



CROSSHALL CONNECTS

A monthly magazine from Crosshall Junior School

This issue's highlights:

	Diary Dates		IQM National Flagship Status Maintained
	Year Six Live Lesson		New Class Lists 2023/24
	Year Four Go Ape		Student Achievements



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



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



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



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





A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Welcome to 2022/23's last edition of the **Crosshall Junior CONNECTS**. This monthly magazine offers an insight into the school day, news and achievements as well as further diary dates.

SNIPPETS

- The **PTA CJS Summer Fayre** is after school next Friday!
- **End of Year Reports** went out this week.
- Thank you to all the parents who supported **Bikeability, Duxford, Father's Day lunches, Viking Day, Birds of Prey, Go Ape, and two Celebration Awards**. It was a busy thirty days!
- The staff enjoyed welcoming the Year Two parents to the school during **New Parents' Evening**.

NEWS

- At the end of July, we will be saying farewell, for a little while, to Laura Jones and Melanie Hamilton-Peck who will begin their maternity leave.
- As a result, at the end of June, we welcomed two new teachers to our great staff team - Amy Craven and Patrick McLaughlin. Both teachers bring with them a wealth of expertise and experience, and we look forward to working with them fully in September.
- Cara Howell also begins her new role as the Head of Year Four, as Amy Archer will also begin her maternity leave in November.
- The best-run **Sports Day** in the county has been flipped this year to allow Year Three to swim - the whole school will be engaged in activities in the afternoon (individual house competition in the morning). Which house will be crowned champions on the day, and which house will be the overall winners of 2022/23?

- The **Year Five production of Shakespeare on Trial** was performed to nearly 800 people this week; it was a world premiere! The children were praised for their tenacity, resilience, and their performance skills. It was highly entertaining, and the children were amazing!

BIG AWARD!

- Last week we were inspected as part of the ongoing process that comes with being a: **NATIONAL FLAGSHIP SCHOOL FOR INCLUSION** (more details on next page)

SEPTEMBER: SOFT STARTS

- **During the first full week of September - from Tuesday 5th September - Year Four to Year Six** will be invited to walk into school, as usual, via the Blue Door between 8:35-8:45, and leave via their class door. **Our new Year Three children** will instead line up outside their classrooms, giving them a chance to adjust to other new routines that they will experience and for new parents to get to know a few key staff. They will leave through the same door they enter.
- **From Monday 11th September, all children** will arrive into school via the Blue Door, and leave via class door.

SAVE THE DATE: OPEN DOOR WEEK

- From Tuesday 5th - Friday 8th September, we will host our annual Open Door Week where parents will be invited to walk around the school and meet staff anytime from 15:20-16:00. **Crosshall Junior School Open Day** will be on Friday 10th November.

Have a wonderful weekend. Keep safe and happy.

Anne Eardley
Head Teacher



BIG AWARD - IQM MAINTAINED

Last week we were inspected as part of the ongoing process that comes with being a:

NATIONAL FLAGSHIP SCHOOL FOR INCLUSION

I am extremely happy to announce that we have been **re-accredited** and **Crosshall Junior School remains the only school in the Eastern region to hold this national award.**



It recognises the work we do to promote equal opportunities. An inclusive school is one in which the teaching and learning, achievements, attitudes and well-being of every young person matters.

The assessor comment on our provision:

