



# 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 21-23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018**

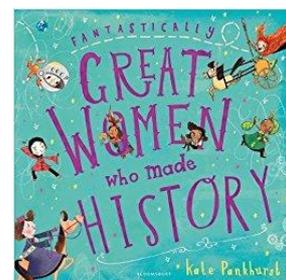
## Weekend Challenges

Thank you for the photographs and information that have been sent in for our half term challenges. These included:

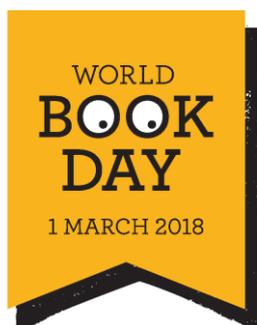
- As part of the Chinese New Year challenge, Jasmine Wood (3AD) sent in a picture of her opening some fortune cookies filled with Chinese proverbs.
- Also as part of our Chinese New Year challenge, Kayleigh Cochrane (2EA) enjoyed watching the celebrations in Newcastle.
- Oliver Harrison (1SG) did some extreme reading in the Freeman Hospital-we applaud your dedication, Oliver!
- Jake Miah(4ER) combined the extreme reading and New Year challenges by reading a book at Newcastle's Chinese New Year celebrations!
- Molly Allison (5JB) sent in a picture of her Shrove Tuesday challenge. Molly enjoyed making the family pancakes and decorating her own. They looked yummy!
- Samuel Forster (Reception Discovers) also made pancakes on Shrove Tuesday with Nutella and golden syrup for breakfast. Samuel then did some extreme reading at a bus stop at Beamish- what a busy time!

## Amazing author visit from Kate Pankhurst-A Message from Mrs Bilton

What a thrill it was to welcome Kate Pankhurst to Cragside on Tuesday. We were joined by more than 150 children who we invited to our school from Shanklea and Hareside for an exciting visit which involved hearing all about Kate's new book *Great Women Who Made History*, and her previous book, *Great Women Who Changed the World*. Kate captivated her audience by creating an amazing illustration of a suffragette from 1918 (this will go on display in the library) and telling us about incredible women such as Harriet Tubman, Qui Jin and Boudicca. Kate signed every child's book with an individual dedication and encouragement to do 'great things' in the future. She also commented on how brilliant the children's behaviour was and what a pleasure it had been to work in our school.



## World Book Day-A Message from Mrs Bilton



Thursday the 1st of March is World Book Day. Of course we celebrate our love of reading every day at Cragside but next Thursday will give us a chance to celebrate our favourite book characters by dressing up. Please don't feel you have to buy a special costume, it would be wonderful if you were able to spend some time looking through books at home with your child and find a character you love that would be easy to copy. A plain t-shirt, a simple cloak or a football strip can quickly become a character from a book! Your child will also receive a £1 book token which they will be able to exchange for a World Book Day book or put towards a more expensive book. Thank you so much for all of your support with this exciting day. Keeeeeep reading

## Holiday Reading Challenge

Well done to all of our children for their amazing commitment to 'reading for pleasure' over the holidays. It has been wonderful to hear about children and parents enjoying holiday reading fun together. The winner of 6CB's Holiday Reading Challenge balloon enjoyed reading Dermot O'Leary's new book Toto the Ninja Cat with his mum. They read the book with lots of different voices and accents to bring the characters alive. Well done Ben, and his mum! Keeeeeep reading well done to the children who have particularly impressed their class teachers and earned a Holiday Reading Challenge balloon.

Explorers Dylan Roberts	Discoverers Elliot Bell	1LU Lottie Fellows	1SG Oliver Harrison	2EA Jack Nicolaou	2JP Hannah Williams	3AD Enes Paksoy
3RC Millie Turner	4JHW Elliot McLoughlin	4ER Maddie Hall	5JB Leland Cochrane	5HC Eddie Mason	6CB Ben Metcalf	6RD Zack Stevenson

### Attendance

Well done to the classes with the highest attendance on the last week of last half term. They were:

Early Years-Mrs Pemberton's Class-Reception Explorers  
KS1-Miss Grice's Class 1SG  
KS2-Mr Dickinson's Class 3AD and Mr Harries-Wood's Class 4JH



### SUPERCLASS

Well done to the Reception Discoverers who earned their SUPERCLASS. They had a Teddy Bears Picnic to celebrate.

