



CROSSHALL CONNECTS

A monthly magazine from Crosshall Junior School

This issues highlights

♦ <u>Acting Head Teacher Message</u>	♦ <u>TTRS and Numbots</u>	♦ <u>Head Teacher Awards</u>
♦ <u>Key Dates</u>	♦ <u>AR and Century</u>	♦ <u>Attendance Awards</u>
♦ <u>Digital Office</u>	♦ <u>Praise Postcards</u>	♦ <u>Hockey Tournament</u>
♦ <u>Meals Reward Card</u>	♦ <u>Celebration Awards</u>	♦ <u>Year Five York Residential</u>

Remember to check the Year Group Blogs for updates on learning and activities *Click on icons below*





Free School Meal

WITH OUR CJS

MEALS

**REWARD
CARD**

**Collect a stamp each time you join us for
lunch with your child(ren)**

**On your sixth visit, bring your Meals Reward Card
to get a FREE school meal**

Card is non-transferable. Booking in advance is essential.

School reserves the right to withdraw offer at any time. One stamp maximum available per school lunch meal visit. Only cardholder whose name is on the reward card can collect a stamp. When redeeming free school meal no stamp can be collected. Cardholder must dine with us five times, and on sixth visit may redeem their card for free school meal.

ACTING HEAD TEACHERS' MESSAGE

Welcome back after, hopefully, a restful but fun half-term holiday.

We jumped straight back into it this week starting with an assembly on challenging prejudice and discrimination. We strongly believe that education is vital in dealing with this societal issue. For the school, we focused on how we can consider the impact of the language we use and making sure that we do not use prejudicial language in an insulting way. We are confident that you will support your child by reinforcing our message on being kind.

Next week, we shall be celebrating **World Book Day!** On the day, the children can come to school in dress up, enter our character competition, and there will be some additional reading activities too. In addition, we are excited to be providing an opportunity to hear from one of the most important voices in 'Reading for Pleasure', Professor Teresa Cremin, who will be streaming into our hall after school on Thursday. Please see the World Book Day [HERE](#) for more information.

Finally, we wanted to confirm that whilst Ms Eardley remains absent, and with the support of the Governing Body, we shall remain Acting Co-Head Teachers.

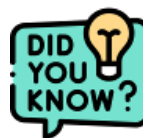
Wishing you all a good weekend.

Dan Ainscow and Liam Murphy
Assistant Head Teachers

KEY DATES

FOR YOUR DIARIES

Upcoming events in the school calendar



ONLINE CALENDAR

Subscribe to [our Calendar](#) on our website to receive all key dates and activities synced direct to your phone.

1st March	Cardiff Bonus Day 3LR, 4Cho, 5MM, 6MR wear token yellow i.e. hair bobble, socks
wc 4th March	PCLR Week LETTER Join for Mother's Day Lunches - book in advance via the school office
7th March	World Book Day LETTER Toilet Roll Character Competition IDEAS
7th & 8th March	PTA Mother's Day Shop LETTER
8th March	International Women's Day 2024
wc 11th March	Join for Mother's Day Lunches - book in advance via the school office Year Six Mock End of KS2 Tests LETTER
15th March	Red Nose Day LETTER Year Five Viking Day LETTER
19th March	Year Six Eat 'N' Bowl Social Event LETTER
20th March	Mums Who Read - Library Event 3:20pm
21st March	Year Four: TTRS Rock Heroes Event LETTER
22nd March	Celebration Assembly - invite only
26th March	Year Three Fitzwilliam & Zoology Trip (3CD & 3LR) LETTER
29th March - 15th April	Easter Holidays
15th April	Staff Training Day - school closed
16th April	Back to School

OUR WEBSITE



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 Crosshall Junior School.

Every letter that we send out is stored in the [Digital School Office](#), under [Letters to Parents](#), which are organised by Whole School and Year Group.

Some of our letters will require you to **return a reply slip**. If you are unable to print off the letter, simply write the required information on a piece of paper and return it to the necessary person (i.e. your child's class teacher).

