



CROSSHALL CONNECTS

A monthly magazine from Crosshall Junior School

This issue's highlights:

	Diary Dates		Celebration Awards
	Year Three Reading Recommendations		Art Competition Update
	Year Three Food Tasting Week		Book Week—Author Visit



www.crosshalljunior.co.uk

Y3 Blog - <http://cjsy3.blogspot.co.uk/>



www.facebook.com/CrosshallJuniorAT

Y4 Blog - <http://cjsy4.blogspot.co.uk/>



www.twitter.com/CrosshallJunior

Y5 Blog - <http://cjsy5.blogspot.co.uk/>



www.youtube.com/user/CrosshallJunior

Y6 Blog - <http://cjsy6.blogspot.co.uk/>





A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Welcome to the first edition of the Crosshall CONNECTS for 2023

New Year message from Anne

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break - it all feels like a distant memory now that we are back in the swing of things!

The teachers began 2023 with a Reading for Pleasure training day, and we welcomed another local school to join us; it was a celebration of good work both schools do, as well as learning some new strategies and ways of thinking. Reading for Pleasure is one of our priorities and you will see some changes over the next couple of years.

Snippets

- **School Clubs' registration** is now live on the website for pupils to registering interest in lunchtime and after school clubs. Head to our website to sign up.
- As part of **Year Three Food Tasting Week** the children have been learning about and sampling some Greek food this week
- **Year Four** are planning a **Maths Morning on Tuesday 24th January** where parents/ carers will be able to join in some fun maths themed games and learning
- Following our successful Dads Who Read Library event last term, this term we invite grandparents in for **Grandparents Who Read Library event on Wednesday 18th January**.

- Miss White is planning an **exciting Science Day for March 2023**

- This term the focus is on Resilience. This was mentioned a lot during our Celebration Assembly today. Thank you to Mr Bob Hacking from the Rotary for presenting one of the prizes.

News

- **Welcome.** This term we welcome two new members to the Crosshall family. Mrs Poulton will teach across the school, though mainly in Year Five. Mrs O'Brien will be teaching in Year Six with Mrs Hamilton-Peck. We have already informed them of the supportive parent community we have here at Crosshall and hope you make them feel welcome too.

Anne Eardley
Head Teacher



COMING UP...



18th January	Grandparents Who Read - Library Event
23rd January	School Clubs begin
24th January	Year Four Maths Morning
25th January	#AskCJS event
6th - 10th February	Book Week PCLRs (No Home Learning/ Clubs)
6th February	Andy Stanton, Author visit school assembly
13th - 17th February	Half Term
20th February	School starts
20th - 23rd February	Year Five York Residential Trip



Term dates are listed on our school website.

Click [HERE](#) to visit the CJS Digital Office



You can also subscribe to our Calendar which has all key dates and activities which can be synced with your mobile or desktop device

Click [HERE](#) to view and subscribe



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Your child may be entitled to Free School Meals

Check the government website to see if your circumstances qualify [here](#)

January 2023

**CROSSHALL
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Come Join Us



FOR SCHOOL LUNCH

Adult £5

Child £2.40

Fab reviews from our pupils

"The best fudge tart ever!!!"

"Jean is a LEGEND!"

"Each day there's something tasty
and lots of choice!"

Enjoy our
tasty, homemade
school meals
made fresh everyday
by Jean & her team



**To book: ring or email The School Office
01480 471995 or office@crosshalljunior.co.uk**

**Arrival by 12:10pm to Main Reception. Enjoy a two-course meal with your child(ren) .
Booking system in place. Limited spaces available each day. Must book in advance.
No on the day bookings available.**



DIGITAL SCHOOL OFFICE



Did you know the Digital School Office on our website gives you access to all the information you as parents may request if you were visiting our main reception here at CJS

Every letter that we send to parents/ carers can also be found under the Digital School Office, under each year group or the Whole School

If you ever need to look over a letter, just search [here](#)

Some of our letters will require you to send a reply slip. If you are unable to print off the letter this should not be a problem. Simply write the required information on a piece of paper and send it into school with your child.



