have been proud of.
- As part of the Great North Run challenge, Thomas Irvine (1SG) sent in a picture of him running the Great North Run for the charity Scott Bell Fund. He completed the run in 7minutes 31seconds
- As part of our on-going 'extreme reading challenge', Yulia Yablonskikh (4JH) sent in some pictures of her reading in Russia. These included reading at the monument to Alexander Pushkin, the planetarium in Ekaterinburg and reading in front of a Football World Cup poster in the city of Ekaterinburg which is one of the host cities of the 2018 World Cup.

### On Your Marks-A Message from Jill Harrison-Cramlington Parish Youth Worker

Have fun learning about Jesus in this monthly group for children aged 6-11 years old. The next event will be on Sunday 17th September at Beaconhill Community Centre from 5.00-7.00pm when there will be crafts, games, stories and food to enjoy. Just come along to register and take part.

### Youth Cafe-A Message from Jill Harrison-Cramlington Parish Youth Worker

The cafe runs each Wednesday during term time from 3.30-5.15pm at St Nicholas Church. The cafe is open to those in school years 6-9. Entry is free with drinks and snacks available to buy for 50p each. A variety of games and activities are on offer as well as places to just sit and chat.

### Instrumental Tuition-A Message from Miss Westgarth

A big thank you to Miss Stephenson our violin and penny whistle teacher for coming to visit our school and deliver a whole school assembly to explain all the fun of learning the violin and penny whistle. We were very excited to learn the different parts of the instruments and all the exciting music you can play with them. If your child is interested in learning the penny whistle, violin, ukulele or drum privately in school, please contact the school office as soon as possible. Music tuition will begin next Tuesday for ukulele and drum and Thursday for penny whistle and violin. Many thanks for your help with this.

## Year 6 Roots and Shoots Celebration Day-A Message from Mr Davison

On Tuesday, 20 of our Year 6 children visited Alnwick Gardens to take part in the Roots and Shoots Celebration Day. The event was a chance for the children to celebrate everything that they have learnt and achieved throughout the Roots and Shoots programme. They also made fruit kebabs, harvested the vegetables that they had planted on their last visit and took part in a treasure hunt in the maze. The children thoroughly enjoyed their visit and were an absolute credit to Cragside, as they have been throughout the programme. Well done to our Roots and Shoots team! A big thank you also to Mrs Whitwell, Ruby's mum, who has joined us on the trips to Alnwick Gardens and was kind enough to make the children a scrumptious soup and a delicious curry, using the ingredients that the children harvested on Tuesday. They were a well-earned and tasty treat at the end of a hard-working week! The children were featured in an article on ITV local news this week. I have attached a link to the news report: <http://www.itv.com/news/tyne-tees/update/2017-09-12/harvest-time-at-the-alnwick-garden/>

## Invention Shed

We are always looking to add even more resources to the excellent facilities that we enjoy at Cragside. I recently had a meeting with a company who build and resource 'invention sheds'. These are large sheds (similar to a large garden shed) which have a workbench, tools and resources to help the children with their creative design and create skills. The cost of the shed and accompanying specialist staff and training runs into the thousands of pounds which is over what we can afford as a school. I am trying to find potential sponsors in the local area, especially from engineering or construction companies who value the development of such skills in young children. If you know any companies who might be interested in helping sponsor an 'invention shed' for our school, please would you ask them to contact me at school or let me know their details so I can contact them. Thank you for your help with this.

## 'My Job'-Sharing Talks with Children

We are very keen, over the course of the year, for some parents and grandparents to come into school to talk to classes about the job that they do. This only needs to be a short 10 minute talk, possibly with some objects or pictures which will help the children find out more about your work. We can be flexible about the date and time. If you might be interested in coming to talk to your child's class (or another class) please would you complete the form at the bottom of this newsletter or email [admin@cragside.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:admin@cragside.northumberland.sch.uk)

## Subscription Websites and On Line Learning

As a school we purchase a number of online learning resources each year to support our children. Children need a login and password for the individual site. We are currently adding information about logins into each child's planner. If you have any problems with logging on, please do not hesitate to contact school and we will try to help. Examples of some of the websites include:

