



# Welcome to The Infant Informative



Friday 23rd February 2024

Issue 21

Welcome back to another half-term at Crawley Ridge Infant School, from all of the staff - we hope you had a lovely break with your families.

You would have heard from media outlets, how tough it can be working in schools at the moment. I am privileged to work with some of the most caring, professional and knowledgeable people within education. Your children are extremely lucky. We don't get everything right all of the time, but all decisions we make have your children's best interests at heart. I know you will feel the same, so I thought you would appreciate a simple and easy way to make sure any positive messages reach the staff. Each week on this newsletter, you can press the button below to complete a form. These messages will then be shared with the relevant personnel. Give it a go!

Click here to thank a member of staff



What does inclusivity mean to you? For us as a school, it is about recognising that children are all different; they have different needs, academic ability and family dynamics. With mothers' day coming up, this has been a topic of discussion amongst staff. We recognise that most of our children have a mum that they live with, but equally, some of our children do not live with their mum, do not have a mum or some have two mums. As a school, inclusivity does not mean that we do not mark this occasion because of the varying dynamics of our families - it just means we use it as a teaching opportunity to talk to the children about families coming in all different shapes and sizes. Staff will facilitate card making during 'early morning work', allowing children to take ownership of their own learning and make a card for their loved one if they wish.

Transition from home to school can be difficult for some of our children. Miss Saunders has been researching around transition into school, see the next page for some further information.

Please check the PTA section of this newsletter, there are a lot of exciting events coming up!

Have a great weekend. Mr O'Shea :)

## GOLDEN LEAVES

Class name	Child's name	Comment
Diamond	Reuben	For being so focussed in our lessons.
Ruby	Darcie	For being so respectful and looking after our classroom.
Topaz	Jessica	For being ready to learn and resilience in every lesson.
Amethyst	Harper	For a well thought out story about Handa including imaginative vocabulary.
Emerald	Harrison	For being a reading superstar
Sapphire	Ethan	For always being so kind and thoughtful

## OVERALL WINNING CLASS:

AMETHYST



## A message from our Assistant Headteacher - Miss Saunders

This week I am going to do something unusual and recommend a book that Year 1 are studying in class. I have enjoyed this book so much that I think children in other year groups would love to read it too. It is called *Our Tower* and is written by Britain's poet laureate Joseph Coelho. I am not going to give too much away but I promise you won't be disappointed.



TRICK BOX

We use Trick Box everyday at school. It teaches children to regulate their own emotions and become their own problem solvers. We have a new 'trick' every two weeks for Reception and KS1 children. Nursery have similar 'habits' to learn too. Press the Trick Box logo to the left, to navigate to our website with all of the information you will need to practice these tricks at home too.

## DIARY DATES

- PTA Break the Rules Day - Thursday 29th February
- World Book Day - Thursday 7th March
- PTA Mothering tea afternoon - Friday 8th March from 15:00
- Science Week - W/B Monday 11th March
- Year 1 School Trip - Wednesday 13th March - now 'live' on ParentMail
- British Sign Language Week - W/B 18th March
- Class group photos - Tuesday 19th March morning
- Year 2 Samba workshop - Monday 25th March
- Selected Year 1 Children @ Collingwood College for a TAMAT singing event (more info to follow) - Tuesday 26th March @ 18:00 - 19:00

Join us



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# Transition into school from home

For many children the transition from the comfort of home to the expectations of the classroom can be challenging in the mornings. For some, separation can bring about big feelings as children are separated from their caregivers for the day. This is all natural and normal and part of growing up. However, there are a few things that can be done, in partnership between home and school, to ease this transition.

## **Ensure the child experiences a consistent and predictable morning routine**

A predictable morning routine, in which all morning activities take place in the same order, is essential to helping children feel calm as they approach school time. For children who find transitioning into school challenging, it is often useful to have this displayed visually in their bedroom or on a kitchen notice board so they are aware of exactly what will happen as school time approaches. It is also helpful to have a timetable of consistent caregivers who drop off each day which is communicated with the child.

## **Ask your child's class teacher for a timetable of activities for the day or week that can be discussed at breakfast**

Discussing the timetable at breakfast time will ensure children feel safe as they are aware of what is going to happen throughout the day. Ask positive questions such as: What are you looking forward to in Science today? What do you plan to play at breaktime? How will you show kindness towards someone else today?

## **Put a small keepsake in their bookbag to help them feel that their caregiver is with them all day**

Put a very small keepsake e.g. a photo or keyring that reminds them of their caregiver or write a short note with words of encouragement or a positive affirmation e.g. 'I am proud of your courage today' inside their bookbag. This will be kept in their bookbag all day but can be referenced if they need it.

## **If the child is still reluctant at the door**

Be calm and understanding but firm. Children love boundaries as they make them feel safe. They like to know that whatever their caregiver says will happen, will happen, as it creates predictability. This can be very difficult as a parent as it can be very emotionally jarring when our children are upset. However, rest assured that they will be fine, and a short interaction is better than a prolonged exchange. A scenario might go something like this:

Caregiver: *'I am going to leave now, and you are going to walk into the classroom. Would you like to walk in by yourself or with a friend?'*

*'I understand that you are feeling nervous about this and that is normal.'*

It is useful to repeat the original instruction remaining calm but firm and holding the boundary until the instruction has been completed.

