



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 1: 6th September 2019

It has been a real joy to see all our children returning to school after their summer break. We have had such a good first week with the children all looking so smart and ready to learn. It has been a thrill to be in all the classrooms throughout this week and see the eagerness of the children to learn and the caring manner in which they have been supporting one another.

A huge welcome to our new parents whose children have started in Reception this week and to all those new parents whose children have transferred from other schools to join us. Our Reception children have settled in incredibly well during their first week, so well in fact that the majority of children started full time today rather than waiting until Monday.

Welcome



A big welcome to Miss Appleby who has joined our school this year and is teaching in Year 5. As a school we are part of a national scheme to support new adults into teaching. We welcome Mr Simpson who is training to be a teacher and will be in our school for most of this year. We very much look forward to what new and exciting things they will both bring to our school.

Summer Holiday Success

Thank you for some of the pictures which have been emailed in to celebrate some of the successes children have had over the summer. These included:

Brogan C (Year 4) who achieved two gold medals in a gymnastics tournament in Liverpool where she was placed fourth out of all the gymnasts in the competition.

Yulia Y (Year 6) who sent in some incredible extreme reading photographs including one reading down a salt mine.

We love to celebrate and promote healthy living at Cragside. If your child does anything extra healthy over a weekend, please would you tweet a picture or email in some information so we can celebrate this with your child.

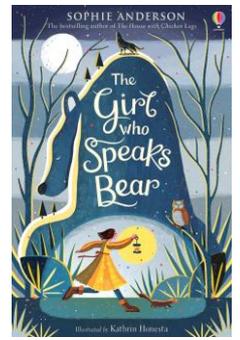
Playtimes and lunchtimes



Playtimes and lunchtimes are the perfect time for children to develop their play skills, friendships and sports skills. Over the years we have invested in more and more equipment for children to enjoy playing with and will continue to invest more this year. All children are expected to be outside with their friends during lunch and break times so they can enjoy being outside in the fresh air. On the very rare occasions where a child may be feeling ill, or has an injury which prevents them from being outside, please would you write a note to the classteacher requesting alternative, indoor arrangements for the child. Thank you for your help with this.

Exciting Author Visit for Year 5 and 6

Next Friday, the 13th of September, we will welcome the amazing author Sophie Anderson. Sophie's first novel, *The House With Chicken Legs*, was a best seller so we're very pleased that she has chosen Cragside to talk about her new novel *The Girl Who Speaks Bear*. We will also welcome children from Eastlea and Shanklea who are coming to Cragside to share this brilliant visit. As part of the author visit experience, your child will be able to buy one of her books at the reduced price of £6. Thank you so much for all of your support as we start the year with another exciting experience which I know will keep our buzz for reading alive! So please keep reading!



Year 6 Residential visit to Robinwood-A Message from Mrs Bilton



This year's visit to Robinwood will soon be upon us! We're all very excited and certainly looking forward to the big adventure that this residential visit will bring. If you have any questions about the visit, or just want to have another chat, please don't hesitate to speak to one of the Year 6 team. If you would like to make an appointment to speak to us, please get in touch, we will be available after school each night next week. Many thanks for your support with this exciting visit! Please would you be able to check that you are on Twitter so you will be able to see all the photos that we will Tweet during the exciting Robinwood trip.

Reception News

Reception

All the adults in Reception have been so impressed and proud of the children during their first week of school. The children have thrived making their new relationships, getting to know new settings and having lots of fun! There have been many smiles from all our children this week. We look forward to welcoming Reception children for a first full week, next week. Whilst we are very happy for parents to accompany their child into school to help with coats and pegs, we do try to encourage children to be as independent as possible and hope they would come into school independently in the coming weeks.

Please search for our schools Twitter account [@CragsidePrimary](#) and register to be part of this. We look forward to seeing lots of parents at our Early Years Reading, Writing and Numeracy meeting on Tuesday 17th of September at 1.30pm, which will then be followed by a 'Stay and Play' session, where parents are invited to join their child for a play in their classroom.

Thank you for all the support and encouragement so far from parents during their child's first week in school. We have all really enjoyed welcoming our youngest children into the 'Cragside family'.

Spellings - Year 3 and 4-A Message from Mrs Urwin

Please would it be possible to check your child's school planner each week for their 'Golden Words' which we will be focusing on each week. These will be words that we teach and assess children through the week using fun and engaging spelling activities. Thank you for supporting your child with their reading activities and using the spelling lists given each week.



Uniform and Jewellery

Thank you very much for all your help with school uniform. As a school we are very mindful about the cost of uniform and try to keep the uniform as simple as possible to reflect this. Mrs Chambers, one of our parents, runs the Community Clothing Scheme at the Hope Centre near Manor Walks. This provides nearly new school uniform and is such a valued service.



Thank you very much for your help with children not bringing any jewellery into school (apart from an inexpensive watch if children wish to wear one of these). If children have their ears pierced, please would it be possible for them to be removed before coming to school. Some children have a clear plastic retainer in their ear which they can wear if needed.

Class Photographs

Class photographs will be taken on **Tuesday 10th 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 on **Tuesday 12th November 2019**.



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 and monitored by local police and traffic wardens. The whole estate is a 20mph zone. Thank you for avoiding parking in the streets close to school and helping our school neighbours by not parking across drive ways or blocking entrances.
- 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.

Flu Vaccinations



Staff from the NHS will be in school to give children their free flu vaccination on Tuesday 10th December 2019. All children have been given a letter this week which is the consent form for these flu vaccinations. The consent forms need to be returned to school no later than Friday 13th September 2019. The NHS team will collect these forms at the start of the next week. They will not be able to give the flu vaccination where the form is not handed in by Friday 13th September. Thank you for your help with this.

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. Well done to our epic staff runners who are doing the run on Sunday-we will be cheering on Mrs Cant, Mrs Mason and Mrs Pemberton!



Aldi Sports Scheme

Aldi have set up a scheme where families are given a sticker linked to the Tokyo 2020 Olympics. We have a huge poster in school for these stickers to go onto. If we fill the poster we will receive some sports kit and the chance to win £20 000. If you do get a sticker, please would it be possible for your child to bring it into school and place it on our poster.



Family Worship

We welcome families to our family worship which happen on some Thursday's at 9am. A list of these will be available in the diary which will go home next week together with dates for events such as Harvest, Christmas and Easter services. Our first family worship is our **Year 6 worship on Thursday 19th September at 9am.**



Diary Dates



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 1st October and Wednesday 2nd October (both from 3.30pm to 6pm).** We do hope you will be able to join us on one of these evenings. We are just finalising dates and times for the autumn term clubs and will send out a letter about this next week.

Weekend Challenges

All children are invited to take part each week in our 'Weekend 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 the Tour of Britain Cycle race which starts next week. Please send in pictures of your child:

- Going on a run, taking part in the Junior Great North Run or supporting a family member on the Great North Run
- Going on a bike ride to celebrate the Tour of Britain Cycle Race



It has been such a good start to term. I am sure that we will have one or two tired children at the end of this first school week. We look forward to seeing all our children on Monday for our first full week of the year. I'm having an early night on Sunday-I hope all the children will as well!

Yours sincerely

Paul Rusby
Headteacher



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 practise 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)