

# Crockham Hill C.E. Primary School

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## Parent Newsletter

Dear parents/carers,

As we come to the end of another year, I find myself looking back in disbelief that it is already over, they always go so quickly. It has been another busy term and the children have achieved so much. We've had another successful sports day and of course, Key Stage 2 have worked amazingly hard on the Production again this year. I wish you all a safe and happy summer holidays and look forward to seeing you in September, after a relaxing honeymoon.

### Acorns



We have had a fun-filled term involving lots of lovely activities and our trip to the seaside. We had so much fun learning about the history of the seaside and comparing the past and present. The children loved going on the steam train and playing in the sand at the beach on our trip to New Romney and Dymchurch. The children have produced some amazing writing this term in

readiness for their next year group. Reception have been practicing writing in full sentences with a capital letter and full stop and Year 1 Acorns have been using wonderful vocabulary and a range of punctuation. We have had so much fun learning and playing this year and the children are excited for the new adventures to come in September.

### Bluebells

This term in DT, Bluebells have been learning all about healthy eating and food preparation. We have designed our very own healthy sandwiches, practised how to cut a variety of fruit and veg and finally, made and ate our delicious sandwiches. Many children in Bluebells have now decided that they will now make their own sandwiches for their packed lunches.



### Conkers



and chat to a 'real life' pilot.

Conkers had an amazing afternoon this term. We 'took to the skies' with an aviation initiative promoting the variety of careers available within an airport. Children were walked through what happens at an airport, including security and air traffic control. They were taught how to use the paddles to direct aeroplanes on the runway. They also had the opportunity to sit in an 'aeroplane'

## Dandelions

Dandelions have been busy designing and making a classroom model of a volcano, which can demonstrate an eruption using a pneumatic mechanism. They have shown great enthusiasm, team work and creativity during these DT sessions. The finished products were a great success.



## Elders



Year 6 had a wonderful time on our residential in Dorset. The weather was amazing and we had an incredible time mackerel fishing, high ropes, diving at the water park, kayaking and many other exciting activities. We were very proud of all of them for challenging themselves and enjoying every minute.

## News, Updates and Reminders

### Tanzania & School Council

Last month, two members of Crockham Hill visited Tanzania and took gifts across with them from us. We sent frisbees, footballs and a skipping rope over as a gift to children in Mkwala school and school council took pictures of their favourite places around the school to show them. They have drawn and sent us pictures back.

### Governors

Once again, I would like to thank Sally Dodson and Adam Lewis for all their hard work and support over the last four years as School Parent Governors. We have two new Governors - Lizi Nicol who has been co-opted, and James Fisher who is our new Parent Governor. We are still looking to recruit an additional Parent Governor. If anyone is interested, please contact the School.

### French

A huge thank you to the Edenbridge/Mont St Aignan Town Twinning Group for their kind donation of French story books. These will be used in school for French lessons next year and we will present them to children in collective worship at the start of next term.

### Sports News

Last week, children across KS2 took part in District Sports which took place at Tonbridge School. All children made a valiant effort although we were up against some stiff competition. The children all worked very hard and we were proud of some of our individual results. We are already thinking about practising ready for next year.

### KS2 Performance

What an amazing afternoon and evening we had visiting 'Fat Sam's' as Key Stage 2 wowed us again this year with their production of Bugsy Malone. The children, parents and staff outdid themselves again with amazing sets, fabulous singing and spectacular acting. I am always blown away by the bravery of all the children taking part and I am so proud of all of them. It is always a very special day as it is part of our celebrations and the beginning of us saying goodbye to our Year 6s. They did a fantastic job and I hope they will all keep up the acting in Secondary school.

## Parent/Family Prayer Group

One of our parents, Michelle Atkins, is setting up a Parent/Family Prayer Group which will take place in Holy Trinity Church next to the School at 2.40pm on the first Friday of each new term (6 per Academic Year). First session will be on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September. All Welcome!

## Uniform

Price and Buckland will be supplying our school uniform going forward, thank you for being patient while they set up our new webpage, it is now ready! - <https://www.pbuniform-online.co.uk/crockham>.

Delivery of school uniform to your home costs £4.50 with free returns. Alternatively you can place an order for a free delivery to school. We will then advise of a pick up day during the summer. **You will need to order by 1<sup>st</sup> August to ensure delivery.**

Please note that the girls' summer dress is now gingham as this was the only option supplied by this company. If you have a striped dress, these are still acceptable for the next couple of years.

When thinking about uniform for next term, please think about the following:

- All children in Years R to Year 4 must have a green Crockham Hill school book bag. You may also wish for them to have either a school drawstring bag or a school rucksack if they take part in forest school or swimming.
- Children in Years 5 and 6 may use a BLACK rucksack, if they wish with one keyring to make it easier to identify.
- ONLY children in Year 6 may bring in their own named pencil case and this needs to be a sensible size and must not have gadgets attached. We currently provide all stationery so there is no need for children to have their own pencil cases.

## DfE Update About Attendance

Next term we will be re-writing our attendance policy in line with new DfE expectations. The DfE have issued new guidance that will take effect from 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024. This guidance includes new rules about schools issuing fines for unauthorised absence. A new fine will be issued if a child meets the threshold; this threshold is 10 sessions (10 half days) of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period, e.g. '4 sessions of holiday taken in term time plus 6 sessions of arriving late after the register closes all within 10 school weeks'. The new fines start at £80 to be paid within 21 days or £160 if paid after that time. For more information about the new guidance, please visit: [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65f1b048133c22b8eecd38f7/Working\\_together\\_to\\_improve\\_school\\_attendance\\_applies\\_from\\_19\\_August\\_2024.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65f1b048133c22b8eecd38f7/Working_together_to_improve_school_attendance_applies_from_19_August_2024.pdf)

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Higgs