

Crockham Hill C.E. Primary School

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Crockham Hill
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Dear Parents and Carers,

As Spring 2 draws to a close, we would like to thank everyone for their hard work and support this half term. We hope you enjoy reading about some of the highlights from recent weeks.

Acorns



Acorn class have thoroughly enjoyed our 'outdoor learning' sessions on a Friday afternoon. Come rain or shine, we have been outside in our beautiful environment building dens, creating nature art and making clay mandalas. It has been lovely to see all our pupils working as a team and enjoying each other's company.

Bluebells

This week we have been celebrating British Science Week, where the theme is Curiosity: What's your question? Today the children became detectives as they worked to solve the mystery of "Who stole Mrs Manson's coffee cup?" The class carefully searched for clues and discovered a fingerprint left at the scene. The children then investigated their own fingerprints and compared them with each other's and the mystery print. They learned that everyone's fingerprints are unique, which makes them very useful for solving crimes! To continue the investigation, the children compared the mystery fingerprint with prints from several teachers. After some careful detective work, they finally identified the culprit... Mr Robertson! The class went to find him and successfully returned Mrs Manson's coffee cup. Well done to our fantastic detectives for using their curiosity and scientific skills to solve the case!



Conkers



Conkers and Dandelions had a fantastic time designing and making their own healthy cereal bars. Inspired by the main character in the Conker class book, The Boy Who Biked the World, the children thought carefully about what kind of snack would be nutritious and practical for someone cycling long distances across countries and continents.

Working in small groups, the children planned their own recipes before measuring and mixing simple ingredients including oats, honey, butter and raisins. They discussed why these ingredients would give a traveller energy and keep them going on a long journey.

A huge thank you to the parents who kindly supplied some of the ingredients and to our parent helpers who generously gave their time to support the children during the activity. Your help made the session run smoothly and allowed everyone to take part.

Dandelions

Dandelions Class have been busy exploring the fascinating continent of North America. As part of their learning, pupils created detailed survival guides for the Rocky Mountains, demonstrating their understanding of climate, terrain, and essential survival skills. They also researched a range of states, discovering unique geographical features and cultural highlights. In addition, the class

wrote thoughtful biographies about influential North Americans, showcasing their growing skills in research and writing. It has been wonderful to see such enthusiasm and curiosity throughout this topic.

Elders



This term in history, Year 6 have been learning about WW2. We have been considering, what it was like to have lived through the Second World War for people on the home front. We have learned about how the war began, evacuation, the Blitz and women at work. This week, we had our immersion day where we came in dressed up in 1940s costume, had a visit from John and his WW2 desert jeep and also visited the Weald House memorial on the green in Crockham Hill. The children have also been investigating their own family history in relation to the Second World War and have brought in stories, photographs and artefacts to share with their classmates which has really helped enrich their learning of this incredibly important period in history.

Staffing

I would like to make you aware of a couple of staffing changes.

Firstly, we will be saying farewell to Mrs Funnell, who has worked with the children in Acorns and Bluebells over the past couple of years. We would like to thank her for all of her hard work and wish her all the very best for the future.

Secondly, I would like to let you know that, regrettably, Mr Rowland will be leaving us at the end of the summer term. He has made the exciting decision to return to Mexico to continue his teaching career. We have been extremely grateful for the time and energy he has given to the school, particularly in developing PE across all year groups.

We are in the process of planning for September and will ensure that strong arrangements are in place to maintain high-quality provision for all pupils.

Attendance

Our current whole school attendance is 94.7%

Elders: 91.48%

Dandelions: 95.66%

Conkers: 96.73%

Bluebells: 94.45%

Acorns: 96.99%

Thank you to all families for supporting regular attendance – every day counts.

Safeguarding - Lockdown Practice

We successfully carried out a lockdown practice last week, and the children responded calmly and sensibly, following instructions well. Staff supported pupils throughout, and the drill was conducted in a safe and age-appropriate way.

As with all safeguarding procedures, these practices are in place to ensure that children know what to do and feel secure in school. We will revisit this next term, including practising without prior notice, so that children continue to feel confident and prepared in a calm and supportive environment.

World Book Day



We had a fantastic World Book Day and it was wonderful to see so many children engaging with the day so enthusiastically.

A particular highlight was the cake competition, which was a great success. We raised £185, which will go towards enhancing our classroom book areas. Thank you to everyone who took part, and a special thank you to all of the creative bakers - we were incredibly impressed by the effort and imagination shown across the school!

Vision and Values

As always, we continue to keep our school vision at the heart of all that we do, rooted in The Parable of the Sower. We encourage our children to grow and flourish, making the most of every opportunity to learn and develop.

Our core values are Respect, Resilience, Aspiration and Empathy

Toilet Twinning



We are delighted to share that, thanks to the generous donations from parents, alongside our on-going support of the local Tanzania Group, the School has now twinned two of its toilets with facilities in Tanzania. These contributions help fund the construction of safe and proper toilet facilities in remote communities, making a meaningful difference to those who need them most.

Many thanks again for your support for this charity.

School Uniform Reminders - <https://www.crockhamhill.kent.sch.uk/parents/uniform-information>

Correct protocol regarding school uniform and PE kit:

Summer Uniform (Non-PE Days) - Optional for the Summer Term

- Green and white check dress (gingham) or plain grey trousers/shorts
- White polo shirt
- Grey or white socks
- Completely black school shoes or plain black trainers

Winter Uniform (Non-PE Days)

- White shirt with school tie
- Plain grey trousers or shorts / skirt / pinafore
- Grey or white socks or tights
- Completely black school shoes or plain black trainers

PE Days

On PE days, children should come to school in their PE kit and may wear sports trainers.

Mile Run

Children should bring (not wear) their sports trainers on days when they are completing the mile run.

Behaviour Policy

Please follow this link to see a copy of our school's behaviour policy and other school policies.

<https://www.crockhamhill.kent.sch.uk/key-information/policies>

Sporting Events & Trips - School Highlights

It has been another busy and successful period across the school.

Our Love 2 Dance performances were fantastic, with two amazing shows at The Stag Theatre. The children were a real credit to the school, performing with confidence, energy and enthusiasm throughout.

We have also taken part in football matches this term, where pupils demonstrated great teamwork. In addition, children represented the school in cross country events, showing excellent perseverance and resilience.

Our Conkers class also enjoyed a fantastic trip to Castle Farm, where they took part in a range of outdoor learning experiences and made the most of the opportunity to explore the local environment.

Well done to all of our pupils who have taken part - we are very proud of your efforts and achievements!

Thank you for your continued support. We wish you all a restful and enjoyable break.