



Governors' Newsletter

Summer 2018

Welcome to this Summer 2018 newsletter from the Governing Body of Croft Church of England Primary School. Please look at the school website croftprimarieschool.org for more information about the Governing Body and our role in school. We produce a termly newsletter.

Annual Governance Statement – this document gives a summary of the full year – you should have received this by email this week. If not, it will be posted on the Governors' section of the school website.

The Governing Body are very proud of the children and staff in Croft, so we will be celebrating their efforts and achievements. We hope you enjoy the newsletter. Have a wonderful summer break and we look forward to seeing you in September.

Mrs Alison Russell, Chair of Governors

Celebrating success!

Each half term, families have been invited into school to take part in the school's Friday celebration worships where pupils are rewarded for their achievements through the week. This includes class awards for children who have worked hard towards and demonstrated achievements around Christian Values, attitude to learning and achievement. The school's WOW Wall has been a real success and pupils love to get their work on the display and under the lights each week.



Sports Superstars

A big thank you to our P.E. Leader, Mrs Carbert who has worked very hard to ensure our pupils have accessed a variety of sports this year and entered as many competitions and events as possible. This culminated in a wonderful and, for a change, sunny, sports day.

A planned programme of lunchtime physical activities takes place every day. We thank Mrs Marksby, Mr Robinson, Mrs Jewkes, Mr Layfield, Mr Brown and our school Play Leaders for organising this. Children have recently started the Daily Mile as a way of improving fitness and resilience.

After school sports and dance activities have been well-attended.

The termly Sports Newsletter is produced to keep you more informed about the curriculum, events and achievements. Your summer newsletter should be with you this week!

Year 6 Debate

Congratulations to the Year 6 pupils who won the Richmond Schools Cluster Debate. The debate focused on Social Media.



Helping Others

We have been very successful at helping others this year. Children have enjoyed dressing up to raise funds for World Book Day, Jeans for Genes, Macmillan, Children in Need, Sport Relief, World Down Syndrome Day, British Heart Foundation, CHUF and Save the Children. Some of these charities were nominated by the School Council. Children and staff, including Mr Robson, recently took part in the Race for Life to raise funds for Cancer Research.

School Fundraising

Thank you very much to parents who supported various reading and book events to raise funds for our new library and books. It is a fantastic resource for school and is being very well used.

Thank you to Friends of the School, led by Mrs Jewkes, who have fund raised throughout the year to help provide much needed equipment and resources.

Enrichment

As governors, part of our role is to challenge the school leaders on progress and outcomes for our children. We do this in part by asking questions and by visiting school regularly to discover for ourselves what goes on in school. In addition to the excellent teaching we are also impressed by the enrichment offered to children which is arranged by the teaching staff and teaching assistants. This has included a 3 day residential visit to East Barnby for Y5/6 pupils, visits to Hartlepool Mosque, Newcastle Synagogue, Darlington Gurdwara Temple, Beamish Museum, Arbeia Fort, Kirkleatham Hall, York Museum and Nightingale Care Home in Richmond. In addition, we have welcomed into school Peter Barron, children's author and former Northern Echo Editor, Rob Smith, creator of Literacy Shed, Mr Schori, a Swiss Assistante from Zurich and a fantastic collection of minibeasts with The Bug Lady

We celebrated the Royal Wedding with a picnic on the school field. It was great to see so many parents join us. Our thanks to Mrs Breeze and Mrs Geldard for making it happen!



Whole school visit to Gurdwara Temple

We were delighted with the outcome of our SIAMS Inspection in March which indicated the school was outstanding in all areas. We are very proud of our pupils. Our thanks go to Mrs Lancaster for leading the school to this very successful outcome.

Pupils regularly lead whole school Collective Worships led and we visit St Peter's Church each half term take part in a service around each half term's Christian Value. There is a prayer space in the school hall that changes each half term too! Pupils enjoy sharing their reflections around different themes.

Forest Schools

Mrs Hinley has been introducing Forest Schools this year. This included the creation of raised vegetable beds. Mr Blenkarn made these and children planted them out. They look magnificent and are producing excellent crops already.



Art

Our school is decorated with fabulous works of art. We have some amazingly talented children in school. It is often commented on by visitors to school. Our thanks go to Mrs Halliday and Mrs Donoghue for their fantastic work in developing children's skills.



Art Gallery in the Entrance Hall



Pupils' drawings capturing movement in sport

Music and Drama

We are very pleased so many children learn to play instruments both in school and at home. We heard some of them play at the Strawberries and Dreams Concert this week, which was delightful. The singing was wonderful too. We also had the pleasure of hearing a song from Max Ferguson, following on from his success on Britain's Got Talent. We all wish him the very best of luck for the future.

The Year 6 Leavers put on a lovely performance and sang beautifully. Mr Robson's guitar playing was wonderful too.

We have lots more planned for next year.

Enterprise

All children created lovely things to sell at our School Enterprise Fairs. These included pictures, bird boxes, painted ceramics, felt work, cakes and biscuits. They costed ingredients, made the goods, packaged and sold them, calculating the profit. All very useful life skills. The Fairs were very well attended, thank you for your support and this raised **£700** to pay for enrichment activities.



School Council and Pupil Leadership

The school council plays an important role in school. The members are democratically elected and give pupils a voice in school. Pupil Leaderships teams have special responsibilities, such as Christian Values, Health and Safety, Learning Environment, E Safety, Health and Well-Being. Each team has worked hard through the year and recently they all met with Governors to explain their roles in school and tell us what we can do to improve our school.

Pupils' views give governors a different perspective of the school and are really important to us.

Year 6 Leavers



Congratulations and Goodbye to our hard-working Year 6. SATS are done, results are in and they have visited their new Secondary schools. They leave Croft Church of England Primary School with our best wishes for the future. We hope they will pop in and say hello and let us know how they are doing.

A BIG THANK YOU!

None of the achievements in or out of school would be possible without the hard work and dedication of all of the staff at Croft. The Governors are aware of and greatly appreciate the amount of effort they all put in. We want to take this opportunity to wish them all a well-deserved summer break and thank them for all they have done this year.

We would also like to thank the parent and grandparent helpers in school. Their support is very much appreciated.

Farewell to some.

This year we say thank you and farewell to one of our parent Governors, Paul Knapp and Associate Governors, Georgie Sale and Kath Jones. We are very grateful for their hard work and dedication.



Next Year

We are all looking forward to an exciting new year with lots of new and exciting developments.

Thank you for your support.