



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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Able Children in Education



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ABLE, GIFTED & TALENTED PUPILS
JANUARY 2016



Dear Parent/Carer,

Newsletter 1: 7th September 2018

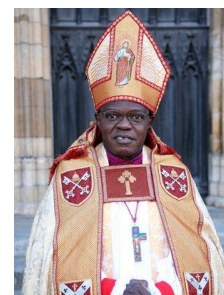
How lovely it was to see the children coming back to school this week, all smart at the start of the school year. It has been wonderful hearing from the children about their summer and some of the exciting days out and visits that they enjoyed. I hope that you enjoyed all the warm weather that we have had this year.

A special welcome to our new Reception parents and all the new parents of children who started in other year groups this week. Welcome to the Cragside family- we look forward to working closely with you to help your children shine during their time at Cragside. It has been such a joy this week spending time with the children at lunchtime, during lessons and at the start and end of the day. Their politeness has really shone through as has their kindness and excitement in sharing all their news.



Archbishop of York

At the time of writing the newsletter we are very blessed to have the Archbishop of York visit our school. Archbishop John Sentamu is spending some time with the children and also leading our collective worship. We know the children are very excited to meet him and look forward to sharing some of the pictures of his visit and writing a longer account of this in next week's newsletter.



Welcome

At the start of this new school year we welcome some new staff into the Cragside team. They are: Miss Hebdon who is teaching in Year 5; Miss Harris who is teaching in Year 1, Miss McVicar who is teaching in Year 3 and Miss Higgins who is teaching in Year 2. They all bring with them new and exciting specialisms and we really look forward to all that they will add to our wonderful school. It has been lovely to see all our classes settle into the new year so well.



Congratulations

Congratulations to Mr Flynnwood and his wife on the birth of their daughter towards the end of the summer holiday. Baby Roisin was born weighing 7lbs and 11ozs. Baby, mum (and dad!) are all doing very well. Mr Flynnwood will be on paternity leave from Monday. We have organised cover for him and look forward to seeing him very soon on his return to his class.

Family Worship

Each year group will lead whole school worship during the autumn and spring terms. These take place on a Thursday and aim to start close to 9am. Families are very welcome to attend these. In the summer term we celebrate the individual achievements of each child with a special end of year celebration service where we hand out special certificates. In addition to this there are three services a year at church which, again, families are very welcome to attend. All the dates for the family worship will be sent home next week and will also be available soon on the school website in the Google calendar section.

Newsletters, Texts, Calendar and Twitter

Towards the end of last year, we sent home a form linked to our data management GDPR policy. Each Friday we will send out a newsletter. The vast majority of our parents have asked to receive this via email. We have a list of parents who have asked to receive a paper copy of the newsletter and will continue to send this out during this year. I have added a reply slip to the bottom of this newsletter for any new parents who would prefer to receive the newsletter in a paper form.

In addition to our newsletters we use a text messaging service and a private Twitter account to send messages and celebrate achievements. This is accessible to parents and carers or current pupils. 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.

Our Reception classes also use a program called Tapestry to share the learning of our youngest children. Please would it be possible to let the office know if you change your email address or mobile telephone number so we can ensure we have the correct contact details to ensure you receive texts and newsletters. If you have any queries, please see Mr Davidson or Miss Westgarth and they will be really happy to help. Alternatively, catch me on the school gate and I will try to help.

Start and End of the School Day

Thank you for your help with the start and end of the school day. A reminder for our new parents that the school doors open each morning at 8.40am for children to come into school and start their morning maths activities whilst the register is being taken. If the doors are closed (i.e. after 8.50am) please would you bring your child to the main school Office to be signed into school. The external gate on the school yard, Reception gates and the garden gates are all locked just after 8.50am so the site is secure through the day. To help with safety, please would it be possible to mention at the start of the year:

- Dogs are not allowed on the school grounds.
- Parking restrictions are in place in the streets closest to the school. On Westloch Road this is between 8.30am-9.30am and 2.45pm-3.45pm. Other streets such as Gainsborough Place are designated residents only streets. The whole estate is a 20mph zone. Thank you for avoiding parking in the streets close to school.
- The whole site, including near the school gates, is a non-smoking area (this includes e-cigarettes).
- Mobile phones should not be used to photograph or record in the school grounds.
- Children should dismount from scooters and bicycles before coming into the school grounds.
- If children play on the play equipment at the start and end of the day, please would parents supervise them to check they are safe. Thank you so much for all your help in ensuring the children are safe at the start and end of the school day.

