



## Cragside Church of England Primary School

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**“Let Your Light  
Shine”**

Headteacher: Joanne Parker

Deputy Headteacher: Caroline Bilton

Assistant Headteacher: Roz Cant



### Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October – Newsletter 5 2021-2022

Dear Cragside Family,

Well done to all our children for all their hard work this week. I was particularly impressed with our school football team for their impressive victory this week and it was delightful to see our Year 3 children enthusiastically taking part in the Hoopstarz festival on Monday. As well as working hard during their curriculum time, it's been great to see the children enjoying extra-curricular clubs, swimming, music lessons and to hear them singing again. These are all parts of school life which have been on hold for a while and it is truly heart-warming to see such activities being reintroduced into school. A special mention to all of the children in 4UC have earned their super kind reward this week and have celebrated with an afternoon of arts, crafts and games. Well done 4UC!!!

#### Family Worships

We really enjoyed watching the Year 6 Family worship on Thursday-thank you to our Year 6 team for all of your contributions to making this film for us. During the Autumn term we will be sharing with you a series of online family worships from each year group. In adhering to our current Covid risk assessment for this term, each year group will create a family worship video which will be emailed to parents and carers for viewing. This will give you the opportunity to view your child at school and hear about some of the learning which is happening in their year group.

#### Covid Cautious

We are working very hard to provide our children with a rich and varied experience of school life whilst still maintaining a sensible, Covid cautious approach to what we do. Our aim is very much to ensure that we remain Covid cautious whilst providing the children with high quality teaching and learning and as many experiences as we can. This is balanced with taking a more measured approach in other areas of school life, for example, our Family Collective Worships and parent consultation meetings which are being held online. I am desperately keen to minimise any disruption to children's learning during this academic year, so I hope you can understand why we are organising some events online during the current term to minimise any potential transmission of the virus in school and absence from school for individual children and staff.

In addition to our Family Collective Worships, Mrs Cant is also organising a special Harvest service which will all be shared with parents electronically. We do hope that you enjoy the work that the children are

putting into preparing these special events. This will be premiered online during the last week of this half term. As part of our Harvest celebrations, we will be welcoming Reverend David Gray into school to lead a number of Harvest Services for our children. As we prepare for our Harvest Festival performance in school, we would like to encourage our children to look outward and think of ways to help our community. We would like to collect donations for our local food bank The Hope Centre. If you would like to donate, please send non-perishable items into school with your child from Monday onwards. We will then pass this donation on to The Hope Centre.

### Reception Stay and Play Sessions

Reception will be holding two stay and play sessions for our Reception families to join us in school to play and see our classrooms on Monday 18th and Thursday 21st October. We are very excited to have our families in school but need to continue to remain Covid cautious. With this in mind, we are holding two sessions to ensure smaller numbers of adults in school. Please book yourself onto one of these sessions via our Google form, which our office team will be sending out next week. We look forward to finally being able to welcome you to our school!

### Some dates for your diary

Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct	NSPCC Speak out to Stay Safe assembly
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Stay and Play session in Reception
Thurs 21 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Stay and Play session in Reception
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	Teacher Training Day – School closed to children
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Portal for Reception 2022 places open
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Tempest Individual School Photos
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Children in Need Day
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Beginning of Road Safety Week and Friendship Week
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	Beginning of Interfaith Week
Thurs 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Nasal Flu Programme in school
Weds 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9.30am Reception Christmas Performance – details to follow
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Jumper Day + Christmas Lunch
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9.30am Reception Christmas Performance – details to follow
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Church Services at St Nicholas' Church – further information will be provided at a later date
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Year 1 and 2 Christmas Party
Weds 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Year 3 and 4 Christmas Party
Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Year 5 and 6 Christmas Party
Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Reception Christmas Party
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	End of Term, school closes 3.10pm
Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2022	Teacher Training Day – School closed to children
Weds 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2022	Children return to school for the beginning of Spring term 2022

Key Stage 1, Lower Key Stage 2 and Upper Key Stage 2 Christmas performances will be recorded in school to be shared and distributed to families during December. This gives you some flexibility in when you view the performances, you can share more widely with other family members and it also means that this recording can be saved and viewed for many more Christmases to come!

### Primary School Admissions

We continue to receive a number of enquiries about admissions for places in our school and also queries about applications for September 2022. The portal to apply for Reception places for September 2022 opens on 1st November 2021. We have now organised a number of Covid safe Open mornings and

afternoons for parents who would like to visit our school. Please see the attached flier for further information.

### **Parking**

Working alongside our local Councillor and on behalf of our local residents, please can I politely remind you that there are parking restrictions along Westloch Road and in some of the other roads surrounding our school. These parking restrictions are in place to ensure children, pedestrians and residents stay safe, especially around school drop off and collection times. Please can I ask that all parents and carers adhere to these restrictions and park with consideration and respect to our local residents. We have plenty of room in bicycle and scooter sheds if you want to try a different way of getting to school!

### **Weekend Challenge**

During Mental Health Awareness week, our children have been learning about a range of different ways to help them feel mentally well. Having a greater connection to nature is proven to promote good mental health and reduce feelings of distress. This weekend, try and find some time to do the following:

- Experience nature – take a moment to notice and celebrate nature in your daily life. You might be surprised by what you see!
- Share nature – take a photograph and share the connections you've made during the week. You might inspire others!
- Watch the clouds floating by, listen to the sound of the rain, think about how the sound of a river makes you feel. Describe these feelings you an adult.

Wishing you all a calm, peaceful and enjoyable weekend.

Joanne Parker