



# 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 12: 29th November 2019

### Weekend Challenges

Thank you for the healthy challenges that were emailed in this week. They include:

- As part of our healthy challenges, Oliver B (Year 5) and Dylan R (Year 2) completed the very muddy 5k moon run at Gibside on Saturday night equipped with flash lights and neon lights.
- Jake M (Year 6) went on a healthy walk on Blyth Beach with his grandad. He had great fun leaping onto the sand from the promenade.

### Christmas Drama, Dance and Music Concert



A reminder that our Christmas Arts and Music Concert is fast approaching on **Tuesday 10th of December at 5pm**. All Actors from Mrs Cowie and Miss Harris's dance and drama club, musicians from Mr Doyle's drum or ukulele or Miss Geldart's violin and any dancers are all invited to perform. We look forward to welcoming all families and friends and watching lots of exciting performances. Please would children arrive at 4.45pm for a 5.00pm start. Parents and grandparents are very welcome to attend this evening. There are no tickets needed for this event, just come and enjoy the evening!

### Winter

Thank you very much for reminding children about the importance of washing hands thoroughly with soap at this time of the year to help prevent infections spreading. There are liquid soap dispensers in all the toilets around school which we encourage children to use each time they use the bathrooms. As we move towards December, the weather will no doubt be challenging on some days. Thank you for helping check that children have a coat and appropriate footwear, hats and gloves on days which are icy, wet or where we have snow. On days that are very icy, we grit a path across the main yard. We encourage everyone who walks over the yard to use this coned area to avoid slips or falls.

### Christmas Production Costumes Year 3 and 4

Thank you so much for any contributions towards costumes for our Christmas production. We have tried to keep costumes simple and we are making many props in school. A letter was sent home this week detailing costume ideas but please speak to your child's teacher by Monday if you need any help with this. Thank you so much for your help with this.

### SUPERCLASS

Well done to 3UC for achieving Superclass this week. The children enjoyed an additional playtime and watched a DVD.

## Reception news

# Reception

It has been another exciting week in Reception. Our children have really enjoyed learning about pets from Willow A, Jack A and William F.

Reception have loved reading the story 'Oh No George' to motivate their writing. All the Reception children loved a visit from Sarah and Tiff at Doggy Day Care in Cramlington who answered lots of the children's questions about how to care for and train dogs. Both classes were also very interested in a visit from William F's Skinny Pigs. In Numeracy the children have been thinking about simple addition from stories such as Cockatoo's and A Squash and a Squeeze. Well done to both classes.

Dates for diaries- the children are very much looking forward to performing the two dates for their Nativity on 6th and 9th of December at 9.15am. Please remember no costumes are necessary for these performances as school have their own. We also have the Reception Christmas Service and crafts morning on Monday the 16th of December, beginning in the main school hall at 9.15am. The morning will involve the children performing some Christmas carols with an invitation afterwards for parents to come into class and make a selection of Christmas crafts with their children. This morning will complete by 10.30am- we look forward to seeing lots of families there that morning to work alongside their child. Well done again for all your fantastic efforts Reception. We are so proud of you!

## Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day

A reminder that this year's Christmas dinner will be on Friday 13th December which is the same day as our Christmas jumper day so the hall will look really festive. The menu is:

- Roast turkey, Roast potatoes, Creamed potatoes, Carrots, Peas, sprouts, stuffing balls and chipolata sausages (vegetarian option is also available)
- Christmas biscuit OR festive ice cream OR Christmas pudding with white sauce
- Choice of orange or apple juice.

The Cost is £2.40 for Y3-Y6 children. Reception and Y1/2 do not need to pay as they receive universal free school meals. Payments for Christmas dinner can be made online at [www.schoolmoney.co.uk](http://www.schoolmoney.co.uk). We look forward to having our hall filled with Christmas music and the delicious smell of Christmas dinner on 13<sup>th</sup> December.

## Reverse Advent Calendar



With this Sunday being Advent Sunday, many children will be looking forward to opening the first door of their Advent calendar. As we think of those who are having a tough time leading up to Christmas, we are going to run a 'reverse advent calendar' where we give something rather than get something during Advent. There are 15 school days during Advent and we have 14 classes. On each of the school days during Advent, one of the classes will be encouraged to bring in some food items that can be given to the foodbank which is at the Hope Centre in Cramlington. Tins and packets are always really welcome but they have asked that we do not send pasta or baked beans as they have large supplies of these. Maybe there are some seasonal items which can be donated. Thank you for helping to support this. On the day allocated to your class, any food donations for the foodbank would be gratefully received and can be handed in to your child's teacher. We will take all the items to the Hope Centre on the last day of term so they can be distributed over Christmas.