Cragside's Day of Languages-A Message from Mrs Pemberton

Parlez-vous Francais? Sprechen Sie Deutsch? Parli Italiano?

This year we will be holding our very own day of modern foreign languages to celebrate different languages, promote language learning and have some fun! If any parents or carers can speak another language and would like to get involved and help during our multi-language day, please contact Mrs Pemberton via the school office. Many thanks!



St Nicholas' Church, Cramlington-Alpha Course for Adults.

St Nicholas' Church are running an Alpha course starting on Thursday 13th September at 7pm. This runs for 11 weeks, finishing on 22nd November. You don't need to come every week, but it is an opportunity to discover more about the Christian faith. Any adults are welcome to attend the course which is based at St Nicholas' Church.



Messy Church



Messy Church is on this Saturday (8th September) at St Nicholas' Church in Cramlington. Children from all year groups at our school and parents/grandparents are very welcome to join in the fun. Messy Church starts at 10.20am and will finish around 12noon.

Lunchtime Arrangements for Children who are unwell

Please be aware that if your child needs to stay inside during playtimes and lunchtimes due to any form of illness or injury, we ask that you write a quick note in their School Planner to inform us of this. This will help us to ensure that those children are safely supervised during lunchtimes by a member of staff. Thank you for your help with this.



Attendance and Punctuality-A Message from Mrs Parker



We have been delighted to see our children arriving at school so promptly this week. There is an awful lot of evidence which clearly shows that excellent attendance and punctuality positively impacts upon a child's success with learning, enabling them to achieve well and be the very best that they can be. Like all parents and carers, as a school, we have a shared responsibility to ensure that children attend school regularly and promptly. To support us with this, we work closely with our Education Welfare Officer, whom we regularly meet with to monitor the attendance and punctuality of all children in school.

Where your child does need to be absent from school, please contact the School Office on 01670 714200, before 9am, giving the name of the child who is absent and the reason for absence, on each day of the child's absence. If you do not contact the school the absence will have to be recorded as unauthorised. Each week, we will be celebrating the classes who have the best attendance in each phase of school (Early Years, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2) and these classes are rewarded with a certificate to display on their door and an Attendance trophy to keep in their class.

Reception News

Well done to all the fantastic new super stars in Reception who have been shining examples over their first few days. They have loved painting, singing, sharing stories and completing Early Literacy and Numeracy activities alongside making friends and new relationships with lots of adults in the setting. Staff are sharing photos of the children's week onto Twitter. Please establish an account and search for **@CragSidePrimary** to follow us for photos. We have been really impressed by all the children's thought, care and kindness. A big well done to all of them!



Reception parents, please remember our Early Years reading, writing, numeracy meeting which will explain how we teach important skills and how you can support your child at school. The afternoon will also be an opportunity to visit your child in class and stay for a play! The meeting is highly important for explaining how we teach various skills and will also be the first opportunity for parents to collect usernames and passwords for interactive tools such as Tapestry, Active Learn and Mathletics. If parents cannot attend another family member such as a grandparent or aunt etc. is very welcome to represent a child. We really look forward to welcoming as many adults as possible. **The Early Years meeting will be held on Tuesday the 18th of September in the main Hall from 1.30pm.** Our teachers in Reception this year are Mrs Pemberton and Miss Westgarth.

A big well done again to all our Reception children. We are so blessed to welcome them all into our CragSide Family. Thank you to parents for all their support so far. We really look forward to an exciting year ahead in Reception!

Key Stage One News



What a fantastic start to the new school year! We are delighted with how well the children in Key Stage One have settled into their new classes, showing their eagerness to learn!