	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Active Learn (including online e-reading scheme and Abacus Maths)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LanguageNut (Modern Foreign Languages)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mathletics (Mathematics)	✓	✓	✓				
My Maths (Mathematics)				✓	✓	✓	✓
Sumdog (Mathematics Competitions)			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

## Hoopstarz-A Message from Mr Beck and Mr Dickinson

On Friday next week (22nd September) the Hoopstarz team will be back at Cragside to work with the children from Reception to Year 3. Hoopstarz are a company who demonstrate all the healthy fun you can have with a hula hoop. Each class will take part in a workshop with their skilled and enthusiastic coaches. They will be showing the children a range of games and skills that they can practice with hula hoops. It is always a very fun filled day and the children are very excited to practice the skills they learn. At the end of the day the Hoopstarz team will be selling hula hoops for £3 if anyone would like to buy one for their children (or indeed for mums and dads) to play with at home. If any children would like to purchase a hoop, please would they bring the money in a named, sealed envelope.

## Year 6 Applications for Secondary School-September 2018

Northumberland County Council's online admission for places for secondary schools for September 2018 will be available from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2018 until Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018 (it officially opened on September 11<sup>th</sup> but they are having some technical problems at the moment). We will send out information next week and update our admissions section on the website for parents who have children in Year 6 regarding applying for secondary schools. Cramlington Learning Village have an information evening on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October. Further details will come directly from Cramlington Learning Village later this month.

## **Reception News-A Message from Miss Westgarth**

Reception staff are all very proud of our wonderful Reception children in their first full week of school. The children have been loving playing in the outdoors, making chocolates as part of Roald Dahl day, enjoying their first P.E. lessons and making lots of new friends. All of Reception have also enjoyed eating their delicious school dinners. Well done to them!

A few items of clothing have gone missing in the first week of school. Please ensure ALL items of clothing (including shoes) are named please. Emma Langlois is missing a labelled, light pink, girls puffer jacket with a fur trim and Emily Salam is missing a pink waterproof coat. Thank you for helping to look out at home and in bags for these items.

We look forward to seeing all our parents on **Wednesday the 20th of September, 1.30pm** for our EYFS Reading, Writing, Number meeting. This meeting will be highly valuable when supporting your child with their learning. Please do your uppermost to attend. If you cannot attend personally, please try to send a representative, i.e. a grandparent or other relative who is able to sign agreements and receive important information such as passwords and login details. The meeting will then be followed by a play and stay session where you are invited to come in and play with your child in their class. We really look forward to seeing you on Wednesday.

## **Key Stage One News-A Message from Mrs Urwin**

What a busy week Key Stage One has had!

In Year 1 the children have been learning all about Lego Inventor, Ole Kirk Christiansen. We talked about the properties of plastic and thought about why Ole chose plastic for his product. The children described the properties of plastic using key scientific vocabulary such as shiny, hard, rigid, strong and waterproof. In Mathematics we have been continuing to count backwards from a given number within 20 and we have explored number bonds for 5, 6 and 10. In Design Technology we have begun to evaluate a range of pop-up books. If you have any pop-up books at home that you would like to share in class please feel welcome to bring them into school next week.

In Year 2 the children have been inspired by famous author Roald Dahl. They have used adventurous vocabulary and a variety of punctuation in their WOW Writing. This week we also launched our topic The Great Fire of London and we very much look forward to a visit from a group of Durham University historians on the 2nd October! In Mathematics the children have had fun ordering numbers, using key Mathematical language such as largest/larger, greatest/greater, smallest/smaller and equal to.

## **News from Lower Key Stage 2-A Message from Mrs Cant**

This week Lower Key Stage 2 have enjoyed celebrating Roald Dahl Day. Year 3 have been inspired by Charlie and the Chocolate factory and have invented their own sweets. Year 4 have read the BFG and have painted their own giants.

Year 4 have enjoyed finding out about Hinduism around the world and are looking forward to making their own rangoli patterns this week. Year 3 have been working hard in Maths and have shown impressive understanding of number and place value. Children are working really hard to learn their times tables and it is great to see that some have made it onto the times table ladder already- thanks for all your support with this at home.

