



# Cragside Church of England Primary School

Westloch Road  
Cramlington  
Northumberland  
NE23 6LW



☎ 01670 714200  
✉ [admin@cragside.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:admin@cragside.northumberland.sch.uk)  
🌐 [www.cragside.northumberland.sch.uk](http://www.cragside.northumberland.sch.uk)

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

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



Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Boys and Girls,

Good morning from our school gate! It is our Half Term holiday this week. I hope that you had a wonderful Bank Holiday Monday. What did you get up to? I hope you enjoyed the sunshine after all the blowy wind at the weekend.

I heard some lovely news at the weekend. Miss Westgarth (who is now called Mrs Klottrup) has had a little baby girl who is called Emily. She was born on Friday and is so beautiful. Here is a photograph that Mrs Klottrup sent. I wonder if some of you might like to make Mr and Mrs Klottrup and baby Emily a card. If you post it to school or ask an adult to leave it in our main office I will send it to them for you. I am sure she would love to hear from you.



Miss Rennison sent out an Epic Books reading challenge for Half Term to help you all to keep reading! Your teacher sent out the passwords for this a few weeks ago. If you can't log on, just use any books from Active Learn or your own books from home. I can't wait to hear about all the books that you will read this week.

There are twenty challenges for Half Term at the end of this letter...yes twenty! I wonder how many of these you will be able to do? I am going to start on the marble run challenge tonight. I was thinking of maybe making a bigger version outside and using a tennis ball or football rather than the marble! I do hope that you enjoy some



of the challenges. One of them is called kindness cakes. Just imagine how happy someone would be to find one of your kindness cakes on their doorstep.

Some of your superstar parent teachers might have to do some of their own work over this Bank Holiday. I am sure they would be amazingly impressed with you if you did something extra kind to help them. How about giving them a fantastic surprise by tidying your room without being asked to do it or help with the washing up. Let me know what super kind things you do to help in your house this week.

We have been trying to paint some of the school so it looks bright and cheerful. This is the new rainbow wall near Reception. We have made a new reading den in our library to help with all the wonderful reading that I know you enjoy so much. We have also made a new quiet prayer space for times when sometimes we just need a little quiet time. I can't wait to show you them.

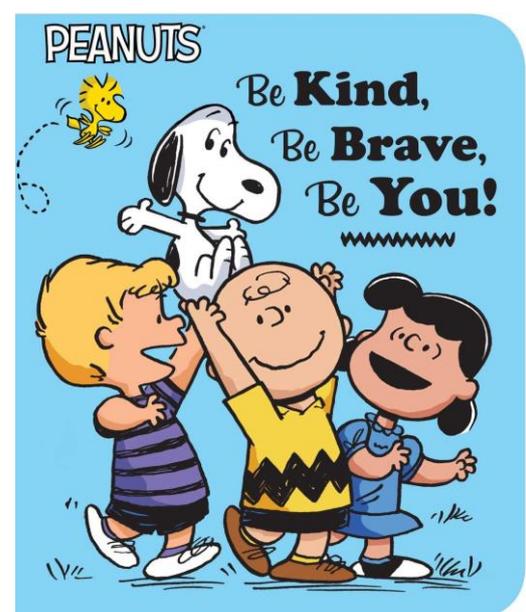


If you are feeling a little worried about anything at all this week, don't forget to talk to one of the adults at home about it. I promise you it will help! Remember what the mole said to the fox and the boy when they were finding some days a little bit hard. Can you read it in the picture? Talking to someone is one of the best things you can do and is an important part of being kind to yourself.

I hope that you enjoy your half term with our family. I can't wait to see some of the photographs of you doing some of the Half Term Challenges. I wonder which one you might try first? I'm off to start building my marble run before I start another Epic Book with my coffee when I get home tonight. Please say a huge hello to all the adults at home from me. We all miss you so much and can't wait to see you again!