What a brilliant first week in Year One! Miss Harris and I have been so impressed with how quickly the children have settled into their new classes. We've managed to fit in lots of learning tasks already as well as getting to know each other! In Maths we have been sorting and counting objects, finding one more and one less. In English we have enjoyed reading the story *Class 2 At The Zoo* by Julia Jarman, and retelling the story in our own words. We're looking forward to starting our Geography and DT topic next week - please see our curriculum map for more details! Well done Year One on your fabulous start to our year together!

Year 2 have had a wonderful start to the year. It has been wonderful to see so many smiling faces in the morning. The Year 2 children have settled in very well and been setting a good example whilst helping the Year 1 children to get used to their new surroundings in Key Stage 1. In lessons the children have been learning about place value and counting using tens and ones as well as completing some addition and subtraction work. We have been very impressed with their attitude to learning and their knowledge. In English the children have started the book *Silly Billy*, which is all about a young boy who worries about everything. We have used the story to talk about our own worries and relate to the main character. The children also came up with some excellent suggestions on how to tackle our worries and thoughts about all we are looking forward to. It's been a great start to Year 2 and it is lovely to see all the children thriving and enjoying school. Our teachers in Key Stage 1 this year are Miss Grice, Miss Harris, Mr Beck, Miss Higgins and Mrs Clarke.

Weekend Challenge

Each Friday we set a completely voluntary challenge for children and families to do at home over the weekend. Children who send in a picture of this are awarded Housepoints. We will celebrate the summer holiday reading challenge next week. Thank you to all the children who worked so hard on their reading over the summer holidays.



Holiday Reading Challenge-A Message from Mrs Bilton

We've been delighted to hear so much about all of the reading that happened during the holidays-well done! We will celebrate holiday reading and all of the reading that is happening at the beginning of term, in collective worship next Thursday. So, it's not too late to record lots of reading in new planners to impress your teachers. Keeeeep reading!

News from Lower Key Stage 2



The Year 3 and 4 children have made a really great start to the year. We are so impressed with the mature attitude and great behaviour they have shown over the first week. It is great to see that they have returned to school so ready to learn.

In Year 3 the children have been working on number and place value in maths. They have thought about the question 'What is 100?' They counted in 100s and solved problems linked to this. The children then thought about place value and used base 10 equipment to make different numbers. In English the children have started reading a non-fiction text about Tutankhamun. In Year 4 we have begun this year by exploring Roman Numerals in maths. The children have been fantastic at this. In English Year 4 have been applying for class jobs using all their persuasive writing skills.

In Lower Key Stage 2 we have decided to do homework slightly differently this year. Each half term we will send home 'bingo homework' tasks. The children should attempt to complete as many of these as they can during the half term. We will keep a record of this in school and children who complete all 9 tasks will receive a certificate. We want to encourage the children to be as creative as they can with this homework and look forward to sharing it with the class. Thank you for supporting your child with this-we couldn't do it without you! Our teachers in Year 3/4 this year are Mrs Cant, Miss McVicar, Mrs Harper, Mrs Cowie and Mr Flynnwood.

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

What a brilliant start to the new school year our Year 5 and 6 children have made. They have settled into their new classes beautifully and already shown us how hard working and sensible they will be as the oldest children in our school.



In Year 6, we have started our maths lessons by thinking about Place Value; we've worked confidently with 7 and 8 digit numbers. The children have really impressed us by applying their knowledge and skills to a range of problems and investigations. In English, we've started to read the award winning novel Eye of The Wolf. This challenging text is absolutely beautiful and ensures the children develop a range of higher order reading comprehension skills. In PHSE, we've thought about the rights and responsibilities we have in our new classes, and in RE we have written prayers for class prayer stations. Year 6 have also spent time preparing for the visit from Archbishop of York John Sentamu. The children were fascinated to find out about his work and his life and were absolutely delighted to spend time asking him questions and listening to his stories. What a privilege it was to meet him and what a credit the children were in terms of their behaviour and attitude.