BOOK DONATIONS

Having a clear out? Looking for somewhere to put all those old books your children no longer read?

We would like to ask families for book donations so that we can distribute them to other families in the new year.

There is a box in the main reception area if you have anything to donate please drop it in the box

Thank you!



January 2023

**CROSSHALL
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TT ROCK STARS & NUMBOTS

Each week we celebrate our CJS Times Tables Rock Stars and NUMBOTS users with the highest scores. Here are this week's winners!



SPEED



COINS

Callum P



IMPROVED

Jamie M

NEXT WEEK'S BATTLE

Edinburgh v London



NUMBOTS



COINS

Esele F



IMPROVED

Emília J





CENTURY

Details of the 'CENTURY Guardian Overview' can be found here: tinyurl.com/8v8c4e5c

If you would like to access your child's CENTURY Guardian Portal, please enter your details here: forms.gle/fXj1262XpmJ2omw29



ACCELERATED READER

Home Connect: Receive reports about your child's quizzing when they complete a book. Sign up here: ukhosted28.renlearn.co.uk/2051095/HomeConnect/

Accelerated Reader 2022 - 23 December 2022



Reading Practice Quizzes Passed: 1218

Average % Correct: 87.3%

Average Engaged Time per Day: 22 minutes

Most quizzes passed: Alfie A (18)

Most points earned: Emma P (45)



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YEAR THREE - READING RECOMMENDATIONS

3CD have made a very exciting start with their reading this year!

The children have been bringing in some of their favourite books to share with the class and explain why it is one of their favourites. They have really enjoyed showing and sharing their books with one another this week, and we have even managed to read some together as a whole class.



YEAR THREE - FOOD TASTING WEEK

Year Three kick-started their week by tasting a variety of different Greek foods as part of their learning for Food Week. Foods sampled include: olives, hummus, Feta cheese, pitta bread, Tzatziki, and Greek yoghurt



January 2023

**CROSSHALL
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COMPETITION - UPDATE

CAYAC

Cambridgeshire Area Young Artists Competition



Crosshall Arts Council and CAYAC - ART COMPETITIONS - two categories

Observational Art Category

The prize winners have been chosen to go forward to the Cambridgeshire Area Young Artists Competition (CAYAC)

Congratulations to: Marina G, Emilie P-E, Martha L, and Julia C.



Textile Art Category

The winners have been chosen to go forward to the Cambridgeshire Area Young Artists Competition (CAYAC) . Congratulations to: Cassie T, and Max J

Cambridgeshire Area Young Artists Competition (CAYAC)

Prizes consisting of art materials will be awarded to the work judged 'Best in each Category'.

In addition, there will be two Overall Winners: 'Best in Show Primary' and 'Best in Show Secondary'

The above entries will be displayed at the CAYAC Exhibition at Hinchingbrooke School from Friday 17th to Saturday 18th February 2023. Visitors may attend.

Thank you

Sarah Clee

SENCO

January 2023

**CROSSHALL
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BOOK WEEK 6-10 FEBRUARY

During Book Week the children will have a visit from Andy Stanton, author of the Mr Gum series of books, who will hold a session around being an author, writing stories, and answer any questions they may have. More details to follow.

**CROSSHALL JUNIOR SCHOOL
PRESENTS**

During Book Week pupils will

MEET & GREET

the author

ANDY STANTON

**MONDAY
6TH FEBRUARY**

Book Week 6th-10th Feb

The author of the Mr Gum series of books will be giving a talk to the children about being an author, writing stories, and answering any questions



A limited number of signed books will be available to purchase
More details to follow

A portrait of Andy Stanton, a man with curly brown hair, glasses, and a beard, wearing a dark sweater. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile.



PRAISE POSTCARDS

Here is this month's update to the Praise Postcards recipient list. Staff recognise progress or attainment by posting Praise Postcards home to students. It is very exciting when one of these lands on the door mat!



The 'Students Achievements and Awards' section of our website is regularly updated with all the winners! Click [HERE](#) to visit the page.