### Instrumental tuition-A Message from Miss Westgarth

Apologies to our Violinists and Penny Whistlers whose lesson was cancelled this week. Miss Stephenson will come into school next Tuesday as well as next Thursday to replace the lesson missed this week.



### Request from Reception



Reception would really appreciate any spare blankets or cushions which you no longer need at home to help with our den building. We also need clean yogurt pots to help with our forest schooling. Any donations will be gratefully received and put to good use! If you have any wellington boots which are too small, please would it also be possible to consider donating these so we can use them for outdoor adventures and forest school activities.

### Reception News



Thank you to all our Reception parents who attended parents evenings this week. It was lovely to share such happy news about all the children. If you have not met your child's teacher this half term, then please contact the school office or the Reception class teacher directly to arrange a convenient time. We would love to see you!

This week Reception have enjoyed reading stories about Mermaids as part of Alice Watson and Stevie-Leigh Webster's Focus week. They have loved writing sentences about the underwater creatures. In Numeracy we have been thinking about number bonds to ten. As part of Alice and Stevie-Leigh's focus weeks we have been baking, cooking and crafting, enjoying making play dough, cupcakes and mermaid collages. The Explorers and Discoverers loved visiting the forest to make woodland crowns and toast marshmallows on the fire.

We look forward to seeing all our Reception parents and families on **Thursday the 8th of March at 9 am** to celebrate Reception's first family worship. Parts have been issued this week to practice at home. We hope you all can make it. With thanks.

## Spring (2) Half Term

A list of some of the main dates for spring (2) half term can be found in the Google calendar on the school website. This half term we are really looking forward to our new topics and all the opportunities that come with the slightly lighter days and spring weather. We are also excited about some of the planned special activities such as:

- Fairtrade Fortnight-starting Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February
- British Science and Engineering week-starting Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March
- Sports Relief Activities-Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March
- Easter egg competition-from Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March to Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March
- Easter services at St Nicholas-Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March

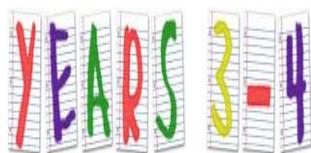
### Key Stage 1 News



In Year 1 this week we have been describing the setting of Antarctica. We used a simple thesaurus to help generate interesting word choices and to expand our vocabulary. Later in the week the children enjoyed listening to The Emperor's Egg where they learned key facts about Emperor Penguins and the life cycle of penguins. The children created their own posters about and recorded their own information. In Maths we have been counting in 2s, 5s and 10, recognizing patterns and relationships. In History we are learning about significant people in history and we kick started this topic by thinking about the significant people in our lives. In Design Technology we have been exploring a range of puppets to help generate our ideas for making our own puppets. The children explored finger puppets, hand puppets, whole body puppets, shadow puppets and marionettes. We have also started to prepare for our Family Worship which will take place next week (Thursday 1st March) at 9am.

Year 2 have made an excellent start to the half term. We began our new English topic all about chocolate! Unsurprisingly the children were very enthused about this! We watched a clip from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory where we are introduced to the characters. We then planned our own characters using expanded noun phrases to describe their personality and appearance. The children also needed to consider what their character would get up to which meant they wouldn't get to the end of the factory tour. We had some fabulous, imaginative ideas from getting stuck in the caramel machine to pinching chocolates from the factory! In Maths we have been working hard on understanding fractions of shape and number ranging from halves and quarters to thirds. The children found this challenging at the beginning of the week but by later on in the week they were absolutely flying with it! We were very proud of them for working so hard. This week also saw the beginning of our new topic work on Africa. We thought about what we already know then focused on the country of Kenya. On Friday afternoon we looked at lots of African artefacts including musical instruments, masks and paintings. The children absolutely loved this experience and were very respectful when handling these fabulous, precious objects. It was wonderful to see so many parents this week during Parents Evening. There was a real sense of us all working together to achieve the very best for the children. If you didn't manage to make an appointment please feel free to catch us on the door in the mornings or after school and we will arrange an alternative time.

