



**CROFT CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY
SCHOOL NEWS**

'Achievement for Everyone'

9th September 2016

**Dear Parents and Carers,
Welcome back!**

I hope that everyone has had a fantastic summer break.

Internal Building Works

It has been a busy summer for Mrs Russell, Mr Blenkarn and me as we worked to ensure that all of the internal building works were complete and ready for the first day back. Apart from one or two minor pieces of work, the alterations are complete and staff and I are very pleased with the outcomes! We believe that the works will assist us in improving pupil safety and administration systems throughout the school.

The new pupil library resource area is lovely! It is fully carpeted and we will now work towards raising funds for new books and shelving.

The changes have also enabled us to have a location to store digital equipment (laptops, ipads etc) which will be a priority for school improvement as we move forward.

We also now have a dedicated classroom with an interactive whiteboard for large group work, two small group learning rooms (old Head Teacher's office and library) and changes to the Out of School Club mean that this can also be used with groups of pupils.

School Gates

The school gates with access to the playground will be locked each day at 9.00am and will be opened at 3.10pm each day by Mr Harrison, our new caretaker. The main gates next to the car park entrance will remain open so that the main entrance to the building and Early Years can be accessed at all times.

New staff

We have new staff working with us and they have settled into the first week back.

Mrs Banks will be working in the office with Mrs Dent each morning and will help in Early Years with our Nursery children on a Tuesday and Thursday lunch time.

Mrs Hinley joins us as part of our Early Years team. Mrs Carbert joins us as our lower KS2 (Y3/4) teacher and Mrs Robinson and Mrs Brown join us as part of the 1to1 Teaching Assistant team. Mr Harrison is now our caretaker and cleaner and will be on site at the beginning and at the end of the school day.

Mrs Lancaster

Mrs Lancaster has now started her maternity leave. We thank Mrs Lancaster for all of her hard work and we wish her the very best of luck.

Dinner money is now £2.10 per day. Bills will be sent out next week.

Have a great weekend everybody. Thank you for your continued support. ☺

Mr Robson

Don't forget to visit our web site at www.croftprimaryschool.org and find us on Twitter @croftcofe

CLASS 4: We have had a fantastic start to the term! All of the children have settled really well in their new class and are already working really hard. Next week, we will be continuing to look at 'The Jungle Book' by Rudyard Kipling in English as part of our classic fiction topic. In Maths, we will be starting our topic on place value.

CLASS 3: Our class text this half term will be Stig of the Dump, this links to our Stone Age topic. In English we will be writing a recount as Barney from the story. In Maths we will be focussing on place value, particularly reading and writing numbers up to four digits. Our PE days will be Monday and Tuesday this half term, please ensure children have outdoor kit.

CLASS 2: Well done to all of the children starting in Class 2, I have been so proud of how well you have all settled into new routines. Next week we will be beginning our Stories from Familiar Settings topic in English. Our focus text will be "The Tiger who Came to Tea." Our focus in Maths is reading and writing numbers and counting on and back. Our topic this half term is "Animals, including Humans." We will be doing PE on Thursday and Friday each week, Thursday's session will be outdoor when possible.

WOW Visit Thursday 29th September –As part of our topic this half term we are going on a class visit to the zoo at Flamingo Land. We will be having a guided tour looking at Care and Respect for Animals, covering how the animals are looked after, where they sleep, what they eat and how they are kept healthy and happy. We will also be taking part in a Weird and Wonderful workshop where we will use our senses to look at camouflage, predators and prey.

Early Years What a wonderful start to the year! We are so proud that all the children have come in eagerly and ready to learn. Our theme is Amazing Me. Please could you send in a photograph of your child as a baby and also a family photograph. We want your children to see that families are all different.

Early Years Meeting – Tuesday 13th Sept at 3.40 in school.

Reception children do PE on Wednesdays. Please send in dark shorts and a white t-shirt. We also need waterproof coats and wellingtons as we play outside in all weather. Many thanks. ☺

Headteacher's Awards:

Charlie Smith (Y6) Jessica Harrison (Y5) Xan Brown (Y4) Martha Bainbridge (Y3) Elsie Boyd (Y2) Heidi Campling (Y1) and Harriet Davies (R).

Events week commencing 12th September 2016

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| Mon 12 th September | Discoverers |
| Tues 13 th September | Roald Dahl Day |
| | Glee Club |
| | Piano Lessons |
| | Woodwind lessons |

Meeting for parents/carers of Early Years children (3.40pm)

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| Wed 14 th September | Violin lessons |
| Thurs 15 th September | Snake Davis Band workshop |
| Fri 16 th September | Karate |

Christian Value: Generosity

St. Peter's Church: 11 am Family Service

Annual Governance Statement

You should have received the Annual Governance Statement which gives an overview of the school year. If not it is available on the school website croftprimaryschool.org, About our School, Governors.

