



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



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WEBSITE



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ACTING HEAD TEACHERS' MESSAGE

The staff and children have made a flying start to the year with trips and other exciting events taking place throughout the school.

During our professional day, we considered the importance of developing children's vocabulary and how the school can support this. Research has shown that children with a large bank of vocabulary are more likely to be successful in school as well as being better able to communicate with others. In general, children need six or seven exposures to a word before they properly learn it, so we have introduced a number of different activities into classes to facilitate this in a fun way. One place where children meet new words is when reading. This is an excellent opportunity for parents to support vocabulary development in their children. If a child reads a new word, take the time (possibly after finishing reading) to discuss the word, its meaning and make links to words children already know. Parents could start to make a collection of these new words and play games with the children to help them master their use.

One of the resources we are using in school, 'Word Aware' has some suggestions for games you can play. Click [this link to view this resource](#).

In preparation for the next academic year, the school is looking at revamping the home/school agreement. This document outlines the expectations parents have of school as well as those the school has of parents. A clear home/ school agreement allows us to have a good foundation for conversations when concerns are raised. Therefore, we intend, this term to invite a group of parents into school to discuss what they feel should be on the agreement as well as discussing it with staff and children. If you are interested in taking part in one of these group discussions, please email the office office@crosshalljunior.co.uk

Enjoy the long weekend, and see everyone back at school on Tuesday

Dan Ainscow and Liam Murphy
Acting 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.

6th May	Bank Holiday - school closed
From 7th May	Summer Term Clubs begin this week
wc 13th May	Year Six End of Key Stage Two Tests Week
17th May	Celebration Assembly - Invite Only
21st May	Class Photo Day and Year Six Group Photo
22nd May	Crosshall 50th Celebration School Picnic
24th May	Staff Training Day - school closed
27th May - 31st May	Half Term Holidays
3rd June	Back to School

TERM DATES & STAFF TRAINING DAYS

Our [2025-2026 term dates](#) are now live on our website under Digital School Office > Term Dates. You can also find [current school year dates](#) and [2024-2025](#) dates there too.

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 [2025-2026 term dates](#) are now live on our website under Digital School Office > Term Dates. You can also find [current school year dates](#) and [2024-2025](#) dates there too.

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.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

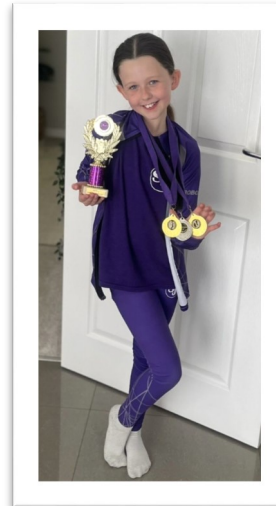
Dancing Achievements

Congratulations to Myla, 4JE and Sienna, 5MM who recently took part in a dance competition.

The team mates achieved:

- 1st place in Team Jazz
- 1st place Team Contemporary

Myla also achieved third place in her Jazz Duo and runner up in her first ever solo Jazz performance too.



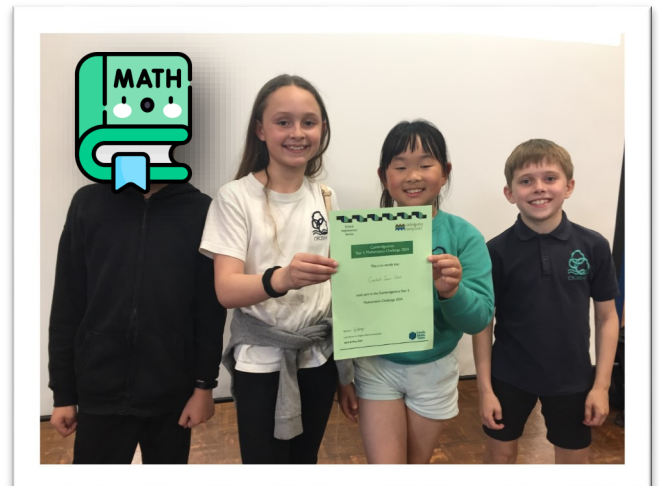
CURRENTLY AT CROSSHALL

Cambridgeshire Year Five Maths Challenge

Congratulations to Dvir 5MH, Grace 5AC, Miao Miao 5HC, and Reuben 5AC who represented Crosshall Junior School at the first heat of the Cambridgeshire Year Five Maths Challenge on Wednesday.

