



## 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 24<sup>th</sup> September – Newsletter 3 2021-2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am so proud of all our children for working so hard this week. There is a real sense of joy and interest in learning around school and Mrs Bilton and I have been delighted to give out so many stickers this week after seeing lots of examples of high quality work. I am also equally proud of our Year 6 children for the way in which they have embraced each and every challenge presented to them at Robinwood this week. The staff involved in the visit shared that all of the children ‘were amazing to take away.’ Staff have shared that the children were eager participants, keen to try new activities and were polite and respectful to others around them. Our Year 6’s have shown themselves to be a real credit to yourselves and to our school. Our Shining Stars Collective worship is always one of my favourite parts of the week as we celebrate those children who shine especially bright during the week and share some ‘Hot Chocolate with the Head’ time together! We even had some yummy chocolate cake today!

#### Family Collective Worship

During the Autumn term we will be restarting our family worships which I know families really enjoy. In adhering to our current Covid risk assessment, 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. In addition to this, Mrs Cant is also organising a special Harvest service which will all be shared with parents via video. We do hope that you enjoy the work that the children are putting into preparing these special events.

#### Whimsical Book Reviewer

We are very proud of Oscar from 1EO who has recently reviewed a new book and had it published! He really enjoys reading and talking about stories so it is no surprise that his fabulous review was chosen. Oscar brought the book 'Naughty Morty and the Boy in the Buttercup Coat' into 1EO and the children in the class really enjoyed listening to it. Well done Oscar! We love seeing you, and all of our children in school show their love of reading!

## **How we're supporting schools and sharing what we do so well at Cragside**

As part of her work for the EEF, Mrs Bilton supports teachers in the North-East and nationally to develop their teaching. She is particularly interested in the teaching of reading and is often called upon to deliver webinars and training. You can find out more about the work she is doing on our open Twitter account @CragsideC .

## **Opal Play**

As part of our ongoing work to further develop playtimes and lunchtimes at our school, all staff and children have been asked to complete a questionnaire this week where they share their thoughts and views around play times in school. I am also really keen to hear your thoughts and experiences around play and would ask if you could complete this short, online survey to share your thoughts, experiences and hopes for your child's play. The survey will only take a few minutes to complete and your views on this will form a valuable part of our action plan as we move forward with this exciting development. The link to the survey is: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TY7MWVT>

## **Primary School Admissions**

We have recently had a number of queries about admissions for places in our school and also queries about applications for September 2022. If you know parents who are moving into the area and are interested in applying to our school, please would you ask them to contact our school office for details of possible spaces. The portal to apply for Reception places for September 2022 opens on 1st November 2021. We are in the process of organising Covid safe Open mornings and afternoons for parents who would like to see our wonderful school in action. Further information about these dates will be shared soon.

The Great British Bake Off started again this week and for your weekend challenge, I wonder if you can make a 'show stopper' cake or some cupcakes that you can decorate.

Thank you very much for all your help during this first month of the autumn term. We really appreciate all of your ongoing support as we work in partnership to ensure the very best for your child. I hope that you all have a good weekend and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Kind regards,  
Joanne Parker