### Lower Key Stage 2 News



Lower Key Stage 2 have made a great start to the half term. Thank you to all the parents who attended parents evening to chat about their child's progress and share in their achievements. The children have been working really hard to improve their handwriting and presentation this week. All the children have been given a new handwriting book and are all working towards achieving their pen licences. Thank you for supporting your child with their presentation with homework tasks.

This week Year 3 have started an English unit called 'Dragon Slayer'. During this unit of work they will read a range of myths and legends. This week the children read the story of George and the Dragon. They verbally retold the story then carefully read the text highlighting examples of exciting vocabulary. In spelling work the children have been focusing on words containing the 'c' sound spelled 'ch', such as school. The children rehearsed their spellings and then created sentences with their spelling words in. In maths the children have focused on shape this week. First they made angle measurers to help them identify right angles. The children worked in pairs to sort and classify shapes using their properties. The children then carefully drew their own shapes using a given list of properties. In Science the children have started to think about forces and magnets. They talked about what makes things move and what magnets might be used for.

In Year 4 this week we have started a new unit of English work about the Spiderwick Chronicles. We have been thinking carefully about the descriptions of the characters and the setting and have enjoyed thinking about what may happen next in the story and are looking forward to reading more. In maths we have thought about accurate measuring and qualities of shape before moving onto revision of multiplication and division methods. We have started our topic week work on Crime and Punishments through the ages and the children have thoroughly enjoyed finding out about the gruesome punishments from history and comparing it with modern day justice systems. We also thoroughly enjoyed digging up our artefacts from Dig day to say how much they had changed during their time in the ground.

Year 5 and 6 have had a busy and exciting first week back after the half-term break. We've been thinking about Lent and the acts of kindness we can undertake during this special time. We've also been thinking about the centenary of women being given the vote with a visit from Kate Pankhurst. Kate was such an inspiring author who came to talk to us about Emmeline Pankhurst and other Great Women who Made History. Thank you so much for your support with this visit, it's wonderful to see so many children reading and enjoying Kate's books. We were also particularly proud of the children's behaviour during the visit; her publicist and staff from Blackwell's all commented on our children's 'exemplary' behaviour and attitude. Well done Cragside children you really did shine alongside children from Hareside and Shanklea.

Year 5 are hooked on a new non-fiction e book and have already started to write and design their own pages using a range of language and structural features. In topic, we are extending our map work and looking at locating mountain ranges around the world. We have shown we are also super scientists: investigating dissolving different foods and recording our findings.

Year 6 have now completed their unit of work based on the e-book 'Blood' in English lessons. They've thought about the importance of donating blood and written powerfully persuasive pieces to ensure that people are encouraged to give blood. We've also worked on spelling and reading comprehension. In maths, we've completed geometry work about the features of circles and the use of protractors and compasses. We've also revised mental methods for addition and subtraction and completed a number of reasoning questions in our preparation for SATs. In computing lessons, we've used our coding skills to create scenarios related to our author visit. In art we've studied the work of artists who used pointillism in their work. Well done Year 5 and 6 for all of your hard work this week.

### Shining Stars

Please see the names of the children below who have received a Certificate of Achievement today: It has been a joy to see such a range of hard work happening in classes and to see our children shining bright as good friends this week.

Reception Discoverers: Afonso Simoes for being a caring friend to others and thinking of others.

Reception Discoverers: Imogen Hall for using a fantastic voice around the classroom and with adults. Well done!

Reception Explorers: Harry Green for amazing sounding and blending. Well done Harry, we are so proud of you!

Reception Explorers: Kenny Manfredi for shining brightly every day and always giving his best. Well done Kenny!

Year 1SG: Charlotte Lewis for writing a brilliant fact file about Emperor Penguins.

Year 1SG: Eve Clark for trying her very best in all she is asked to do!

Year 1LU: Alex Wilks for recalling some super facts about Emperor Penguins in English.

Year 1LU: Mason Wallace for super independent writing about penguins.

Year 2JP: Kaitlyn Macfarlane for fabulous map skills in Geography.

