









CROSSHALL CONNECTS

A monthly magazine from Crosshall Junior School

This issue's highlights:

	Head Teacher Message		Grandparents Lunch
	Key Dates		Clubs Fayre
	HSSP After-School Clubs		Join Our Governors



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



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



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



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



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Head Teacher: Ms Anne Eardley

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Welcome to our first 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

- It has been wonderful to have the children back in school! Several of them told me they couldn't sleep because they were so excited to return.
- Everyone is settling well to the routines of life in a new year group, and it was great to see so many of you during the Open Week slots.
- We had a busy holiday - the new room off the Hall now has walls, a window, and a door to create space for the podcasting station.
- Each year group has hand some decorating done
- Lights have been replaced to make the school look brighter - and save money too!
- A new carpet has been laid in Y5
- The school kitchen has had a refresh
- The staff kitchen is mid-refresh!

NEWS

- Ms Jones has had a baby boy! Both son and mother are content and in good health.
- Miss Howell, one of our fabulous teaching assistants, got married and has become Mrs Airey!
- We have welcomed Diane Collins to the site team.
- Mrs Hamilton-Peck leaves today to begin her maternity leave, and she will return with her little one later this year.

SEPTEMBER: SOFT STARTS

- **From Monday 11th September, all children** will arrive into school via the Blue Door, and leave via class door.

Enjoy the fabulous weather this weekend!

Anne Eardley
Head Teacher



Please be considerate of our neighbours when parking your cars for drop off and pick up, and mindful of all pedestrians that will be walking around school.

The school car park is for staff use only



Every child needs a name glue stick, a water bottle, headphones, and an art apron/ shirt in school.

Children with packed lunch should use their water bottle during lunchtime and refill as needed.



Prime bottles are not allowed at school.

Nail polish is not permitted

Earrings **must not** be worn for PE, swimming day(s), or when on the Adventure Playground.



Polite notice to request that adults do not enter the school building at the start of the day. Please go to the school office if you have a message for a teacher.

We also request that people refrain from looking into class windows at the start and end of the day as it can cause a distraction to the children in class.



COMING UP - KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

15th September	Year Four (4JE & 4NT) Swimming Starts LETTER
20th September	#AskCJS - Accelerated Reader & Future Me Session
21st September	Clubs Fayre 3:20pm-4:00pm (see page 5)
wc 25th September	Grandparents Lunch Week - book in for lunch via school office (see page 4)
28th September	Year Six Legoland Trip LETTER
wc 2nd October	Clubs Begin
10th October	Individual Photograph Day
wc 16th October	PCLRs Week
wc 23rd October	HALF TERM WEEK
30th October	School Starts



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

Celebrate Grandparents



WITH A SCHOOL LUNCH

Enjoy a delicious two-course meal with
your grandchild(ren)

Adult £5.00

Child £2.50

Available from

Monday 25th to Friday 29th September



**To book: ring or email The School Office
01480 475972 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.



CLUBS FAYRE

THURSDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER

15:20 - 16:00

OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CJS CLUBS, INCLUDING:

Athletics Club
Art Club
Eco Warriors
Football Club
Hockey Club
HSSP Basketball
HSSP Girls Football
Paper Craft Club

Paper Craft Club
Performing Arts Club
Puzzle Club
Twisters Gymnastics

and many more..!

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



At Crosshall Junior School, we are able to provide fantastic physical education opportunities in partnership with the Hunts School Sports Partnership (HSSP).

HSSP is a high quality provider of physical education and school sport aiming to give all children the opportunity to lead healthy active lifestyles through a variety of activities.

Visit www.huntsssp.org for more details

This half term HSSP will be running two additional out of school clubs at CJS:




Y5 & Y6 Girls Football Club - Wednesdays. For full details see [LETTER](#)


Y5 & Y6 Basketball - Wednesdays. For full details see [LETTER](#)



TT ROCK STARS AND NUMBOTS

Each week we celebrate our CJS Times Tables Rock Stars and NUMBOTS users with the highest scores. Check back next edition for latest winners

	SPEED	Name
	COINS	Name
	IMPROVED	Name
NEXT WEEK'S BATTLE		
TBC		




	COINS	Name
	IMPROVED	Name





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: [Renaissance - Log In \(renaissance-go.com\)](https://renaissance-go.com)

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:

Check back here in our October edition for latest awardees list

CELEBRATION AWARDS ASSEMBLY

Below are details of all our students who were presented with our final Celebration Awards of 2023 in Summer Term. The awards recognised excellence and progress in many areas of the curriculum.

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



Winners: **Marina G, Florence J, Finley McG, Isobel N**



Winners: **Lila-Rose A, Cecelia P, Alfred B, Ezele F**



Winners: **Georgia T-C, Olly P, Lara DS, Maiya W**



Winners: **Isabella O, Harriet C, Abigail P, Sam L**

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 Autumn term are:

Check back here in our October edition for latest awardees list.



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.

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



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)/ and when on the Adventure Playground.

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.