Students who have received postcards so far this term are:

Dexter M	Ella-Louise M-D	Isabella O	Isla B	Riley M	Amelia L
Sam L	Finlay W	Anya P	Anna P	Joshua D-G	Ethan M
Rubie C	Sophia G	Shane McK	Maia W	Simran T	Eliza S
Robbie H	Sofia B	Daisy J	Rupert W	Scarlett J	Amelia M
Samuel H	Clemmy E	Elliott E	Jessica F-C	Lilly M	Tyler B
Goncalo R	Seb S	Emily E	Thomas J	Esme B	Sapphire G
Tyler W	Isla P	Eva M-W	Layla J	Amelia B	Lily S
Kelena N	Eleanor C	Ava P	Ella M	Ava W	Esther S
Alice H	Layla R	Chloe L	Emma S	Alice M	Teddy C
Toby B	Layla M	James W	Amelia C	Alfie C	



CELEBRATION AWARDS ASSEMBLY

Congratulations to all our students who were presented with our first Celebration Awards of 2023 at this morning's assembly. The awards recognised excellence and progress in English, maths or science.

Details are also up on our website, under Student Achievements & Awards [here](#)

 A large, stylized star graphic with a yellow center containing the text 'YEAR THREE'. The star is surrounded by colorful, flowing ribbons in blue, yellow, and pink, and is decorated with small stars and confetti.	 A large, stylized star graphic with a pink center containing the text 'YEAR FOUR'. The star is surrounded by colorful, flowing ribbons in blue, yellow, and pink, and is decorated with small stars and confetti.
Winners: Gilson K, Esther S, Emily B	Winners: Jaxon C, Jake B, Martha B, Ella-Louise M-D
 A large, stylized star graphic with a green center containing the text 'YEAR FIVE'. The star is surrounded by colorful, flowing ribbons in blue, yellow, and pink, and is decorated with small stars and confetti.	 A large, stylized star graphic with a blue center containing the text 'YEAR SIX'. The star is surrounded by colorful, flowing ribbons in blue, yellow, and pink, and is decorated with small stars and confetti.
Winners: Lily S, Alfie C, Evie B, Mason L	Winners: Eva M-W, Esther B, Francesca L, Archie F



HEAD TEACHER'S AWARD

Here is this month's update to the Head Teacher Award winners list. Ms Eardley sends a congratulatory text message to parents/carers and meets with the student to award him/her with this great honour.



The recipients since the beginning of this term are:

James W, Sam L, Archie F, Dexter M, Isabel N, Emily B, Isla C-M, Robbie H, Esther Y, James W (again), Tilly C, Vespa S, Miao Miao X, Logan J, Elliott E, Kuba J, Harry H, Cooper S, Isla H, Kayleigh B, Sam L (again), Robbie H (again), Noah S, Josh T, Rubie C, Ethan F-W, Olivia T, Isabella O, Martha B, Finlay W, Oscar D, Marnie C, Layla J, Ethan F-W (again), Rubie C (again), Olivia T (again), Chloe L, Layla R, Freyja C-S, Lara D-S, Archie T, Roxee J, Scarlett Z, George S, Darcey B, Luke C-S, Emily B, Nuala C, Rupert W, Isobel N, Ellie B, Phaebe U, Francesca L, Lilly A, Emma P, Sienna S, Ava W, Alice H, Ethan M, Cameron C, Logan G, Lilly M, Gustavo R, Olivia H, Scarlett L, Georgia T-C, Isabella C, Elijah T, Adam M



Your Education Inclusion Family Advisor

Lorraine Simon

Education Inclusion Family Advisors offer you an opportunity to ask for information, advice and support on any issue affecting your family life in a relaxed and confidential environment. These areas include:

- Challenging behaviour
- Routines
- Supporting emotions and wellbeing
- School transitions
- Parenting strategies
- Building resilience and confidence
- Any other family challenges you might be facing

Appointments in school

Individual Appointments for Crosshall Junior School parents:
Appointments available on the following Mondays, from 9am.

