



The Infant Informative



Friday 20th January 2023

Issue 17

If you don't already, remember to follow us on Twitter and 'Like' us on Facebook! You can do this easily by pressing the icons on the bottom of each newsletter page.

Another incredibly busy week of learning, friendship building and showing how we can all be 'Ready, Respectful and Safe'. Our assembly today focused on another one of our British Values - tolerance. We spoke about children and their families all being different. We looked at our appearance, family arrangements and likes and dislikes. I challenged the children to look around to find someone else who looked exactly like them - if they could they could have 100 stickers! I found myself having to look at the differences between freckles and hair strands for some of our twins!! The learning point was that we must respect and show care to all people regardless of what we perceive as different. I tried to trick the children into voting for which family dynamics were the best, they all quickly responded, all of them. Well done, children.

We have sent you some information about National Storytelling Week. Please do sign up to give 30 mins of your afternoon to read to some of our children. Please speak to your class teacher or call the office.

Earlier today you would have also received early information around the strike action that some teachers potentially might take part in. I have provided the information we have available to us at the moment and will keep you up to date.

At our school we currently have a vacancy for a 'bank supply' mid-day assistant who we can call upon as needed to cover staff absences at lunchtime. If this is of interest to you, please call the school office. We also have a teaching assistant vacancy. This is published on eTeach: <https://www.eteach.com/job/year-2-teaching-assistant-1300922?lang=en-GB&frmsrh=Y>

I hope this weekend brings some milder weather. I know de-icing the car is starting to take it toll on all of us! Have a great weekend. Mr O'Shea :)



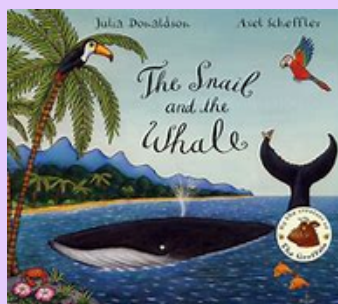
TRICK BOX

The children have enjoyed learning their first Trick Box trick this week, Mirror, Mirror. A positive self-image is important for the continued development of a healthy mind. We can look in a real mirror, or use our hands as pretend mirrors, and tell ourselves what we are good at and that we will have a great day. Next week, we will be thinking of different situations that may occur where 'mirror mirror' will help to support our emotions and make us feel better.

A message from our Assistant Headteacher Miss Saunders

This week's recommended read is *The Snail and the Whale* by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffer - there are so many beautiful themes running through this book including exploration and friendship. Readers of all ages will definitely identify with it.

A reminder to sign up for **Storytelling Week** starting Monday 30th January - please call the office or speak to your class teacher. We can't wait to have parents and carers in to read to our children.



DIARY DATES

- PTA Hot Chocolate Sale 3rd February 2023 15:00
- Parent Consultations W/B 6th February 2023
- National Reading Week W/B 30th January 2023
- The King's Coronation event 5th May 2023 from 13:30

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This week in early years, we have...

NUR

Our book this week was *The Perfect Fit* where we have been talking about things we are good at, things we do that are kind and about different 2D shapes. We have been on a shape hunt and created pictures using circles, triangles and squares. This week in the sensory area we have been developing our hand eye coordination by scooping and pouring pasta, and we have enjoyed investigating ice in our outdoor area – brrrr chilly!

Can you help? If you have any spare clothes (boys' and girls' pants and any joggers/leggings age 2-4) we would love them for the nursery. Please drop them off directly to the nursery or to the school office.



Reception have been looking at all things winter this week, reading a story about winter animals and a warm cosy fire.

In maths we have focused on the different ways we can make the number 5, playing games and using different resources, then moving onto capacity as well as weight. In phonics we have learnt the new sounds '**nk**' and '**ng**' - we made rings, sang some songs, used different pink resources, looked at trunks and lots more!

We were lucky with our winter theme this week for the weather to turn so cold. We loved putting water out at night with different objects in to find they had frozen the next day. We discussed how water turns into ice when cold enough as well as the clothing we need to wear when we go out into the cold.

Alongside our winter theme, we enjoyed playing with small world animals in the fake snow, wrote our own winter stories and made snowmen out of white playdough.



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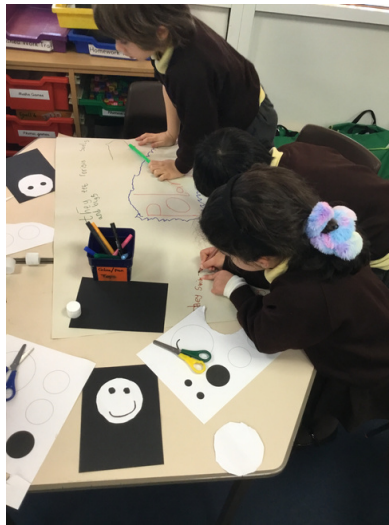
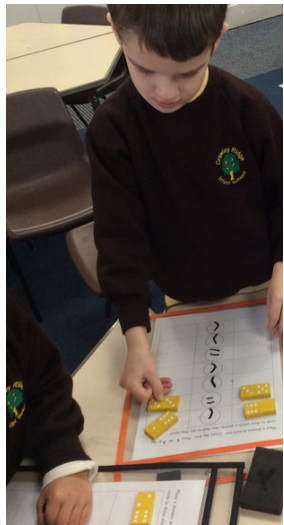




This week in KS1 we have...