This can go on for a while, but it is important to remain consistent as this helps to build trust and predictability in the relationship between the caregiver and the child.

If the child still needs additional support above and beyond what is mentioned here, please contact your child's class teacher as there are also in-classroom strategies we can use to support.

The transition from home to school can be a tricky one for all involved, especially so early in the morning. However, hopefully, these tips are helpful in making it as smooth as possible.

**Join us**



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# Transition into school from home



wash hands



apply soap



dry hands



wash face



get dressed



brush hair



clean teeth



eat breakfast



walk to  
school



drive to  
school



shoes on



chat about  
the day



# This week in early years, we have...

N  
U  
R

This week, we have moved onto our topic of Spring! We have read ***The Very Hungry Caterpillar*** and enjoyed learning about the butterfly life cycle. We've loved making our own bug books by cutting and sticking pictures of the insects we know. Some of the children even tried writing the word 'bugs' on the front cover! We got crafty by making our own caterpillars from egg boxes and worked on our observation skills by using magnifying glasses to look carefully at model insects.



We have been pancake mad this week, relating to our book of the week, ***Mr Wolf's Pancakes***. This story provided great discussion points around how we should help people and how kindness comes back around to you.

R  
E  
C

We had our very own pancake café where you could order drinks and food, as well as delicious pancakes. In PSHE we learnt all about money, what it is used for and how it is earned, this came into great use in the café!

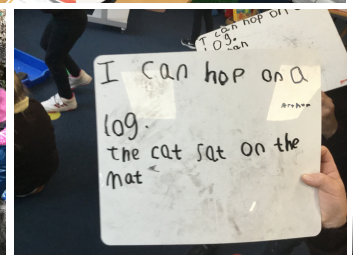
We cut out pancakes and flipped HRS words on them, talked about our favourite toppings and made shopping lists for pancakes.

The children have produced some fantastic writing this week, whether that was with an adult on a guided task or in the provision making lists or writing books.

On Tuesday, the children were lucky enough to experience forest school for the first time. They loved going down to find out about what they will be doing and learn about the different rules and ways they can play in the forest school area. On Wednesday the children had their first Playball PE session which they absolutely loved.

We recapped our sounds this week and learnt one new sound – oo (as in book nook). The children loved making their own books and looking for words with an oo within the book.

In maths we have focussed on one more and one less, learning different songs and using resources to count up and down.



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# This week in KS1 we have...

Y  
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A  
R  
1

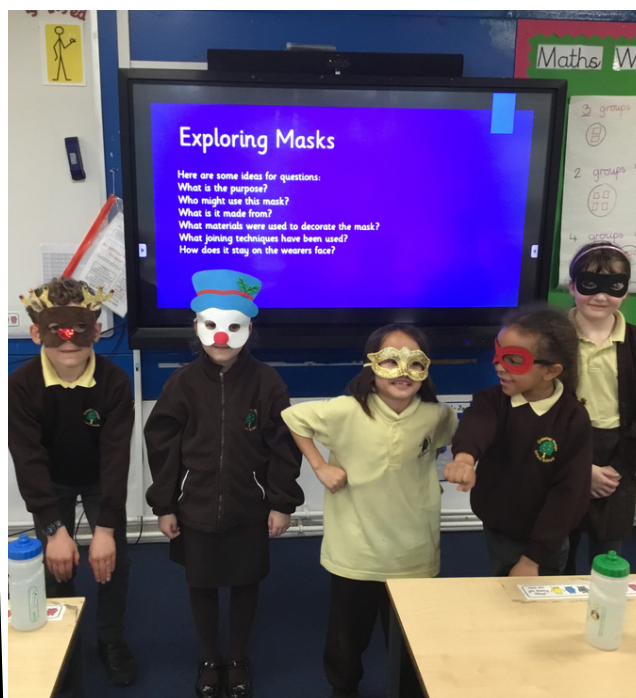
It's the start of Spring 2 and the children have worked super hard this week. We are pleased to see them continuing to show us how to be ready, respectful and safe. Our story for this week is **"Our Tower"** by Joseph Coelho, a fantastic book with lots of descriptive language in. The children have explored and drawn their view from the tower block to support their writing. We are amazed at how children also used verbs and adjectives (noun phrases) in their writing. They have been trying hard with their handwriting and focusing placements, practice indeed makes it better!

For computing, children have explored with the buttons of a Bee-Bot device to see what they do. For maths, we have started working on Place Value within 50, ordering and representing numbers. Children enjoyed testing different types of axles to assess suitability for making a model of a vehicle for Design & Technology and discussed the strengths and weaknesses of different axle designs.