DONATIONS NEEDED

UNWANTED BOOKS & SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please consider donating good condition, no longer needed, LEGO, school uniform and children's books to the school. We are in particular need of books for older children (Year Five & Six). Drop any donations into the school office and we will put them to good use. Thank you!



KEY INFORMATION

TERM DATES & STAFF TRAINING DAYS

Our [2024-2025 terms dates](#) are live on our website, along with current school year information for [2023-2024 terms dates](#).

PARKING



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.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES



Every child needs a named 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.

SCHOOL POLICY



Prime bottles are not allowed at school and will be confiscated if brought in.

Nail polish is not permitted.

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

LATEST NEWS

YEAR FIVE & YEAR SIX HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

On Tuesday, a group of Year Five and Six children took part in the Hunts School Sports Partnership district tournament. Despite the cold weather conditions, they all showed true resilience and determination. We saw them put into practice the defending and attacking skills they had learned during their time at Hockey Club with Miss Blackwell and Mrs Blackwell in game scenarios and were proud of their efforts. A special thank you to the parents who came and supported and provided transport to and from the event as well.

Well done to: Sanjavi, Eloise F, Georgia, Callum, Dylan, Thomas, Zara, Finn and Erva.

Miss Howell and Mrs Blackwell.



LATEST NEWS

YEAR FIVE YORK RESIDENTIAL TRIP

In the last week of last half term, Year Five had a very busy but enjoyable residential trip to York. The schedule was packed with exciting opportunities, including heading to the National Railway Museum within an hour of arrival! After marvelling at the miniature railway, clambering on, over and through all sorts of train models and completing a scavenger hunt throughout the main museum, it was time to head back to the hostel for dinner and the most important part of the trip: finding out about rooms!



Following a delicious (and enormous!) meal, the rest of the evening was filled with a range of group activities (designing Viking shields, solving Norse Code and constructing mini catapults) before settling down for their first night away.



Tuesday began with a rotation of Monday's activities, with the addition of building Viking long-ships big enough to hold eight people and participating in some tricky team games. The collaboration and encouragement were fabulous to see, and they ensured some competitive but enjoyable challenges. After lunch, it was time to head into the centre of York for a guided historical tour of the city walls before dinner and more activities in the early evening.

A cosy film with pyjamas and cuddly toys rounded off the day.



LATEST NEWS

YEAR FIVE YORK RESIDENTIAL TRIP...CONTINUED

The final full day was just as busy! The morning started with a walk into York for a very exciting open-topped bus tour and a picnic lunch, followed by a wander down the Shambles (the inspiration for the representation of Diagon Alley in the Harry Potter films). The afternoon saw a visit to the hotly anticipated York Chocolate Story and gift shop (which they left with considerably lighter wallets!), followed by dinner and the big finale of the end of residential disco. After the children wore themselves out with lot of enthusiastic moves to the blasting music under flashing lights, it was time for bed.



Who wants to waste a whole morning when you're away on a residential? Not us! After very efficiently packing and evacuating rooms, there was time for one last visit: the Castle Museum. A fascinating walk through time with lots to see and a final chance to spend any remaining money before an al fresco lunch and onto the coach.

Over the course of four days, the children had a fantastic time and demonstrated lots of skills. They were archaeologists and historians, puzzle solvers and athletes, artists and engineers, chocolatiers and performers. They also demonstrated some fabulous collaborative and communication skills throughout (something commented upon by the YHA staff).



All of the adults were extremely pleased and proud of everyone who came along. They showed ambition, resilience and kindness, and were praised by members of the public and the YHA staff for being excellent ambassadors for our school. Well done, Year Five!

Miss Angela Connor | Head of Year Five



WEEKLY RESULTS

TT ROCK STARS AND NUMBOTS

Each week we celebrate our CJS Times Tables Rock Stars and NUMBOTS users with the highest scores. Below are this week's results:

SPEED	Charlie H
COINS	Stanley D
IMPROVED	Harry B
NEXT WEEK'S BATTLE	
Edinburgh v London	



NUMBOTS

Addition & Subtraction. Solved.