- ◆ The Crosshall Child - staff work hard to help children overcome barriers.
- ◆ Crosshall feels like a family - a great community where staff look after each other and there is a sense of togetherness
- ◆ Future Me programme - a Crosshall USP - is embedded. There is innovative practice here.
- ◆ The impact of the Young Carers Group is excellent.
- ◆ Online Safety - recognised the school's work.
- ◆ Communication with parents - newsletters, booklets, website, meetings, workshops, events - all excellent.
- ◆ The Digital Village (on our website) is exceptional
- ◆ Clubs/ activities/ inclusion groups/ Key Skills Club - terrific!
- ◆ The lunchtime play-leaders are amazing - engaging activities, and the children are happy, relaxed and having fun.
- ◆ There was a 'buzz' in school! Recognition of the 'whole child' was evident
- ◆ The children love the school. During discussions, they were responsive and polite, and made visitors feel welcome. They thought the staff were kind, and they were very keen to speak about their learning and all the opportunities they have, such as visits, Future Me, clubs, and trips.
- ◆ The assessor was left with the impressions that, "No stone is left unturned"
- ◆ The Crosshall vision of enabling the children to be the best they can be, permeates. Both children and staff are proud to work here.
- ◆ Amazing school lunches - best he'd ever eaten and better than he has at home!
- ◆ "Frankly, if I lived in the area, I would send my children here"

We should receive the full report before the end of the term.



COMING UP - KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

10th/ 11th July	Year Six Managing Transition Workshop LETTER
13th July	Rocksteady Concert Year Three 3:30pm Burwell Photo Show
14th July	Celebration Assembly CJS PTA Summer Fayre LETTER
17th July	Year Three Greek Day LETTER
18th July	Book Swap - after school outside Year Three classrooms End of Year Discos (Y3,4,5) (letter to follow soon) Year Six Leavers' Disco (letter to follow soon)
20th July	CJS Sports Day LETTER 3CD & 3LR - last swimming sessions
21st July	Last Day of Summer Term Leavers' Assembly

DEADLINES

17th July	Future Year Six LEGOLAND deposit LETTER
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OUR WEBSITE - 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.

DONATIONS - UNIFORM AND BOOKS

Next time you're having a clear out at home please consider donating to the school

All donations of school uniform and children's books that are in good condition.

Just drop them into the School Office and we will put them to good use.



TERM DATES

Our 2024-2025 term dates are NOW LIVE

Find all term dates listed on our website [HERE](#)

LETTERS TO PARENTS

All letters sent out are available [HERE](#) under Letters to Parents on our website



ONLINE CALENDAR

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

Click [HERE](#) to subscribe



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If your child is entitled to Free School Meals the school receives additional funding to support your child, as well as provide school meals.

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



2023/24 CLASS NAMES

Year Group	Class Teacher(s)	House
3CD	Mr. Chris Dorey (Head of Year)	London
3LG	Mrs. Lisa Griffiths	Edinburgh
3RP	Mrs. Bryony Radwell & Ms. Emma Power	Belfast
3LR	Mrs. Leigh Ruff	Cardiff
4Cho	Miss. Cara Howell (Head of Year)	Cardiff
4Che	Ms. Catherine Hemingway	Belfast
4JE	Mr. John East	Edinburgh
4NT	Mrs. Naomi Thatcher	London
5AC	Miss. Angela Connor (Head of Year)	Edinburgh
5AM	Mr. Dan Ainscow & Mr. Liam Murphy	London
5MH	Mr. Michael Hamilton	Belfast
5MM	Ms. Michelle Morgan	Cardiff
6MR	Mr. Martin Righetta (Head of Year)	Cardiff
6BC	Mrs. Rebecca O'Brien & Mrs. Amy Craven	Belfast
6PM	Mr. Patrick McLaughlin	Edinburgh
6KW	Ms. Katie White	London

JULY 2023

CROSSHALL
CONNECTS



YEAR FOUR - GO APE

This week, Year Four children enjoyed a wonderful trip to Go Ape. They took part in a tree top adventure course and multiple land based games. We had some nervous children who really challenged themselves to have a go at such a height. The staff were all extremely proud of all the children who came out of their comfort zone, and thrived in the environment. We were praised as a school on our manners and behaviour, and Go Ape said they would have us back again in a heartbeat!.

Well done Year Four!

Mrs. Amy Archer | Head of Year Four



YEAR SIX - LIVE LESSON

This week, all Year Six children took part in a national live lesson about internet safety. It focused on how the children can remain safe on the internet whilst transitioning between Year Six and Year Seven, as well as reviewing all the skills the children have learnt throughout their KS2 journey.