Take care,

*Mr Rusby and all the Adults at Cragside CE Primary School*



## Cragside Half Term Challenges

### I wonder how many of these challenges you can do over Half Term?

- **Epic reading**- Miss Rennison sent home an Epic Reading challenge. How many Epic books you can read over the half term holiday?
- **Being grateful**-Cut out five paper hearts. Write something you are grateful for on each heart. Share your hearts with an adult or relative. Display them and add to them every time you think of something else you are grateful for.
- **Mealtime**-Help an adult to plan a menu for your weekly meals. Make a list/draw ingredients you need. Pick one of the meals that you will help to cook.
- **Family fitness**-Plan and set up a circuit or obstacle course of simple exercises. Some ideas include jumping jacks, running on the spot, squats, touching your toes, bouncing a ball and hula hooping. Create clear instruction cards for each exercise with a picture. Challenge your family to a 20 minute fitness session.
- **Self**-Draw a detailed portrait of yourself. Use a mirror to get a good look at the main details, such as eyes, skin and teeth. Why not use old magazines and other materials to make a collage of your portrait?
- **Marble run**-Make a marble run using props you find around the house. How fast can you make your marble travel down the run? Ask an adult to help you time how fast the marble travels.
- **Domino push**-Set up as many dominoes as you can in a long line. Ask an adult to borrow the timer on their phone and time how long it takes for the last domino to fall down. Does it take longer if it is a circle or other shape rather than a long line?
- **Ramp it up!**-Make a ramp using a board or plank of wood. Cover the ramp in different materials including carpet, paper, bubble wrap or anything else you can find. Time a toy car travelling down the ramp. Which material does the car travel over the slowest and quickest?
- **Crater creator**-Fill a deep tray with a thick layer of sand or flour. Drop a range of balls of different sizes and weights into the bowl from the same height. Measure the width and depth of the crater each ball makes. What does this tell you? Which force is causing the ball to fall?
- **My maze**-Use building bricks, Lego or natural materials to create a tricky maze for a toy car. Close your eyes. Can you listen carefully and follow instructions from a grown up to move your car around your maze?

- **I am an illustrator**-Charlie Mackesy wrote the lovely book, *The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse*. Can you find one of the pages from the book that you really like and try to draw it and add your own words?
- **Play dough**-Make your own soft dough for model making using the following method. Mix 8 tbsp plain flour with 2 tbsp table salt. Add 60ml warm water, food colouring and 1 tbsp vegetable oil. Mix everything together carefully and start modelling. Remember not to put any on the carpet!
- **Kindness cakes**-Make some cupcakes or yummy tray bake snacks. Decorate them and leave some on the doorstep for a neighbour, friend or relative with a kind message.
- **Still life**-Collect interesting objects from around your house. Look for things like toys, fruit and flowers. Set your objects out on a table and use pencils or paint to draw them.
- **Put a sock in it**-Use a clean but old sock to create a sock puppet of a character from one of your favourite stories. Plan your ideas before making your puppet, using buttons, materials and other resources available to you. Write a speech for your character and perform it to an adult.
- **Bug hunt**-Hunt for minibeasts in your outdoor space. Search high and low, in cracks, crevices, soil, plants and under rocks. Carefully place the creatures in clear containers to take a closer look. Can you identify them? Don't forget to return the minibeasts to their habitats when you're done.
- **Bird cakes**-Make fat cakes for hungry birds. The RSPB and BBC Gardeners' World websites offer simple recipes using fat, seeds, nuts and cheese. Hang the cakes in a tree or place on a bird table and watch who comes to visit.
- **Pressing patterns**-Collect a range of petals, flowers, leaves and grasses. Ask an adult to help you use a non-steam iron to iron them flat between two sheets of greaseproof paper. When cool, peel the paper back to remove the items. Use them to create stunning natural pictures, experimenting with pattern, shape and form.
- **Kindness card**-Miss Westgarth (Mrs Klottrup) has had a baby girl called Emily. Can you make a card for her? Maybe you could post it to school or drop the card into our school entrance area and we will post it to her home.
- **Climate zones**-Use a safe web browser to find out about one of the Earth's five climate zones: desert, equatorial, polar, temperate and tropical. Create an information poster about the zone, including facts about temperature range, habitats, plants and animals, and any environmental issues.

**I wonder how many challenges that you can do this Half Term?**