COINS

Archie T



IMPROVED

Lewis S



MONTHLY RESULTS

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)

MOST QUIZZES PASSED

Jessica B and Cameron C (18)

MOST POINTS EARNED

Dvir Z (65.4)

Crosshall Junior School Reads!



In February 2024, students have read...

1,461 Books

15,226,145 Words

for **27** minutes/day!
(individual student average)

MONTHLY RESULTS

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

HIGHEST 'TOTAL STUDY TIME' IN JAN 2024

Esele F

MOST NUGGETS COMPLETED IN JAN 2024

Esele F

MOST QUESTIONS ANSWERED CORRECTLY IN JAN 2024

Esele F

CENTURY - AUTUMN TERM OVERVIEW

A very positive start to the school year last term, as pupils completing almost 40,000 nuggets and answering almost 375,000 questions collectively across the term! Well done everyone.

Key Metrics This Academic Year



410

Unique Student
Logins



38,141

Nuggets
Completed



Mathematics

Most Popular
Subject



372,976

Questions
Answered



120

Assignments Assigned
& Planner Lessons



22

Unique Teacher
Logins

Source: CENTURY internal data
The accuracy of our login and page-view information can be influenced by device firewalls and browser extensions

the spring challenge

**26th February
– 24th March**



Compete with other schools and colleges to win a trophy! Can your school or college complete the most nuggets to win the trophy?



AWARDS

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 lands on the doormat!



The [Students Achievements and Awards](#) section of our website is regularly updated with all winners!

Students who have received postcards so far in Spring term were:

Ava R,
Jessica S

AWARDS

CELEBRATION AWARDS

Each half-term one child from each class is chosen for this prestigious award

Our third [Celebration Awards](#) of this school year 2023/24 have been given for "**progress in English, maths and/or science.**". Details below:



Winners: Ellie M, Jacob W, Sebastian S-R, Lyra A



Winners: Daisy W, Lily-Mae D, Gilson K, Criston B



Winners: Lila-Rose A, Marnie C, Mia D, Raphen G



Winners: Freya W, Edward M, Elsa O, Maisey S

AWARDS

HEAD TEACHER'S AWARD

When a child receives an award, they get a special sticker, some house points and a text to the parent(s). It is a great honour and something that recognises their achievements in school.

The latest recipients of this award for Spring Term are listed below and on our website under [Head Teacher's Award recipient list](#)



The recipients of a Head Teacher Award in Spring term so far are:

Eddy N, Naomi T, Beau Z, Nathan A, Dante S, Isobel N, Ellie B, Frankie W, Eddy L, Matthew H, Alfie C, Derick I, Eleisha B, Sophie C, Vespa S, Oscar W, Betsie-Mae A, Rebecca B, Sam J, Santino B, Rares P, Franklin D, Lara D-S, Nicolas D, Millie H, Mia C, Lily-Mae D, Roxy B, Ellis F, Zoe G, Lilly M, Anthony M, Ava H, Ilay M, Summer H, Martha H, Ella-Mae S, Criston B, Frankie W, Skye B, Cecily E, Amelia P, Oleh K, Tannen A, Franklin D, Sophia L, Bethany G, Eddy N, Eleisha B, Cameron C, Drew H, Sam N, Lara W, Primrose S, Neha B, Lyra A, Teddy C, Gustavo R, Casian C, Jewel J, Zach M, Ava P, Penny G, Thomas G, Ollie C, Leo T, Zaki R, Luke N, Thomas C, Esme McK, Daisy W, Freya S, Destiny O, Isobel N, Isla C, Jess F-C, Florence J, Ava W, Lily-Mae D, Nicolas D, Ellie B, Marina G, Nathan A, Harriet P, Rares P, Izaak J.

