



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 14: 13th December 2019

It was such a delight to see so many families at our Christmas Nativity performances this week. Thank you very much for all your encouragement of our wonderful children. I was so proud of all the children and how well they all shared the Christmas message through their speaking, signing and singing. Well done children, you all shone so very bright!

Weekend Challenges

Thank you for the photos of the Advent weekend challenges. These included:

- Neavie B (Reception Explorers) made an amazing Christmas tree gingerbread at Cragside House
- Finn HP (3UC) and Eva HP (6CB) were super helpful at their mum and dad's wedding this week and helped everyone have a wonderful day.

Christmas Drama, Dance and Music Concert

Thank you very much to all who made our Christmas music, dance and drama evening such an uplifting event. It was so good to see the confidence of the children performing their songs and instrumental pieces. Well done to our dancers and the cast of Annie. You all wowed us with your dancing and drama skills. If any children might like to learn an instrument in the spring term, please would you speak to Miss Westgarth or the school office.



Reception News



What a busy week we have had! Reception gave a fantastic final performance of 'What a Star' on Monday- what super singing, smiles and enthusiasm. We were all so proud of them! Throughout the week the children have been very busy singing carols to prepare for Reception's Christmas Carol and Craft morning on Monday the 16th of December from 9.15am in the school hall. Please come along to listen to your child and then accompany them in class for a stay and play session with Christmas crafts. All the children look forward to seeing you.

Thank you to all our parents who are still reading regularly with their child at least four times weekly and working hard on homework and Mathletics from home. It will really help your child's progress. Thank you and keep it up Reception!

Christmas in Key Stage 1



Thank you for all your support this week with our performances and the children's Christmas party. We all had a wonderful time dancing and playing lots of party games.

We look forward to seeing you at our Christmas service which is at St Nicholas' church on Tuesday 17th December, starting at 9.30am. We expect that the service will last approximately 25 minutes.

Year 3 and 4 Christmas Update

Christmas Service - We look forward to seeing you, if you are able to attend, at St. Nicholas' Church on Tuesday 17th December at 11am for our Christmas service.



Christmas party - our Christmas party is Wednesday 18th December, 1pm-3pm. The children are welcome to bring their party clothes into school in a named bag and they will change into these after lunchtime. Please may we kindly ask for children not to bring high heel shoes to wear at the party as this can be quite dangerous when dancing and playing games. We are also asking if boys can bring something sweet and for girls to bring something savoury for our party food. Many thanks.



Christmas in Year 5 and Year 6

Year 5 and 6 are looking forward to seeing you at our Christmas service which is at St Nicholas' church on Tuesday 17th December, starting at 1.30pm. We do hope that you will be able to join us.

Our Year 5 and 6 Christmas party is on Thursday 19th December. We would like the children to bring their party clothes to change into after lunch. We would also very much appreciate a contribution of a small item of food- please would boys bring something savoury, and girls something sweet. Many thanks for your help and support at this exciting time of year!

Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day



Thank you very much for your support of our 'wear something Christmassy day'. The whole school was filled with festive colours. Monies raised will go to support Save the Children and the Hope Centre food bank. Thank you for all the donations of food for the Hope Centre through our Reverse Advent Calendar. Next week it is Year 5 and Year 6's opportunity to help with this.



Craggside Reverse Advent Calendar for the Hope Centre Food Bank

Monday 16th Year 5LA	Tuesday 17th Year 5KH	Wednesday 18th Year 6CB	Thursday 19th Year 6ER	Friday 20th Any classes!
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Christmas Dinner

Thank you to Mrs Dunn and her wonderful catering team for all the hard work in catering for over 300 today! I struggle at home to do the cooking for our family so I'm always amazed at the preparation and service for our large school Christmas Dinner. The hall was filled with festive jumpers, seasonal music and the lovely smell of Christmas.



Christmas at St Nicholas' Church

We are looking forward to our Christmas services which are at St Nicholas' church next week on Tuesday 17th December. The Year 1 and 2 service is at 9.30am; Year 3 and 4 at 11.00am and Year 5 and 6 at 1.30pm. I hope that you will be able to join with us for these services. We look forward to singing some carols and doing some Christmas crafts with our Reception families on Monday 16th December.

Weekend Challenge

In our nativity performances this week, we have thought about the idea of following the star. We will continue this theme when we go to church on Tuesday. Our weekend challenge has a sparkly theme:

- Make a star decoration for the house or Christmas tree
- Make some star shaped Christmas biscuits or add some stars onto the top of some Christmas cupcakes.
- Be a shining star by doing something really kind for a relative or a neighbour.

I hope that you have a wonderful weekend as we move ever closer to Christmas. We look forward to seeing Reception families on Monday and Year 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 families on Tuesday of next week.

Yours sincerely

Paul Rusby
Headteacher

Date	Information
Monday 16 th 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.
Monday 16 th 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 th December	Christmas Services at St Nicholas' Church-Families are very welcome! 9.30am - Y1 and Y2 11.00am -Year 3 and 4 1.30pm -Year 5 and 6
Wednesday 18 th 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. Please would boys to bring something sweet and girls something savoury for our party food.
Thursday 19 th 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 in a named bag. Please could boys bring savoury food and girls bring sweet food as contributions towards our party tea.
Friday 20 th December	Break up for Christmas holiday-normal end of day timings
Monday 6 th January 2020	Training Day
Tuesday 7 th January 2020	8.40am-Start of Spring Term 2020