† Christian values: koinonia, peace, thankfulness †

Roald Dahl Day - 13th September

To celebrate the 100th birthday of the world's greatest storyteller, the whole school will be taking part in a variety of whizzpopping activities throughout the day. It's going to be more giant than James' Peach, more fantastic than Mr Fox and more enormous than the crocodile! If the children have a favourite Roald Dahl book, they can bring it in to school to share with their class.

School Vision and Values Statement

Thank you for your comments and suggestions last year. Your views together with those of the children, staff and governors have been included in a final draft which was sent out to you before the end of term. Any further comments would be welcome.

Nursery Consultation

The Governing Body are considering opening the nursery all week instead of 5 mornings and 2 afternoons per week. Children are currently entitled to 5 free sessions per week from the term following their third birthday and additional sessions can be paid for. The government are proposing an increase in this free entitlement from September 2017, but we have no further information as yet. Full days are always the most popular and we think this change to the opening hours would be beneficial and offer more flexibility to parents. We would of course put additional staff in place during the new sessions. Your comments on this proposal would be welcome – please email CofG@croft.n-yorks.sch.uk or drop a note into school. Thank you.

New menus

The new menus are available on the website now. If you have any questions or concerns please call in or ring to make an appointment with the catering team.

Snake Davis visits our school on Thursday 15th September

Snake Davis is a session musician who has played with some of the biggest names in contemporary music. He's had a long collaboration with Heather Small of M-People, toured the world with Lisa Stansfield, Annie Lennox and Dave Stewart and played with James Brown, Paul McCartney, George Michael and Tina Turner to name but a few. He wrote the iconic sax solo on Take That's hit record *A Million Love Songs* and is performing in a fund raising concert at Richmond School on Thursday 15th September, which has been organised by our wonderful piano teacher Janet Devlin.

We are very fortunate to have Snake visit us in school on the morning of the concert to hold a workshop for the children. It will be a fantastic experience for them.

If anyone is interested in coming to the evening concert, at Richmond School tickets are available from www.positickets.co.uk or via the link on www.richmondschool.net and cost £15 each.

Peter Barron visits school on Monday 3rd October

We are delighted to welcome Peter Barron former editor of the Northern Echo, radio presenter and author of children's books. He is going to lead some inspiring writing workshops in school. He will work with class 3 on creative writing and class 4 on report writing. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children and we are very grateful to Peter for coming to school.

Karate

We will be running our karate course again this term. The cost is £40 for ten weeks. Please let Mrs Dent know if your child is interested.

Shoe Box Appeal

We have been approached by Samaritan's Purse who have asked if we would take part again in their Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Campaign. This involves filling a covered shoebox with items suitable for children e.g. crayons, pencils, notebooks, wrapped sweets, socks, soap etc. If you would like to send in a filled box or have items that would go into a box, the school will be acting as a collection point. We would also appreciate empty shoe boxes which we can make up in school. Please mark your box with the sex and age of the child it is suitable for and send it/them into school by early November.



Children Not Yet of School Age

Please make sure to let us know if you have any younger children who are not yet in school or in our admissions book. This will ensure that you receive information about nursery places in good time.

Marie Curie Cancer Care

Daffodils pins, sold in aid of Marie Curie Cancer Care are on sale in school for £1 each.

Out of School Club

From September there will be a small increase in fees to £3.90 for the morning session and £8.95 for the afternoon session with discounts for siblings.

School Council – stamps

Please keep reminding friends and family that we are collecting used stamps for the RNIB. We are helping to raise money by recycling something we normally would throw away. Thank you for your support.

Pupil Premium

Pupil Premium is given to schools to support children on Free School Meals and children of Service families to achieve nationally expected levels of achievement, wherever possible, and to ensure good progress. It is given for 6 years and when a child transfers to secondary school, it goes with them. Children aged 3 and 4 are now eligible for this funding.

Please let us know if you think your child may be eligible.

Texting Service

Please ensure that we have your current mobile number.

Allergen Information

Is available for all school meals so if you have any concerns or require any information please ring or call into school. More information about food allergens can be found on the Food Standards Agency website.

It is very important that you keep school informed of any food allergies or intolerances affecting your child.

Guidance on Infection Control

A copy of the HSC (Public Health Agency) guidance on infection control in schools can now be found on our school web site croftprimaryschool.org. This gives details of the recommended periods that children should be kept away from school during specific illnesses.