19th December 2022

17th April 2023

16th January 2023

15th May

20th February

19th June

20th March

17th July

To make an appointment, please ask at the school office,
or contact your linked worker for an alternative appointment time

Appointments are being held back in school, but families may need to be aware of any restriction if the Coronavirus situation changes.

For more information speak to your school office or contact us directly on:

✉ Lorraine.simon@cambridgeshire.gov.uk ☎ 07585 403316



ABSENCE GUIDE

Parent advice from Cambridgeshire County Council:

The information below is designed to help parents understand how and when leave of absence in exceptional

circumstances may be granted. The decision to authorise absence is at the head teacher's discretion based on their assessment of the situation. Circumstances vary from school to school and so there can be no absolute rules on this subject.

Term times are for education. This is the priority. Children and families have 175 days off school to spend time together, including weekends and school holidays. Head teachers will rightly prioritise attendance. Generally, absences will not be granted during term time and will only be authorised by the head teacher in exceptional circumstances.

Penalty Notices for term time leave are issued by the Local Authority. The Local Authority cannot override the decision made by the head teacher on an unauthorised absence. If you have any reasons to believe the Penalty Notice should not have been issued please contact the school within 10 working days. There is no statutory right of appeal against the issuing of a Penalty Notice.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are exceptional circumstances? Exceptional circumstances are one off events which are unavoidable, examples may include the death of a close relative, attendance at a funeral, respite care of a looked after child, a housing crisis which prevents attendance.

Can this be reviewed by the Council? No. Only the head teacher of a school can authorise any absence under exceptional circumstances. The County Council cannot override any decisions made by the head teacher.

My child's attendance record is generally good, can I still be issued a fine for short time unauthorised holiday?

The Cambridgeshire Penalty Notice Code of Conduct allows Penalty Notice fine to be issued for holiday taken for three days or more.

Which parent receives the fine? Where both parents live together and have day-to-day care and also any absent parent who has frequent contact with the child and is named in the child's school records may receive a fine for each of their children. This will include parents who allow their child to go on holiday with another family member or friend of the family.

Who is fined when parents do not live together? The situation can become complicated where parents do not live together and both wish to remove their child from school at separate times during the same academic year.



Where parents are separated, if an absence request is submitted by the parent not involved with the absence, then both parents may be fined.

Who is considered to have parental responsibility? The definition of a parent is anyone who has parental responsibility for the child and/or any adult with day to day care and responsibility. (Section 576 Education Act 1996). This will include step parents and cohabiters, partners of older pupils if the partner is over 18 years of age and they are living together, other relatives with residency orders.

What happens if I am a self-employed worker e.g. a farmer, is an employee with fixed holiday dates, or is on a holiday rota set by my employer? It is advisable for parents to discuss this with their child's school prior to making any arrangements for absence during school term times. Legislation no longer allows head teachers to authorise 10 days absence from school for a term time holiday. If you are self-employed then you are able to select when you take your annual leave.

We want to go on a trip of a lifetime. Could this be an authorised absence? No, this would constitute a family holiday. The head teacher cannot authorise term time holidays, unless there accept the reason for leave of absence is exceptional.

I have a significant number of relatives abroad and may need to spend an extended period in another country. Could this be an authorised absence? Head teachers are bound by law to discourage families from taking trips during term time, whatever the reason given.

Can I have a payment plan or make part payments? No, The Code of Conduct does not allow part payments or payment plans.

The primary school authorised the absence but I received a PN fine for my secondary school aged child. Is there no consistency? The government has given the authority to individual head teachers to make their own decision based on the explanation provided by the parents. What is exceptional has not been defined by the government and therefore individual opinions may differ between head teachers. However, the county council does encourage schools to work together but at the same time take into account circumstances of the individual child's needs.

Could an absence to attend a religious observance or festival be an authorised absence? Absence that is due to religious observance must be authorised. The day should be marked as authorised where there is an element of worship associated with the religious observance. The religious observance days are set apart by the religious body of the individual religion, not determined by the parents.