## Craggside Reverse Advent Calendar for the Hope Centre Food Bank

<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup></b> Reception Discoverers	<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup></b> Reception Explorers	<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup></b> Year 1 EH	<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup></b> Year 1 SG	<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup></b> Year 2 RC
<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup></b> Year 2 JB	<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup></b> Year 3 JF	<b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup></b> Year 3 UC	<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup></b> Year 4 HC	<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup></b> Year 4 JM
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup></b> Year 5 LA	<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup></b> Year 5 KH	<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup></b> Year 6 CB	<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup></b> Year 6 ER	<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup></b> Any classes!



## Community News

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Cramlington Scouts are holding their Christmas Fair on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December between 10.00am and 12noon. All are invited and there will be mince pies, tea, coffee, cakes, stalls and tombola. They would love to see you if you were able to attend. There might even be visit from Santa!



## Acts of Kindness - A Message from Mrs Urwin



Thank you for all the 'Random Acts of Kindness' information that has been sent in this week. These included:

Iris H (Year 3) during a very busy school morning, Iris helped her younger brother to get ready without even being asked to do so.

Savannah F (Year 3) and Lily F (Year 5) after passing a homeless man asleep on a bench on their way home from school, they asked if they could make him a hot drink and take it to him. Unfortunately the man had already left when they returned with their hot drink and a biscuit, but what a lovely act of kindness.

Georgia U (Year 5) for helping to get her little sister out of her car seat whilst her Mam had lots of bags to carry into the house.

Charlie J (Year 3) for offering his snack to a friend in class who had lost theirs one day this week.

## Christmas Productions

Thank you very much for spare tickets that have been returned for any of the Nativity performances which parents are not able to attend. Available tickets can be collected from the school office from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December onwards. All information about Nativity performances and Christmas parties was included in last week's newsletter which can be found on our school website. We will send out a reminder next week prior to the performances starting.



## Weekend Challenge

This weekend is Advent Sunday and the start of the countdown to Christmas. Our challenges all have an Advent theme.

- Please send in any pictures of children making some Christmas themed biscuits. Maybe some Christmas stars, reindeer faces or snowmen.
- Try to make your own homemade Advent calendar or Advent candle.
- Advent is a great time for baking-please send in any pictures of mince pies or other seasonal goodies that the children have made.
- With the weather hopefully being a little better this weekend, please send in any pictures of healthy walks on the beach or in the countryside to blow away those winter bugs!



If the weather forecast is correct, I think we might have a dry weekend and the sun might even make a rare appearance. I hope that you have a lovely weekend and enjoy the start of the wonderful season of Advent.

Yours sincerely

Paul Rusby  
Headteacher

## Reminder-December Calendar Dates

Below is a list of some of the key dates during December.

Date	Information
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Start of our Reverse Advent Calendar
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception Christmas Nativity-9.15am
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception Christmas Nativity-9.15am
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 5 and 6 Christmas Nativity-2.00pm
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Flu Vaccinations
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 5 and 6 Christmas Nativity-9.15am
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 3 and 4 Christmas Nativity-2.00pm
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Music, Dance and Drama Evening-5.00pm. Performers welcome from 4.45pm. Please can all children attend wearing full school uniform. If your child is dancing please additionally provide a PE kit, or your child can arrive in kit if not singing, playing an instrument etc.
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 3 and 4 Christmas Nativity-9.15am
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 and 2 Christmas Nativity-2.00pm
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 and 2 Christmas Nativity-9.15am
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas party (pm)
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Save the Children Christmas Jumper/top day (voluntary donation to Save the Children Christmas appeal and Cramlington Hope Centre)
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Dinner Day
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception and Nursery Christmas crafts
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception Christmas Service followed by Christmas crafts 'stay and play' for parents and grandparents. The Christmas Service is in our school hall and starts at 9.15am. Our stay and play session will finish by 10.30am at the latest.
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception Christmas party (pm) Children are invited to come to school in party clothes that day. Texts will be sent out to request a small something savoury or sweet for the different classes.
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Services at St Nicholas' Church 9.30am- Y1 and Y2 11.00am-Year 3 and 4 1.30pm-Year 5 and 6
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas party (pm) The children are welcome to bring a change of clothes into school which they can change after lunchtime. We are also asking boys to bring something sweet and girls to bring something savoury for our party food
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas party (pm) We would like the children to come to school in their uniform and bring their party clothes with them. Please could boys bring savoury food and girls bring sweet food as contributions towards our party tea..
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Break up for Christmas holiday-normal end of day timings</b>
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2020	Training Day
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2020	<b>Start of Spring Term 2020</b>