Y  
E  
A  
R  
2

Thank you so much for coming to visit our dioramas, it was wonderful to see the children so proud of what they had made. We have designed our own dragons for our mini topic Dragons. We are planning to write some spectacular character descriptions to describe them next week using lots of adventurous adjectives and possessive apostrophes. In maths we have finished our unit of multiplication and division but will be revisiting it in topics throughout the year. In science we have identified materials that can be recycled, found out how different materials can be recycled including plastic bottles and discussed why recycling is so important. Our new geography topic is Brazil. We used atlases to locate Brazil on a map. In DT this half term we will be creating carnival masks, linking to our learning about Brazil.



Join us

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# PTA

## Join us for our next PTA meeting

Bring your fundraising ideas or join to see how you can support some of our planned events.

PTA meeting 27th February @8pm - Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82480247388?pwd=vAAxtrXdUdFJO2GtaaSBZOeSdktok.1>

Meeting ID: 824 8024 7388

Passcode: 659720



## Break the Rules Day - 29th February.

Further information in bookbags this week.

## Mother's Day Tea and Cake 8th March at 15:00

Book your tickets through the PTA portal [www.pta-events.co.uk/cris](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/cris) order deadline 1st March.

Join us in the school hall @3pm for some tea, cake and some special treats (more details to follow!). Some of our very talented parents are baking cupcakes and it will be a lovely way to celebrate our mums and carers with the children. We have a takeaway option for you to enjoy at home which you can also collect at Graitney or at after school clubs.

## Pre-loved Uniform

Now available to buy online, visit the uniform shop at [www.pta-events.co.uk/cris](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/cris)

All items £1 and orders are sent home with your child every 1st and 3rd Friday of the month.

join us for  
*Mother's Day*  
Tea & Cake

FRIDAY 8TH MARCH 2024  
- 3-4 PM -  
Crawley Ridge Infant School Hall

TICKETS:  
£6 for one adult & one child  
£4 extra adult / £2 extra child

TAKEAWAY OPTION:  
£5 for one adult & one child

CRIS registered  
charity no: 1047332

## 29<sup>th</sup> February Break the Rules Day

This year February is breaking the rules and having one extra day. CRIS is going to have a day of breaking the rules too. Children are welcome to break none, one, two or all of the rules below.

Raid your money boxes, for each of the rules broken, you will pay a 50p fine. The more rules you break, the higher your fine! Choose from the following:

- Wear a hoodie over your uniform
- Wear trainers instead of shoes
- Wear brightly coloured socks or tights
- Wear a temporary tattoo
- Wear nail polish
- Have a crazy hair style
- Wear a football top instead of your school polo shirt
- Wear a hat in class
- Bring a healthy snack for morning break
- Add cordial to your water bottle

You will be required to pay your fine when you arrive at school on Thursday 29th February. Please place your fine in an envelope and hand it in to your teacher. All monies raised will help to buy much needed equipment for the school.

Have fun  
CRIS PTA



Registered Charity No 1047332

# Join us



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FRIDAY  
22  
MARCH

## Find Camberley's Spring Bunnies

Find  
**CAMBERLEY'S  
PRING BUNNIE**  
22nd March - 14th April 2024

**Hampshire  
Healthy  
Families**  
*Today's Health, Tomorrow's Future*

**Believe in  
children**  
**Barnardo's**  
Delivered in partnership by Barnardo's and  
Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust

**NHS**  
Southern Health  
NHS Foundation Trust

## Family Food, Fun & Fitness

Yateley Industries, Mill Lane, GU46 7TF  
[Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 10-11.30am]

Free session exploring:

- Portion sizes
- Cooking from scratch & simple recipes
- New ideas to make mealtimes a family activity
- Information on food types and hidden sugar
- Importance of being active as a family



Visit our website (scan the QR code opposite) or email us at:  
hhf@barnardos.org.uk

[www.hampshirehealthyfamilies.org.uk](http://www.hampshirehealthyfamilies.org.uk)



Hampshire Healthy Families



hampshire\_healthy\_families



@Hantsfamilies

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## Surrey Heath Family Centre

We are very excited to be part of the pilot for  
Barnardos Virtual Family Space.

Through the pilot we are able to offer you access to a wide range  
of workshops covering various topics.

If you would like to book a place at any of these workshops then  
please scan the QR code to register.

If you would like any more information please contact us on:  
[surreyheathfamilycentre@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:surreyheathfamilycentre@barnardos.org.uk)



**Barnardo's**  
Virtual Family Space

### Oral Health Workshop Tuesday 20th February, 1pm 2 hour workshop

Oral Health is a live online workshop lasting up to two hours.

We'll talk about:

Oral hygiene

Diet

Impact of sugar on teeth

Fluoride

Oral diseases



### Potty Training Workshop Tuesday 27th February, 10am 2 hour workshop

Potty Training is a live online workshop lasting up to two hours.

This includes:

Three step 'Let's Go Potty' approach

Preparation to use the potty

Practising potty skills

Stopping using nappies as your child gains confidence



Surrey Heath Family Centre, Kingston Road, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 4AF  
[www.barnardosfamilycentressurrey.org.uk](http://www.barnardosfamilycentressurrey.org.uk)

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