YEAR SIX - LIVE LESSON

Team CJS recently ventured to St.Ives to take part in the exclusive Chicago Bears Mini Monsters Tour. Flying all the way from America, the Bears team put on a fantastic morning of NFL activities for us to all have a go at. We loved working hard, learning new skills, being positive and meeting a famous NFL player





TUESDAY 18 JULY LEAVERS' DISCO

YEAR SIX ONLY
19:00-20:30

COME JOIN OUR BEACH-THEMED EVENT!

**DRESS CODE: BEACH CLOTHES
THAT ARE AGE AND SCHOOL APPROPRIATE
(I.E. NO BIKINIS, FLIP FLOPS ETC.)**

**EAT A HOTDOG (OR VEGETARIAN/ VEGAN ALTERNATIVE)
SOFT DRINK**

**ENJOY THE PHOTO BOOTH AREA
DANCE THE EVENING AWAY**



Another amazing adventure brought to you by Crosshall Junior School PTA

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



PARK RUN ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to Carmen who has completed her 51st Junior Parkrun race. This is a fantastic achievement and Carmen has been awarded the highest possible level The Ultra Marathon wristband.

Parkrun is a free, community event where you can walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate. The Junior Parkrun is a two kilometres race. Carmen takes part in the St Neots race which happens at Riverside Park every Sunday at 9:00am.

If anyone is interested in joining in head to the national website www.parkrun.org.uk

YEAR FIVE FUNDRAISING

Isla T, Mia H, Elsa O, Alice W, and Emily C raised £112 for Woodgreen Charity on Friday 23rd June
Well done!

MATHS MASTERCLASS

Congratulations to Lara, 5MH on recently completing Maths Masterclass at Kimbolton. Fantastic accomplishment.



FUNDRAISING SUCCESS

Lily, 5MM and her brother Freddie helped raise thousands of pounds for the Biggleswade community recently by dressing up, shaking their buckets and collecting money during the carnival parade Well done!



SPECIAL EDITION

2023

END OF YEAR DISCO



YEARS 3, 4, 5

(ARRIVAL FROM 17:15)

17:30-18:40

*PUPILS REQUIRE A SIGNED PERMISSION SLIP
TO PURCHASE A TICKET*

*TICKETS ON SALE MON 17TH & TUES 18TH JULY
UNDER THE YEAR FIVE CANOPY*



**TUESDAY
18TH JULY**

**TICKETS
£3.00
EACH**

Another amazing adventure brought to you by Crosshall Junior School PTA

TT ROCK STARS AND 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***Vespa S***COINS***Jonah D***IMPROVED***Emily C***NEXT WEEK'S BATTLE***Belfast v Edinburgh***NUMBOTS****COINS***Esele F***IMPROVED***Freddie B*



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/

Results June 2023

Reading Practice Quizzes Passed: 1113

Average % Correct: 87%

Average Engaged Time per Day: 19 minutes

Most Quizzes Passed: Isabella D (15) and Carmen S B (15)

Most Points Earned: Georgia T-C (59)

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:

Tyler B,	Freddie B,	Cooper S,	Alfred B,
Henry B,	Summer H,	Joshua R,	Ella W,
Ava W,	Louisa M,	Oliver S,	Scarlett Z,
Darcey B,	Florence P,	Logan T,	Sofia R,
Maisie R,	Max J,	Harry T,	Imogen H
Jenson W,	Kenny F,	Cecily E,	
Alice Z,	Alfie A,	Lilly S,	
Betsie-Mae	Hayden W,	Emilie P-E,	
A, Leo T,	Kuba J,	Max W,	
Darcy M,	Harry H,	Emilia J,	

CELEBRATION AWARDS ASSEMBLY

Below are details of all our students who were presented with our first Celebration Awards of 2023 for Spring Term. The awards recognised excellence and progress in English, maths, and/or science.