Year 2JP: Emmi-Faye Morgan for being super brave and demonstrating resilience.

Year 2EA: Charlotte Irving for having a really positive attitude this week.

Year 2EA: Bailey Turner for hard work on fractions and finding halves and quarters of amounts.

Year 3RC: Oliver Linton for making a great effort to improve his handwriting and presentation.

Year 3RC: Kate Mason for always working hard, following school rules and being a shining example for others.

Year 3AD: Jasmine Wood for always working really hard in class and being a shining example.

Year 3AD: Owen Todd for making huge effort in improving his handwriting.

Year 4ER: Jake Miah for having a wonderful attitude to improving handwriting.

Year 4ER: Hollie Williams for being a wonderful friend.

Year 4JHW: Bryn Reed and Joseph Horn for working well as a group in Topic lessons.

Year 4JHW: Lea Noonan for working hard to improve her handwriting.

Year 5JB: Jack Yule for sharing his witty and fun loving character with everyone.

Year 5JB: Ellie Foley for designing a striking and informative page for a non-fiction text.

Year 5HC: Holden Crossey for showing more maturity and focussing in lessons.

Year 5HC: Daniel Wilks for creative and persuasive e book page about pantomimes.

Year 6CB: Rio Robinson for producing an excellent WOW write to persuade people to give blood.

Year 6CB: Jack Radcliffe for being a shining example in all he does.

Year 6RD: Christian Robinson for his hard work and reasoning skills in maths.

Year 6RD: Layla Chalder for always giving her all and the tremendous improvements made with her handwriting.

### Thank You

Many thanks to Mr and Mrs Gleave for sending in a huge bag filled with wonderful new and nearly new books for our library. We are very grateful for this and all the donations of nearly new books which our children absolutely love to read!



## Chess Challenge-A Message from Mr Harries-Wood

Well done to the children who brought in the correct answer to me last week. Enjoy this week's challenge!



White to move! **Checkmate in two moves.**

## Family Worship and Easter Services

We look forward to welcoming parents and families to our Family Worship which take place this half term. A reminder that our Family worship dates are:

**Year 1**-Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018 at 9am

**Reception**-Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 9am

**Year 2**-Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 9am

**Reception, Year 1 and Year 2**- Easter Service at St Nicholas' Church-9.30am on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018

**Year 3 and Year 4**-Easter Service at St Nicholas' church-11.00am on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018

**Year 5 and Year 6**-Easter Service at St Nicholas' Church-1.30pm on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018

## Weekly Competition: Which World Cup Country Is Mr Davison 'Visiting' This Week...?

Well done to all of the children who correctly identified that the World Cup country I 'visited' last week was **Belgium**. The three winners chosen out of the hat were **Jasmine Wood**, **Ben Payne** and **Bryn Reed** who each won Belgian chocolates.

To be in with a chance of winning this week, simply identify the country I 'visited' using these clues:

\* The flag of this country is known as the Tricolore, which means three colours: red, white and blue.

\* People in this country are known to eat snails, crepes, croissants and frog legs!

\* Newcastle have had many footballers from this country playing for them, including: David Ginola, Yohan Cabaye and Hatem Ben Arfa.

If your child can identify this country, please enter by providing the country and their name either by emailing me [admin@cragside.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:admin@cragside.northumberland.sch.uk), contacting us on twitter [@cragsideprimary](https://twitter.com/cragsideprimary) or by using the old-fashioned answer on a piece of paper to my classroom 6RD.

Three winners will be announced in next week's newsletter and will each receive chocolate, sweets or a snack made in this country. Good luck! Mr Davison



## Weekend Challenge

This weekend our challenges are linked to Fairtrade fortnight which starts on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February:

- Make a cake, tray bake, cookie or other delicious item using as many Fairtrade ingredients as possible.
- Use some Fairtrade bananas and chocolate to make an epic Fairtrade Banana split.
- With the mornings feeling a little lighter, create a 2d or 3d piece of art to celebrate spring. This might be a picture of a vase of daffodils or snowdrops or even a 3d model of daffodils or other spring flowers-be creative!

I hope that you have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Rusby  
Headteacher