The team were placed third in the competition.

We are now waiting to hear whether the team have made it through to the next round. Fingers crossed!





PICNIC ON THE FIELD

Wednesday 22nd May from midday until 1pm

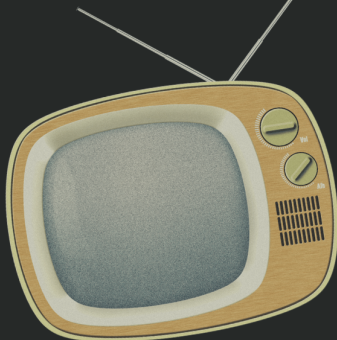
Join Crosshall Infant School & Crosshall Junior School for a family picnic to celebrate 50 years of Crosshall.

Families are invited to come and join their children for fun & games during lunchtime on the field. Bring your own picnic and blanket as we celebrate together!



CROSSHALL FANCY DRESS

70'S DAY



On Wednesday 22nd May

Crosshall Infant School & Crosshall Junior School
are celebrating 50 years of Crosshall

Children and staff are invited to dress in themed
non-uniform for the day

Groovy shirts, disco flares, favourite pop star or
cartoon character from the era



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	<i>Charlie H</i>
COINS	<i>Callum P</i>
IMPROVED	<i>Sophia G</i>
NEXT WEEK'S BATTLE	
<i>London v Belfast</i>	



Well done to *Gabriels K*
for achieving **TTRS Rock Hero** status



Addition & Subtraction. Solved.



COINS

Alex H



IMPROVED

Mani K



Well done *Axel H & Anthony M* for
achieving Numbots 'Diamond' status

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)

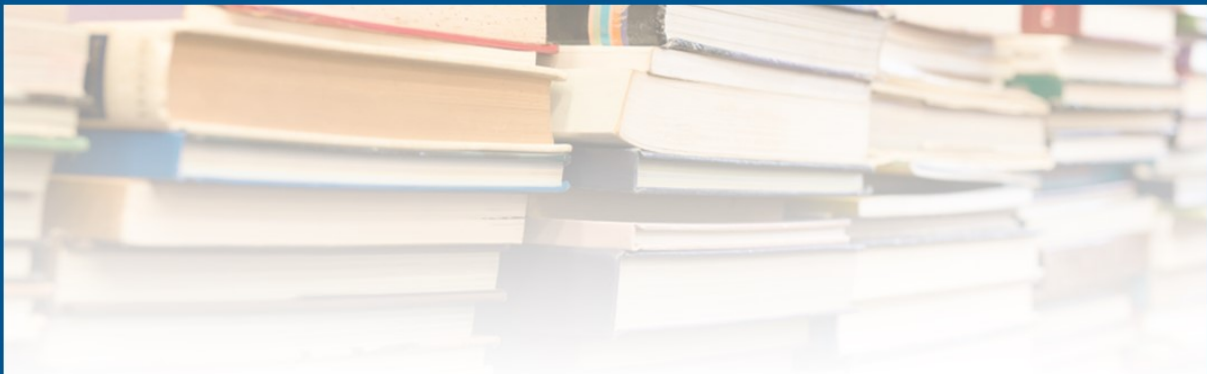
MOST QUIZZES PASSED

Gustavo R (17)

MOST POINTS EARNED

Sanjavi R (49.0)

Crosshall Junior School Reads!



In April 2024, students have read...

901 Books

11,253,973 Words

for **19** 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 APRIL 2024

Esele F

MOST NUGGETS COMPLETED IN APRIL 2024

Gabriels K

MOST QUESTIONS ANSWERED CORRECTLY IN APRIL 2024

Esele F

CENTURY - SPRING TERM OVERVIEW

A very positive start to the school year last term, as pupils completed over **55,000 nuggets** and answered over **527,000 questions** collectively across the term! Well done everyone.