YEAR 1

This week in Year 1 the children have been continuing their learning about all things cold. We have been learning Polar Bear facts from our non-fiction Polar Bear fact book this week and did some great group work to help us remember our facts. We then wrote our own fact books and did a fantastic job at using phonics, spellings and writing in full sentences. In Music we used a variety of instruments to create our own improvised music and performed them to the rest of the class. In PE and Geography our theme is 'weather'. We have looked at how the weather makes us feel and moved accordingly in our dance lesson and also how it affects the clothes we wear, how we travel and the activities we do. In Art we celebrated Chinese New Year in preparation for the weekend by learning to draw Chinese dragons. Remember that this week we learnt our first Trick Box trick 'Mirror, Mirror' where we are trying to say nice things about ourselves, even when looking in a mirror. Try to practise this at home together. Do not forget to take a look at our question of the week in the window. Hopefully the children can teach you a thing or two!



YEAR 2

Year 2 have been learning all about the rainforest! We have recorded notes using commas for lists and used this information to write a non-chronological report about rainforests full of relevant facts. We have also researched using secondary sources in science to explain how an animal is suited to live in its environment through their adaptations. We have learnt about division this week by grouping and sharing objects equally. The children have really enjoyed the practical element of this. We have recapped our knowledge of the names of the 7 continents and the names of the 5 oceans in geography using the 'Oceans' song we learnt last week in music and labelling the oceans on a map. We loved our first trick from Trick Box this week 'Mirror, Mirror' where we practised positive self-talk.



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PTA news, events & clubs

Jump into 2023

Our January fundraiser continues this week - over half way through the month now - how has your child been active this week? Please return your sponsorship form / money to the school office or PTA postbox by Friday 3rd February.

Hot chocolate / cookies

We would like to hold a sale on Friday 3rd February - do you have 20/30 minutes spare from 3pm to help? Please let your class rep know or email crisainformation@gmail.com

Nearly New Uniform

Please contact Stacey Muirhead via WhatsApp 07588 626777 if you'd like any uniform.

Do you have any ideas/suggestions on any events/fundraisers we could do? We'd love to hear from you! Email: crisainformation@gmail.com



TEAM PTA



CLUBS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Playball Reception, Year 1 & 2 3pm - 3.45pm	Playball Year 1 & 2 3pm - 3.45pm	Hotsteppers Dance Year 1 & 2 3pm - 3.45pm	Ultimate Coaching Year 1 & 2 Dodgeball 3pm - 4.15pm	Ultimate Coaching Year 1 & 2 Football 3pm - 4.15pm
Jam Coding Year 1 & 2 3.05pm – 4.00pm	Yoga Reception, Year 1 & 2 3pm – 4pm	Playball Reception 3pm-3.45pm	Boogie Pumps Drama Reception, Year 1 & 2 3pm – 4pm	

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Jump into 2023 - PTA



23 star jumps



23 arm circles



Jump up then
touch your
toes 23 times



23 bunny hops



Heel/toe
walk 23 times



Crouch down
and move for
23 seconds

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Reading stars & PANTS

NSPCC Pantosaurus

Along with many schools across the country, at Crawley Ridge Infant School we use the NSPCC Pantosaurus rule to help to teach children about keeping themselves safe. With the help of the friendly Pantosaurus dinosaur, adults, both at school and at home, can teach children about how to stay safe from abuse.

At a level appropriate for their own age, all children learn about how the parts of their bodies which are covered by their underwear are private parts and are not for other people to see or touch and how important it is to talk to someone about anything which upsets or worries them.

Pantosaurus Song

Meet Pantosaurus - our pant-wearing Dino! He wants every child to stay safe and strong, just like him, and he's on a mission to share an important message.

<https://youtu.be/-IL07JOGU5o>

Please visit the following link for advice on how to answer questions from children on this subject.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/pants-how-to-answer-questions/>



READING STARS



New this term! When a child has read at home at least three times in the week and this is documented by an adult at home (reading record book signed three times) they will receive a golden star sticker. These will be stuck to the back of reading records. There is a competition to see which children at school will collect the most!! This will hopefully encourage children to ask and plead to read at home, which is the key to reading for pleasure.

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Reading - Oxford owl

Reading is the most important aspect of any school's curriculum. Reading inspires children, improves vocabulary and speaking, helps with writing and is a genuine life skill that opens the doors for your child's future.

All children will have a book issued to them. This will be in their bookbag. These books will be at your child's reading level. Books should be readable and not too challenging – children should be able to read them successfully. This improves the chances of children developing a love and passion for books. If they are too challenging, research shows reading then becomes a chore and is not as enjoyable for young readers. Children must also be able to comprehend/understand the book they have read.

Children in Reception will start their phonics lessons next week. For now, they will be issued with a wordless book. Children learn how to hold and use a book; turning the pages and talking about the images they see. Parents can ask questions such as:

- What can you see in the picture?
- What number is on the page?
- What do you think will happen next?
- What is your favourite picture - why?
- What part of the story would you change - why?

In addition to children's books in book bags, our school also has an online eLibrary. This allows teachers to allocate groups of books to children. These can be read at home on a laptop, iPad, tablet or mobile device. At school, we will monitor which children are using the eLibrary and prizes will be awarded to those participating consistently.

I cannot encourage and emphasise enough how important it is to read at home with and to your child. We will be running phonics workshops for parents this term to help empower you all to continue supporting your children at home.

Your child's login details are attached inside their reading record book/reading diary.

A full guide has been sent to all parents - please check your ParentMail



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