## **News from Upper Key Stage 2-A Message from Mrs Bilton**

Upper Key Stage 2 children have worked so hard this week. What a lot of exciting work they have covered in their lessons! In Year 6 English lessons, the children have continued to read *The Eye of the Wolf* by Daniel Pennac. They have thought very carefully about 'squeezing' evidence from the text to support their ideas and responses. In maths, we have learned about positioning 2-place decimals on a number line and rounding of decimals. In our Raging rivers topic, we've used atlases to identify important rivers in the U.K. and around the world. As scientists we have, identified similarities and differences in living things and thought about different ways to classify zoo animals. As artists, we have used a range of media to produce beautiful observational work of shells and fish. Phew! No wonder the children are worn out when they get home.

This week, Year 5 have been studying a new book called *Friend or Foe* by Michael Morpurgo. The book is set during the Second World War and is about two boys who were evacuated from London. The book has been very engaging so far and the children have really enjoyed discussing the events of the opening chapters. In maths, we have been studying place value, comparing numbers, using estimates and developing our mental maths skills. We have also spent a lot of time this week looking at Anglo Saxon Villages and we are beginning to create our own settlements. The children have also done work on e-safety this week and have been creating new passwords and checking their strength of safety using a checklist of ideas to make their passwords both memorable and secure.

## Year 6-A Message from Mrs Bilton

Well done to all the children who delivered speeches during our elections for Head Boy and Girl. The children impressed us consistently with their well-planned and confidently delivered presentations. It was a very difficult choice for our Year 6 children which was evident in how close the voting was! We're delighted to announce that our Head Boy is Charlie Kelk, with Benjamin Adams as deputy. Lexy Ealy is our head Girl with Ruby Whitwell as deputy. Photos of children delivering their speeches are on Twitter. Thank you to all the Year 6 children who will be leading some of our pupil voice committees and are taking on responsibilities such as being a Young Sports Leaders and Librarians. Your work is really important and much valued.

## Shining Stars

We have had some wonderful examples of our children shining bright the beginning of the autumn term, ranging from fantastic Maths to being a caring, kind friend. Please see the names of the children below who have received a Certificate of Achievement today:

Reception Discoverers: Samuel Forster for some excellent independent Numeracy work- fantastic number formation. Well done.

Reception Discoverers: Daniel Robson for settling into Cragside with a smile. You are always very interested Daniel. Fantastic!

Reception Explorers: Dylan Roberts for his positive, sunny approach and settling in so well to Cragside.

Reception Explorers: Emma Langlois for always working so hard to tidy up our classroom at tidy up time and settling in so well.

Year 1SG: Luke Summerill for settling into our school so well and making lots of new friends.

Year 1SG: Sienna Tallen for using fabulous expression in reading during our phonics lessons.

Year 1LU: Aaron Carr for being a Number Bond Star and finding all pairs of numbers which total 10.

Year 1LU: Alex Wilks for fantastic descriptive writing about farm animals.

Year 2JP: Aaron Cooke for a fabulous piece of Wow writing about Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory.

Year 2JP: Emmi Morgan for a fantastically enthusiastic attitude to reading.

Year 2EA: Bailey Turner for always being enthusiastic and trying hard in all that he does.

Year 2EA: Lexie Downs for persevering in Maths when ordering numbers.

Year 3RC: Nathan Taylor-Brown for settling in well and making a great start at Cragside.

Year 3RC: Ryan Johnson for a consistently excellent attitude to his work and being a shining example to others.

Year 3AD: Lucas Perkins for showing great determination in his maths lessons.

Year 3AD: Sofia Robinson for settling into Year 3 really well and having a great working attitude.

Year 4ER: Harley Blake for showing tremendous determination when adding mentally.

Year 4ER: Rachel Black for settling into Year 4 well and trying her best in all lessons.

Year 4JH: Zack Trett for working hard and becoming a fabulous member of the class.

Year 4JH: Leon Branley for always being ready to learn and do his best.

Year 5HC: Eddie Mason for sharing and participating positively in group work.

Year 5HC: Cara Lily for always staying focused and producing fantastic work!

Year 5JB: Ellie Foley for fantastic writing.

Year 5JB: Olivia Gibson for showing a wonderful attitude and working hard in all lessons.

Year 6CB: Koby Lin for settling in beautifully to life at Cragside.

Year 6CB: Kate Hedley for making a wonderful start to life at Cragside.