Our most recent Celebration Assembly was on Friday 24th March

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



Winners: **Theo S, Summer H, Logan G, Harley D**



Winners: **Isabella C, Talia M, Joseph P, Henry L**



Winners: **David E, Esme McK, Mia H, Oliver M**



Winners: **Layla M, Ben H, Lily A, Josh T**

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 Summer term are:

Belle S, Luke N, Naomi T, Georgia T-C, Maiya W, Charlie B, Rubie C, Layla J, Olivia T, Archie F, Layla R, Ethan F-W, Talia M, Roma B, Ola H, Keira B, Lilly A, Skye A, Tyler B, Layla R, Imogen H, Amelia L, Immy B, Eliza J, Luke N, Lara D-S, Nahia A, Ella J, Esther S, Cameron C, Millie M, Esme McK, Harriet C, Ali H, Alfie S, Marina G, Chloe L, Maia W, Francesca L, Kayleigh B, Brooke McC



WE ARE LOOKING FOR **SCHOOL GOVERNORS**

Being a school governor is a strategic, voluntary role that supports and challenges the school's leadership team to drive improvement and growth for now & the future.

You do not need to be an expert to be a governor - help, advice, and training are available from various sources.

We're looking for people who have energy, enthusiasm, time and commitment to give to our school and its future.

We would also welcome individuals to join who have HR and/or Education experience and knowledge

The term of office is four years

If you are interested in finding out more
contact the school office on 01480 475972
or **email office@crosshalljunior.co.uk**

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful applicants will be subject to DBS clearance.

free school meals



could save
you up to
£450
a year
per child



To apply, visit

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals



Cambridgeshire
County Council



SCHOOL UNIFORM

As you know, post-pandemic, students have been able to come to school on P.E. Days, wearing their P.E. kits. This has had several benefits:

- more time for P.E. – rather than spending time changing;
- fewer worries for some students – no changing with other people around;
- better hygiene – the P.E. kits are washed each week.

The P.E. kit should consist of:

plain navy, dark grey or black tracksuit and/or shorts, with a plain white T-shirt, and dark, sensible footwear.

Our uniform was chosen to support parents' budget so that:

- branded items were discouraged;**
- clothes would be easily and cheaply purchased;**
- P.E. stains would not be so noticeable;**
- Uniform would be 'hardy', comfortable, and safe.**

We also created a 'nearly new stock' of clothes that have been laundered and we sell for £1 per item. Please contact the office team or our Learning & Wellbeing Mentors if you would like to purchase.

Indoor P.E.

Additionally, if students wear zipped or hooded tops, they will be asked to remove these. Excessively baggy tracksuit bottoms are also not suitable and, generally, students remove their shoes and socks.

Earrings

Students should remove stud earrings at home on their P.E. / swimming day(s).

Clubs/ Matches

Where sporting clubs or matches occur, students should still attend in school uniform, and then change prior to the club or the match commencing.

Other Uniform requirements:

- jade or navy sweatshirts/ cardigans (navy sweatshirt is available in most stores);**
- jade, navy, or white polo-shirts (navy and white polos are available in most stores);**
- plain navy, dark grey, or black trousers (not 'jean style', 'skinny trousers', or denim), or modest length shorts or skirts;**



SCHOOL UNIFORM (cont'd)

- jade or blue-check summer dresses;
- **plain, dark, sensible footwear – not trainers with coloured markings (.e. white lines, white soles, Nike swooshes etc.), open-toed, sling-backs, or high-heels;**
- for art activities: a smock or modified adult's shirt or an apron

Also, we do not allow students to wear nail varnish, jewellery (other than stud earrings), or make-up during the school day.

If a student is in the wrong uniform, we will contact parents to establish why this is the case, and agree a timescale for it to be rectified.

Many thanks for your continued support and helping to keep our community looking smart, being safe, and feeling comfortable – and on a small budget.

We have much to be proud of at Crosshall Junior School.



ABSENCE GUIDANCE

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.