AWARDS

ATTENDANCE AWARDS

Pupils who achieve 100% attendance each half-term are recognised in their Year Group assembly. The list of recipients from Autumn Term Two is below and on our website under [Student Achievements](#)

More information on [Attendance](#) is towards the end of this magazine

Full detail on our [Attendance Policy](#) can be found on our website

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



Pupils who have achieved 100% attendance record in Spring Term One:

Harrison A, Tannen A, Ali A, Nahia A, Freddie B, Matty B-B, Toby B, Darcey B, Harry B, Freddie B, Ianis B, Alfie B, Harry B, Cameron C, Luke C-S, Olivia C, Casian C, Daniel C, Megan C, Harry C, Jess F-C, Everlie F, Marina G, Alice G, Evie G, Henry G, Nyla G, Hollie H, Alfie H-G, Derick I, Thomas J, Ella J, Izaak J, Josie K, Otis K, Joe K, Gilson K, Owen L, Henry L, Evie M, Louisa M, Oscar M, Macy McC, Esme McK, Alice M, Luke N, Zachary O, Harriet P, Elsie P, Nathaniel R, Zakariya R, Jack R, Robbie R, Ava R, Lilly S, Clarke S, Blake S, Finnley T, Noah T, Naomi T, Katie V, Oscar W, James Z.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

APPLY FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Take a quick look at the link below to see if you might qualify for Free School Meals allowance

[CLICK HERE](#)



HOLIDAY VOUCHER SCHEME

To apply for CCC Holiday Voucher Scheme

[CLICK HERE](#)

Poster of information

[CLICK HERE](#)



ATTENDANCE

CROSSHALL JUNIOR SCHOOL GUIDANCE

Attendance is a national priority and this week the government has launched a new campaign 'Moments Matter, Attendance Counts'.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

All schools must submit data (both in an aggregated form and on an individual pupil basis) every term to the Department of Education. It is a key indicator of an effective school and, as such, will be scrutinised by OFSTED. Full copy of our Attendance policy is available at the bottom of this page and under [POLICIES](#).

Any absence affects the pattern of a child's schooling and regular absence will seriously affect his/her learning. Any pupil's absence or late arrival disrupts teaching routines and so may affect the learning of others in the same class too.

Please see table below which explains the ratio between number of lessons missed and your child's attendance percentage:

If a child's attendance over a school year is...	...he/she will miss this many days... (approx.)	...and this many lessons...	Descriptor
98% or above	0-3	0-15	Excellent
95% (to 97.9%)	4-9	20-45	Good
92% (to 94.9%)	10-15	50-75	Concerns
Below 91.9%	15-19	75-95	Serious Concerns
Below 90%	19+	95+	Persistent Absentee

Parents have a legal duty to ensure that children of compulsory school age attend on a regular and full-time basis under Section 444 Education Act 1996.

See our website for full details, under [Digital Office](#) > [Attendance](#)

This includes information on [Types of Absence](#), [Lateness](#), [Absence due to sickness or medical appointment\(s\)](#), and also Additional Support from our [Learning and Wellbeing Mentors](#).



TERM TIME LEAVE GUIDANCE

CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ADVICE TO PARENTS:

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.

TERM TIME LEAVE GUIDANCE

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 they 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.

UNIFORM GUIDANCE

SCHOOL UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

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

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

Children should come to school in their P.E. kit on their P.E. Days:

Monday: 6MR & 6PM **Tuesday:** 6BC & 6KW **Wednesday:** Year Five **Thursday:** Year Four **Friday:** Year Three

There are several benefits to coming in P.E kit on these days:

- more time for P.E. - rather than spending time changing in and out of kit;
- fewer worries for some students - no changing with other people around;
- better hygiene - the P.E. kit is washed each week

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

The P.E. kit should consist of:

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

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. 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/ Competitions/ 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.

Day to Day Uniform Requirements:

- jade or navy sweatshirts/ cardigans (navy sweatshirt 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;
- jade or blue-check summer dresses;
- plain, dark, sensible footwear - **NOT** trainers with coloured markings (i.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 polish, jewellery (other than stud earrings), or make-up

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 be rectified.

Many thanks for your continued support and help in keeping our community looking smart, being safe, and feeling comfortable - and all on a small budget! We have much to be proud of at Crosshall Junior School!

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.