Well done to Year 5, who have quickly settled back into the school routine and shown that they are more than ready for upper key stage 2. It has certainly been a busy first week back! In our English lessons, we have been enjoying the novel Friend or Foe by Michael Morpurgo. Based on the book, we have written a diary entry in role as David the main character, looked for clues within a text and created a role play based on one of the scenes. In Maths, we have been adding and subtracting five digit numbers, investigated Roman numerals and practised different mental methods. In History, we have begun our study of the Anglo Saxons, learning who they were, why they invaded Britain and what their main kingdoms were. Well done Year 5 - a great start to the year. Our teachers in Year 5/6 this year are Mrs Bilton, Miss Rennison, Mrs Harper, Miss Hebdon, Mr Davidson and Mrs Forrest.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

On Friday 28th 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 28th. Children can all bring a small donation to school to buy a cake. All money raised will be donated to Macmillan.



Robinwood-A Message from Mrs Bilton

On **Wednesday the 12th of September at 5.00pm**, we will hold a final Robinwood information evening. This will be a short meeting for parents and carers to answer any questions about our exciting visit to Robinwood Residential Centre. If you are unable to attend the meeting please don't worry as I'm available on the Year 5 and 6 door at the beginning and end of each day to answer any questions.

Class Photographs

Class photographs will be taken on **Tuesday 11th September**. Thank you for your help in ensuring children look really smart for the class photograph. Children will have the picture taken in their full school uniform although they will not wear their shoes as they stand on a special white backdrop to help create the picture. The pictures will be available for families to purchase and will be displayed in our main entrance throughout the year. Individual and family photographs will be taken later on this term in November.

General School Information-A Message from the Office Team

A reminder that pupils from Reception to Y2 are entitled to Universal Free School Meals. For pupils in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6, school lunches cost £11.50 per week. Please would it be possible to pay this on a Monday, payment can be made online or via the school office. If you require a password to pay online please contact the school office and they will happily help you with this.

A leaflet is available from the school office for information on the Out of School Club. This runs before and after school to try and support families where after school care is needed. Information about payments and times can be accessed from the main school office or information is also available on the school website.

If your child is going to be absent from school please contact the school office each morning before 9.30am. An answer phone is available for any messages that need to be left before 8.30am. If you need a leave of absence form for your child, please would you collect one from the school office. School is unable to authorise any term time holiday requests.

All information including holidays, school clubs, menus and newsletters can be found on the school website www.cragside.northumberland.sch.uk.

The Great North Run

Best wishes to all the parents and children who are running in the Junior Great North Run on Saturday and the Great North Run on Sunday. Best wishes to staff from Cragside who are running on Sunday-we will be cheering on Mrs Cant and Miss Westgarth.

Diary Dates and Learning Websites

Next week we will send out an overview of diary dates for the whole school year and also reminder information about how to log onto the many different subscription websites that the school buys each year to help children with their learning. Our first parent information evenings this term are on **Tuesday 2nd October and Wednesday 3rd October 2018 (both from 3.30pm to 6pm)**. We do hope you will be able to join us on one of these evenings.

Weekend House Point Challenge

All children are invited to take part each weekend in our Housepoint Challenges. These are fun opportunities to learn together at home. Please send in photographs and information to our school admin email address: admin@cragside.northumberland.sch.uk or to our Twitter page.

Our weekend challenge this week is inspired by the Great North Run and also the anniversary of Roald Dahl's birthday on Thursday 13th September. Please send in pictures of your child:

- Taking part in the Junior Great North Run or supporting a family member on the Great North Run
- Creating a picture or 3D art of their favourite Roald Dahl character
- Baking and decorating a cup cake or biscuit with one of the characters or scenes from a Roald Dahl book.



Well done to the children who have worked so hard this week. There are lots of tired children (and adults) at the end of this first week back. I hope you have a lovely weekend and look forward to seeing you at the start of next week.

Yours sincerely

Paul Rusby
Headteacher

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Newsletters

We have sent home a paper copy of the newsletter this week as it is the first week of term. From next week we will continue our normal practice of emailing out the newsletter and sending a paper copy to those parents who would like to receive a paper copy. If you would like to receive a paper copy of the school newsletter, please would you complete the slip below.

Name of Child _____ Class _____

I would like to receive a paper copy of the newsletter _____ (signed parent/carer)