Key Metrics This Academic Year



413

Unique Student
Logins



55,164

Nuggets
Completed



Mathematics

Most Popular
Subject



527,489

Questions
Answered



168

Assignments Assigned
& Planner Lessons



24

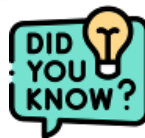
Unique Teacher
Logins

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 in Spring/ Summer term were:

Ava R,	Jake B,
Jessica S,	Ronnie B,
Ola H,	Millie P,
Harrison A,	Archie G
Skyla G,	
Harrison H,	
Sophia R,	
Ava B,	
Zachary M,	
Henry G,	
James W,	
James Z,	
Maxwell O'H,	
Lewis S,	

AWARDS

CELEBRATION AWARDS

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

Our fourth [Celebration Awards](#) of this school year 2023/24 have been given for "**confidence in a wide range of technology**". Details below:



Winners: Nathaniel R, James S, Henry L, Margot C



Winners: Ethan M, Nuala C, Lewis S, (4JE postponed)



Winners: Ben S, Lilia B, Ellie McG, Lola McK



Winners: Derick I, Cameron D, Ollie C, Oliver M

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 were:

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, 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, Izaak J, Brynley E, Carmen S-B, Poppy A, Scarlett J, Elsie P, Izaak J, Adelina L-T, Alice G, James S, Ruby P, Harry B, Ava J, Robbie R, David P, Blake S, Emily C, Freya W, Eloise F, Luke N, Mila H, Bella G, Erva A, Carys H, Mason L, Maiya W, Ollie C, Imogen H, Oliver M, Lola C, Matthew H, Ben T, Indie W, Maki O, Martha L.

AWARDS

ATTENDANCE AWARDS

Pupils who achieve 100% attendance each half-term are recognised in their Year Group assembly. The list of recipients from Spring 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



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

Lila-Rose A, Poppy A, Teddy A, Harrison A, Scarlett A-W, Ali A, Zehra A, Nahia A, Aaron A, Elizabeth A, Haider A, Ellie B, Rebecca B, Freddie B, Martha B, Toby B, Albert B, Dylan B, Jake B, Neha B, Aldrin B, Criston B, Darcey B, Harry B, Vaibhav B, Frank B, Freddie B, Ronnie B, Alfred B, Emily B, Fraser B, Henry B, Roma B, Ianis B, Jessica B, Alfie B, Faye B, Amelia B, Jacob B-C, Ashley B, Harry B, Ava B, Lilia B, Jaxon C, Antonia C, Christian C, Cameron C, Macdara C-H, Emily C, Max C, Luke C-S, Max C, Olivia C, Matilda C, Thomas C, Megan C, Harry C, Isla C, Ollie C, Athena C, Thomas C, Zoe C, Margot C, Lola C, Lara D S, Harley D, Franklin D, Cameron D, Oscar D, Luca D, David D, Isabella G, Mia D, Henry E, David E, Emilia-Rose F, Harrison F, Olivia F, Joe F, Eloise F, Esole F, Thomas G, Nicolas G D, Logan G, Raphen G, Sophia G, Skyla G, Zoe G, Marina G, Evie G, Finn G, Penny G, Nyla G, Archie G, Imogen H, Carys H, Hollie H, Olly H, Samuel H, Charlie H, Martha H, Dylan H, Ekrem H, Axel H, Reuben H, Matthew H, Summer H, Ollie H, Millie H, Derick I, Kharis I, Roxee J, Teddy J, Ava J, Jessie J, Ava J, Ella J, Elizabeth K, Josie K, Otis K, Layla K, Oleh K, Viktor K, Gilson K, Mani K, Henry L, Adelia L-T, Henry L, Rory L, Martha L, Max L, Eddy L, Lilly M, Ethan M, Evie M, Oscar M, Ellie McG, Ella-Louise M-D, Esme McK, Lola McK, Eleanor M, Zach M, Will M, Alice M, Ellie M, Riley M, Giulietta M, Eddy N, Tom N, Tilly-Rose N, Eleanor O, Maki O, Evlyn O, Evie O, Elsa O, Harriet P, Ollie P, Emilie P-E, Ben P, Willow P, Ava P, Ariane P, Ava P, Millie P, Jack P, Joseph P, Thomas P, Elsie P, David P, Amelia P, Bella-Mae R, Nathaniel R, Sofia R, Jack R, Robbie R, Carmen S B, Yoan S, Harry S, Jessica S, Lilly S, Juwan S, Ally S, Bethany S, James S, Ella-Mae S, Dante S, Ellie Mae S, Mason S, Primrose S, Sebastian S -R, Seb S, Lily S, Nathanael T, Harry T, Dimitri T, Archie T, Harry T, Noah T, Isla T, Naomi T, Simran T, Georgia T-C, Katie V, Lily V, Hector W, Indie W, Jacob W, James W, James W, Maiya W, Zara W, Daisy W, Freya W, Myla W, Maia W, Frankie W, Tyler W, Harley Y, Scarlett Z, Dvir Z, James Z, Beau 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.

