



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**



Friday 4th September 2020

Newsletter 2: 4th September 2020

Dear Cragside Family,

Well done to all our children who have settled in so well at the start of this new school year. We are so incredibly proud of their hard work and sensible approach to the routines that we have put in place to try to help keep us all safe. I am very grateful to you as parents and carers for the trust that you have shown in us and helping with the start and end of the day procedures.

Well done to our Reception children who have come to the end of their first week in school. It has been an absolute delight to pop into Reception and see the real joy and eagerness to learn that our new children are showing. We are so proud of all their hard work at the start of this school year.

As with any new start, but especially this year, we are constantly evaluating our systems as we seek to ensure that our structures and procedures support the safety of all in school and optimise the learning and support for children's good mental health and well-being that we work so hard to achieve.

Reception News-A Message from our Reception Team

A huge well done to our Reception super stars! What a fabulous week and an excellent start to school life at Cragside. We could not be more proud of your sunny positive attitudes and maturity - well done!

Please continue sending a named bottle containing water (no juice please) in your child's bag. Thank you for sending a healthy snack in bags for morning circle time.

Our PE day is Monday and we plan to make the most of the sunny weather and will be outside where possible. Thank you for continuing to keep PE kits at home for now. Tuesdays afternoons will be forest school. Thank you for checking that your child has a named coat in case the weather becomes chilly.

We will be holding Early Reading, Writing and Numeracy meetings in September. A google form will be sent with information on meeting times and to help us with the social distancing protocols that we have organised for these meetings. Dates and information to follow! We will also be giving more information about Tapestry in these meetings. In the meantime, you can follow us on Twitter to see what we've been up to! Our Twitter account is only available to parents and carers of our current pupils. Please request to follow us at [@CragsidePrimary](https://twitter.com/CragsidePrimary)

Many thanks to all our parents and carers on your support in helping the children transition so smoothly into Reception. Mrs Pemberton and Miss Grice are excited for next week!

Start and End of the School Day

Thank you for your help with the start and end of the school day routines, **most of which will continue the same as this week**. To further develop the systems that we have used this week we have made the following adaptations for next week:

- **Reception** start times are now **8.30-8.45** and end of day time is **3.05pm**. This is to avoid cross over with the Nursery. We will open the green metal gates to allow parents to wait in the yard to help avoid blocking the paths leading to school. The start times worked really well on Friday when we trialled this. Thank you for all your help.
- Both classes in the **Year 1** bubble will enter and exit through Miss Harris' door. Please would it be possible for Year 1 and 2 parents to continue to stand in the white boxes opposite the Year 1 and 2 doors as you did this week which really helped with the smooth collection of children.
- **Year 5 and Year 6 children who are allowed to walk home alone** will be walked to the top green gate with their teacher and then allowed to walk home from this point. If you would like your child to walk home, please would you complete the Google form if you have not yet done so.
- **Year 5 and Year 6 children who are collected from school** will be walked by their teacher to the area near the gazebo and dismissed from the area beside the gazebo. Please will the Year 5 and Year 6 parents who are collecting their children from school wait in the **white boxes near the gazebo**. This will mean that you will be away from the Year 1 and Year 2 parents so you will be able to see your children more easily and will help with social distancing at the end of the school day.



Year 5/6 pupils who are collected from school will be dismissed by their teacher from this point here.

- To help with the distancing on the yard, please would it be possible to ask that parents try to stand, wherever possible in the areas on the picture below. We have a large yard and this will hopefully help you all with distancing. If you have children in two separate doors who are due to come out at the same time, please collect the younger child first and we will hold onto the older child until you can come to collect.



- Thank you for your help with the staggered times for the new week which aim to help reduce the flow of adults and children through the yard. A reminder that the times are:

	Start of day	End of day (M, T, W, Th)	End of day (F-September only)
Reception	Between 8.30 and 8.45am	3.05pm	12.55pm
KS1	Between 8.40 and 8.50am	3.05pm	1.00pm
KS2	Between 8.30 and 8.40am	3.15pm	1.05pm

Thank You

Thank you to Pedro (Year 1) and Beatriz (Year 5) who spent some of the summer doing jobs around the house to raise some money for our school. They raised £60 and kindly donated this. Well done and thank you to Pedro and Beatriz for this kind donation and all the hard work done to earn this.

Photographs

Normally, at the start of the term, we would organise class photographs. We have delayed this until later in the year. Individual and family photographs take place on **10th November 2020**.

Updates on School Buddy

Thank you very much for all your help with the School Buddy system. It should be an excellent resource for parents for the ordering of meals, booking for wrap around care, trips and school clubs as well as general communication. As with all new systems, there are always some teething challenges and we are grateful for the feedback and help we have received about these. We are talking with the company each day and they are helping with any initial problems. Our office team are working really hard to try to answer any queries that are sent in on admin@cragside.northumberland.sch.uk

Our office team have included some information about making lunchtime selections on School Buddy:

From the School Buddy home page, click on the red button (Bookings Open). There will be a screen with bookings available, at present this is lunches, breakfast club and after school club. Click in lunches box blue (SELECT) button. This will take you to lunch booking screen. **DO NOT press SELECT ALL button** as this will book all 3 options for every day for the whole term and cannot be amended. Scroll down and select options for each day.

