

Cragside Church of England Primary School

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“Let Your Light Shine”

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Deputy Headteacher: Caroline Bilton

Assistant Headteacher: Roz Cant



Friday 5th November – Newsletter 7 2021-2022

Dear Cragside Family,

Well done to all our children who have worked so well during this first week back after our half term break. We have continued to welcome small groups of prospective parents into our school this week, as part of our ‘Open morning’ tours and, as always, Mrs Bilton and I have a deep sense of pride and joy whilst we are showing visitors around our school. Without fail, every visitor comments on how warm and welcoming our school is, how happy and purposeful the children are in their learning and what a wonderful learning environment we have at Cragside. The portal for primary school admissions is now open using the following link: http://schadm.northumberland.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en Many thanks for all of your lovely comments about our school film, which I shared at the end of last half term. If you didn’t get the chance to see this, please take a look: <https://bit.ly/3psqX2H>

A warm welcome to our Nursery children and staff

The transfer of the Nursery provision has now concluded and we have warmly welcomed the staff and children from Nursery into our growing Cragside family. Mrs Clarke, Aimee, Emma and Paula have all worked tirelessly to ensure our very youngest children have had a smooth, settled and enjoyable first week in school. The Nursery children have been learning about Diwali, shells, leaves, eating their lunch in our main school hall and even spent some time this week in our shared area playing games. It is an absolute privilege to be able to welcome these children into our Cragside family and to be part of their development from such an early stage.



More additions to our Cragside family!



Reception children have been very excited to welcome two baby guinea pigs into our Cragside family. The children have named our new additions Fi-Fi and Ice cream! All children (and adults!) are very happy to have them in our Early Years setting and Fi-Fi and Ice cream are already very much loved and well cared members of our Cragside family.

Diary Dates

Mon 8 th November	Tempest Individual School Photos
Mon 15 th November	Beginning of Road Safety Week and Friendship Week
Fri 19 th November	Children in Need Day – Non uniform day
Mon 22 nd November	Beginning of Interfaith Week
Thurs 25 th November	Nasal Flu Programme in school
Fri 3 rd December	Nursery performance (Morning sessions)
Weds 8 th December	9.30am Reception Christmas Performance – details to follow
Thurs 9 th December	Nursery performance (afternoon sessions)
Fri 10 th December	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch
Fri 10 th December	9.30am Reception Christmas Performance – details to follow
Mon 13 th December	Christmas Church Services at St Nicholas' Church – further information will be provided at a later date
Mon 13 th December	Reception Christmas Party
Tues 14 th December	Year 1 and 2 Christmas Party
Weds 15 th December	Nursery (morning group) Year 3 and 4 Christmas Party
Thurs 16 th December	Year 5 and 6 Christmas Party
Thurs 16 th December	Reception Christmas Party
Fri 17 th December	Nursery (afternoon group) Christmas party End of Term, school closes at normal times
Tues 4 th January 2022	Teacher Training Day – School and Nursery closed to children
Weds 5 th January 2022	Children return to school for the beginning of Spring term 2022

School Photographs – Monday 8th November

Tempest photography will be in school on Monday 8th November to take children's individual photographs. Unfortunately, due to the restrictions in place at the moment, they are unable to allow family siblings who do not attend our school to have photographs taken together. There will be individual photographs taken and siblings in school will be able to have photographs taken together. The photographers are unable, due to rules about distancing, to be involved in the positioning of children so any sibling groups may not be as professionally posed as usual. If your child is due to have PE on Monday and you would prefer for their photograph to be taken with them wearing their usual school uniform, then please send your child into school wearing their usual school uniform with their PE kit in a separate bag.

Children in Need – Friday 19th November

We welcome children to come to school wearing non-uniform on Children in Need day, on Friday 19th November. Children are also welcome to come into school dressed in a Pudsey Bear theme if they wish, wearing classic Pudsey ears/headbands/T-shirts etc.

Parents and carers are invited to make cashless, voluntary donations to <https://donate.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/>

During the day, the children will enjoy working out with Joe Wicks, helping our children to get active and have fun and they will learn a host of mindfulness techniques for everyday life with Dr Ranj, online. Please look out for photographs on our school Twitter page.

Armistice Day Service

On Thursday 11th November, we will be holding our annual Armistice Day services, in smaller groups (due to our preventative Covid measures). Our tree of remembrance looked beautiful this morning as the light was shining upon it.



Our home challenge this week is to make a picture of a poppy or a 3D model which we could display inside or outside. Maybe you might be able to sew or knit a poppy or make some cupcakes with a poppy on the top of each cupcake.

Covid Update

To minimise the potential transmission of the virus, we have introduced a number of additional measures in school, such as requesting adults to wear face coverings in communal areas, inside the school building. Please can we ask, where a member of your household does test positive for Covid-19, that the rest of the household take a PCR test and take regular LFD tests to minimise any risk of the virus coming into school.

Wishing you a safe bonfire weekend and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Joanne Parker

