



# 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**



Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2020

## Parent Update Twenty Two

Dear Cragside Family,

I hope that you are well and have had a good week. Well done to all our children who have been working so hard at home this week. We are so grateful for all your help with the incredible job of balancing your own work, home life and school work. Thank you for this.

Well done to our Year 1, Reception, Critical worker and Year 6 children who have been in school this week. We have all been really impressed by the children's sensible approach to coming back to school and the way that they have been careful with washing hands and following directions to help keep us all safe. With the restrictions from the government regarding social distancing and the impact on pupil numbers we have very little capacity within school to significantly increase the number of children who can come into school which is sad as we would dearly love to see all our children in school when it is safe for this to happen and restrictions start to change further. We still have no firm details from the government about September and will let you know as soon as we hear any information about what September will look like for schools.

### Let Your Light Shine



Thank you for all the creative work that has been sent into school inspired by Mrs Irving's school lighthouse. It is lovely to see the children's creative skills used in such a positive way. Max in Year 2 created a wonderful collage which combined the rainbow and the lighthouse into one picture celebrating our school aim that we would all 'shine bright in all our colours.' Nate in Reception created a wonderful working model lighthouse with his grandad. Please send in any pictures or models or upload pictures into our Facebook group that can be found

at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/795896960817927/>



### Transition

We continue to liaise with Cramlington Learning Village to support the transition of our Year 6 children. We will keep the families of children in Year 6 updated. Next week, we will be sending further information to the families of our new Reception children who are joining us in September. We are very minded of all our children in Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 who will be starting to think about which class they will be in when we all hopefully return in September. We are planning how we can support children with this change during these completely unprecedented times. We know that transition can be a difficult time for children and the fact that many of them are not in school at present will be even harder for them. We will do all we can to support them with this.

## Northumberland Virtual Sports Competition

A reminder that today (Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June) is the Northumberland Virtual School Games. Events take place throughout the day (between 10am and 3pm). This can be accessed at <https://www.tynewearsport.org/vsg20>. The link to their YouTube channel is [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsz\\_0foNtn2oMnrzFHI2\\_3w](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsz_0foNtn2oMnrzFHI2_3w) and the link to their Facebook page is <https://en-gb.facebook.com/NorthumberlandSchoolGames/>. Please send us any pictures of your family taking part in some of the events.

### Safety Procedures at the Start and End of the Day

Thank you very much for all the help this week with the safe start and end of the day. We were all so impressed with the calm and sensible way that the children came into school and left our school grounds. Thank you for your help with this. To support the continued safety of our children at the start and end of the day, please would it be possible to ask for your help with the safety procedures which we put in place:

- It is absolutely essential that no one enters our school grounds if you are displaying any Covid-19 symptoms.
- Please would everyone follow the arrows around the yard and try to walk 2 metres behind the person in front.
- To minimise people coming into our school grounds, please would it be possible for just one adult to collect children.
- If possible, please would it be possible to arrange to meet older children outside the school grounds to help minimise the number of people in the school grounds.
- When waiting for Year 1 children on the main yard, please would it be possible to stand in the white grids. We will send children to you. Again, this hopefully helps keep children and adults distanced at the end of the day.

Thank you for your understanding with this. In all these measures, our aim is to support the safety of our children, parents and staff. Please would you remind children not to play on the play equipment as they enter or leave the school grounds.

The staggered start and end of the day will continue for the rest of this term, including the 12.30pm end to the day on Fridays for Year 6, Year 1 and Reception to help us clean the site and prepare classrooms safety for the next week. As we have to create bubble that children stay in throughout the week, we are unable to move children on a Friday from Reception, Year 1 or Year 6 into the critical worker group for the Friday afternoon. If there are NHS staff who are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 6 who find the Friday afternoon 1.30pm finish difficult, please would it be possible to email in school over this weekend and we will look at how we might be able to help for next week. The timings for next week and the rest of this term are:

	Start of Day Please arrive between	End of Day (M, T, W, Th)	End of Day (Friday)
Reception	8.45am-9.00am	3.00pm	12.30pm
Year 1	8.45am-9.00am	3.00pm	12.30pm
Year 6	8.30am-8.45am	3.10pm	12.30pm
Critical Worker Group	8.30am-8.45am	3.10pm	3.10pm (Children can also be picked up at 12.30pm if you want to do this)

### Equipment for School

A reminder that it would be really helpful if the children who are in school would bring a minimum of items into school. Children do not need to bring a bag or PE kit. Please would it be possible for children to bring:

- A packed lunch. We have registered the list of families who requested a packed lunch from school last week. If your child didn't have a school packed lunch last week and needs the school to make a packed lunch, please email school and we will organise this. We are hoping to open the kitchen later this term but want to consolidate our established routines which have worked so well this week.
- Water bottle
- Small packet of tissues
- Small hand sanitiser (optional)
- Children should, if possible, wear training shoes with their uniform as we try to have at least one session outside each day.

## **Communication with Home**

We have been looking at how we can further improve communication between school and home and have purchased an online app based system which is widely used in schools in many countries called School Buddy. Once this is set up it will enable parents to book places in clubs, book places in our breakfast club and out of school club as well as booking parents' evenings, meals and paying for dinners, trips and visits. The app will also have a calendar within which hopefully will be useful. We will send out details about how to register for the app once we have it fully operational. Hopefully this will be a big help to families

## **Home Learning**

Well done to all the children who are working so hard at home. The home learning grids will be available from Monday as normal. Thank you for sending in information to teachers. Well done for all the reward animations that children have been achieving through all the hard work at home. Thank you to all our parents who are doing such an amazing job teaching and helping your children at home.

We still have some maths books for children in Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 that can be collected from our main school reception area. We have some Year 1 books for children in Year 1 who are continuing to work from home.

## **Weekend Challenges and Thank You**

Today is the Northumberland virtual school games and Sunday is Father's Day. Our voluntary weekend challenges are inspired by both of these:

- Make or bake a large cookie, cake or biscuit for a dad or grandad for Father's Day.
- Inspired by Northumberland Virtual Games, design a fitness circuit for your family and time them doing the fitness challenge.
- Take part in a fitness walk, run or bike ride this weekend.
- For our engineers and inventors, please continue to send in pictures or models or any lighthouse designs which celebrate our school motto 'Let Your Light Shine' or our call for all to 'Shine Bright in all Your Colours'. It would be lovely to have even more working lighthouse models and pictures which we can display in school.

Well done to all our children who have worked so hard this week, whether this is in school or whether this has been at home. It is wonderful to see all the hard work and creative ideas from the children. I am very aware how difficult this time continues to be for families who are at home and will try to keep you updated with any changes that we hear, especially about what September might look like.

I hope that you have a good weekend and the sun starts to shine a little more than it has done this week. I will write to the children on Monday as we move towards the start of another new week.

Thank you so much for all that you are doing.

Take care,  
Paul Rusby