Year 6RD: Chloe Stewart for her positive hard-working attitude and fantastic artwork.

Year 6RD: Aaron Wilson for always giving his best and setting a perfect example to others.

## Robinwood-A Message from the Year 6 Team

We're so excited to be taking every single child in Year 6 to Robinwood next month. It's going to be such a wonderful and memorable event! Thank you so much to all parents who attended our Robinwood information evening. Please don't worry at all if you were unable to attend as Mrs Nesbit, Mr Davison and I are available to answer any of your questions on the Year 5 and 6 door in the mornings, or on the yard in the evening. Thank you again for your support with this exciting visit.

## Attendance and Punctuality Week



We are so pleased to see our children coming into school every day and have been very impressed to see how punctually all of our families and children are coming into school in the mornings. Thank you for your support with this. Next week, we will be continuing to promote good attendance and punctuality at school by asking all of the children to be an 'Attendance H.E.R.O. (Here Everyday Ready On time). Every child who is an Attendance H.E.R.O. next week will be rewarded with a sticker!

## Twitter

Thank you to all the new parents who have contacted us on Twitter. A reminder that our address is **@cragsideprimary**. If you do not yet follow us, please log in to Twitter and follow us so you can see some of the day to day work and celebrations that happen at Cragside.





## Macmillan Coffee Morning-A Message from Mrs Cant

On Friday 29th September Cragside are planning to take part in the Macmillan Coffee morning. We would really appreciate any donations of cakes, which can be homemade or shop bought, to be brought in on the 29th September. Children are invited to bring a small donation to school to buy a cake. All money raised will be donated to Macmillan who do such fantastic work in supporting families.

## Pearl of Africa Choir, Drum and Dance Group UK Tour 2017

There are still some tickets available for the Pearl of Africa concert which is on **Tuesday 26th September**. We are looking forward to the Pearl of Africa choir from Uganda visiting our school as part of their 2017 UK tour. The tour supports their work to helping orphaned children in Uganda. The choir will spend time in each class during the day. The choir will bring some handmade jewellery and models to sell. If you would like your child to purchase something through the day, please would you send any monies in a small named envelope. Most items cost between £2 and £5 but there is absolutely no obligation at all to buy anything. A larger 'market' of handmade items will be available to purchase in the interval during the evening concert.



The choir will perform a concert of dance, drumming and singing in the evening from **6.30pm** (due to finish at 8.00pm). **Tickets** are free and are now available to collect from our main Reception (01670 714200). Alternatively, we can email tickets if you email [admin@cragside.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:admin@cragside.northumberland.sch.uk). Please would you let neighbours and friends know so they have the opportunity to attend what I know will be a very uplifting evening. More information about the choir can be found at: [www.pearlofafrica.org.uk](http://www.pearlofafrica.org.uk). We really hope you are able to join us and make a real difference to the lives of some children in Uganda.

## Dates for the Diary

A reminder that dates for this year are available on the school Google calendar on our website. A list of some dates has also been emailed out today. We are looking forward to seeing Year 6 families on Thursday 21st September at 9am for Year 6 Family Worship and our Reception families at 1.30pm on Wednesday 20th September for our information talks and 'stay and play' afternoon.

## Weekend Challenges

All children are invited to take part each weekend in our Weekend Challenges. Please send in photographs and information to our school admin email address: [admin@cragside.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:admin@cragside.northumberland.sch.uk) or to our Twitter page.

Our weekend challenge this week is inspired by the magnificent work the gardeners did this week in harvesting our vegetables:

- Send in a picture of your child washing vegetables and helping to make a homemade vegetable soup, curry or meal.
- Monday of next week is the start of 'national cupcake week'. Please send in a picture of your child making and decorating some cupcakes.

Well done to all our children for working hard throughout this week. Well done to Reception who have completed their full first week at school-I'm sure lots of children (and parents!) will sleep well tonight! I hope that you have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

Paul Rusby  
Headteacher



## 'My Job'-Sharing Talks with Children

I would be interested to come into school and share some information about my job.

Name of Child \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

My name \_\_\_\_\_ I would be able to talk about: \_\_\_\_\_

The best day(s) of the week/times for me would be \_\_\_\_\_