Once you have made the selection click the blue (BOOK) button. This will take you to another screen which shows what is selected. You then need to confirm booking. You will be sent a confirmation email. If you do not receive this then the lunch is not booked. Please contact the office if you have any queries with this.

Year 5/6

When children reach Year 5 and Year 6 we always have requests from some parents to allow their children to walk home alone or to meet them at a designated place. We have sent home a Google form to families of children in Year 5 and 6 to check about your permission for this for each day of the week. Thank you to all who have completed this. If you have not filled in this form, please would it be possible to do so over the weekend or early Monday so we have a full list of parental permissions.

If you do allow your child to walk home alone, please would you remind them that if someone is not home or if the adult they are waiting for has been delayed for some reason (e.g. traffic problems), then the safe option would be to return to school where we can keep care of them and telephone parents. If the cycle path gates are locked, they should walk around to the front of school and we will keep them in the building to help keep them safe. Thank you for talking about these different scenarios with your child to help keep him/her safe.

Reading books-A Message from Miss Rennison

We will be sending home school books with planners for your children to read. These will come home along with your child's planner. Please read as much as you can with your child at home and sign the planner. Please ensure planners and reading books are in school daily.

When books are returned to school, we will quarantine for 72 hours then before returning them to bookshelves for other children to choose. Alongside this we also have access to online e-books on Epic! and ActiveLearn. Children can read these in addition to books provided by school.

Please refrain from sending books from home in school. However, please feel free to supplement your child's reading diet with as many texts you may have at home as you like. At Cragside, we love to see how enthusiastic our children are with reading! We are looking forward to seeing all of the amazing reading your children are completing.

Autumn One Curriculum

You will receive an email from your child's Year group team with an outline of the curriculum for this half term. We are working to ensure that the curriculum is broad and inspires the children with the wonder of learning. At the start of this first half term, after the lockdown period and summer holidays, we are also concentrating on the essentials of reading, phonics, mathematics and vocabulary usage. Thank you so much for your help with reading and mathematics at home. We really do appreciate your help with this. We will send out information about learning subscriptions that we purchase for our children and families to support learning at home and in school.

Winter Flu Immunisations

In July 2020, you should have received (at home) information from the NHS about general flu immunisations which take place during the autumn term for children in Reception, Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6. If you have not received this, there is a contact number for parents to contact at the end of the link which I have copied.

<https://www.northumbria.nhs.uk/our-services/childrens-services/immunisations/>

Calendar for 2020/2021

Below is a calendar for **2020/2021** which has the dates each half term starts in the blue column and the dates that each half term ends in the orange column. All the training days for this year are shown in the green column. I hope that this is useful. We are unable to authorise any holiday requests taken in term time. The **2021/2022** dates for future planning can be found at

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/NorthumberlandCountyCouncil/media/Document-store/School%20admissions/Term-Dates-2021-2022-Public-Copy-Final.pdf>

Half Term	Close of school date at the end of each half term	Training Day dates	Reopen date at the start of the new half term
Summer 2020	Fri 17 July 2020	Tue 1 Sept 2020	Wed 2 Sept 2020
Oct half term 2020	Thurs 22 Oct 2020	Fri 23 Oct 2020	Mon 2 Nov 2020
Christmas 2020/2021	Fri 18 Dec 2020	Mon 4 Jan 2021	Tue 5 Jan 2021
Spring half term 2021	Fri 12 Feb 2021		Mon 22 Feb 2021
Easter 2021	Fri 26 Mar 2021		Mon 12 Apr 2021
May Day 2021	Bank Holiday Monday 3 May 2021		
Summer half 2021	Fri 28 May 2021		Mon 7 June 2021
Summer 2021	Fri 16 July 2021	TBC	Mon 6 Sept 2021

Weekend Challenge

Each weekend we send home some different challenges for the children to do at home. These are all completely voluntary. We have a Facebook account which you could post pictures of the children doing some of these activities. The address is <https://www.facebook.com/groups/795896960817927/>. You will need to confirm you have a child in our school and also that you will follow the admin rules for our account. Alternatively you can email them into admin@cragside.northumberland.sch.uk so we can send them to your child's teacher and we can celebrate the love of learning that we seek to promote throughout our school.

Our weekend challenge for this weekend is:

- Go for a walk on a beach and see what you can see in the rock pools and find some interesting shells or pebbles that have been washed up. I wonder how many jelly fish you can count (remember not to touch them!)

Thank you so much for all your help at the start of this new school year. I am sorry that I have not been able to chat more on the yard in the morning, we are all working hard to help the safe movement of adults and children at the start and end of the day. It has been such a joy to see our children back to school. Their strength and passion to learn are nothing less than inspiring. It has been so wonderful to have the buzz of learning brightening up each classroom in our school. I can't wait for Monday to see the classrooms lit up by all the children of Cragside!

I hope you have a lovely weekend,

Paul Rusby
Headteacher