



CROWCROFT PARK Headteacher Newsletter



25.3.2022



Dear Parents/Carers,

Springtime!

It is wonderful to see the sunshine out at last! In school we have been talking about the character traits of GRATITUDE & JOY and many of us agree that sunshine, warm weather and time spent outdoors make us feel joyful. We feel grateful for the beautiful nature that we see around us in the springtime: birds, daffodils and blossom.

On 27th March, the clocks will change as we move from Greenwich Meantime (GMT) to British Summertime (BST). The clocks go forward 1 hour to give us more daylight in the evening.



Early Years Refurbishment

During the holiday, we are having work done to refurbish our EYFS classroom. We will knock down walls to create a larger, airy space and add new carpets and paint colours. We have also bought new furniture and resources. This is a big investment for the school and we are hoping to create a pleasant and calm learning space for our youngest children – we can't wait for you to see it!

To help us to prepare the space both before and after the building work, Nursery will be closed on Friday 1st April and Tuesday 19th April. Reception will stay open, but children need to be dropped off and collected from the main front doors of the school on those days. Thank you for your support.



Ramadan & Eid

Ramadan begins on 2nd April (the first day of the Easter holidays) and it is expected that Eid al-Fitr will fall on the 2nd or 3rd of May. This is an exciting and special family time for many of our children and we know they are looking forward to the celebrations.

Some of our older children have expressed their plan to begin joining in with fasting during Ramadan. We have talked to them about ways that they can try this whilst still being ready to learn effectively at school: fasting during weekends and school holidays only for example. We do not expect children below Y6 to be fasting, but if Y6 children do decide to fast on some days, we must have a letter of confirmation from their parents.

Y6 SATs tests are taking place between 9th and 12th May. To help the children to be prepared for these important tests, we have decided to delay our school Eid parties until Friday 13th May.

SATs Tests

Year 6 children sit tests at the end of school to demonstrate what they have learnt during their primary school years. This is an important time for the Y6 children, but not something that they should be unduly worried about. The tests are taking place on the following days:

Monday 9th April – Spelling & Grammar

Tuesday 10th May – Reading

Wednesday 11th May – Maths Reasoning 1 and Arithmetic

Thursday 12th May – Maths Reasoning 2

It is really important that ALL Y6 children attend school in the lead up to and during this week.

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Later in the summer, Y1 children will be tested in Phonics (letters and sounds), Y2 children will be tested in Reading, Writing and Maths, and Y4 children will be tested in times tables knowledge.

Parent Forum

There are lots of things going on in school that we would really like to hear your views on. At the moment we are thinking about:

- School Uniform
- Trips & Visits
- Homework



I would like to create a parent forum – a group of about 10 – 20 parents who could meet with me once a term to share ideas and discuss plans for the school. If you would like to be part of this group, please contact the school office before the end of April to register your interest.

Rising Cost of Living

There is a great deal of talk in the media about the rising cost of living and the rise in energy bills. These things will affect all of us, but might affect some families more than others.

If you have financial concerns, we may be able to signpost you to some support. Two ways that we can support families are:

1. Pupil Premium Grant – children from families with a low income may be eligible for this grant. Whilst the family do not receive any money themselves, your child would get a free school meal. Please ask the office if you think this could apply to you.
2. Early Help – all families go through difficult patches where additional support is needed. If you are facing a challenging situation with finances, health, family issues etc, an Early Help worker may be able to help you. Contact school and ask to speak with Ms Daly.



Ukraine Conflict

It has now been one month since the invasion of Ukraine began. This conflict has received a high level of media coverage and can be very worrying for all of us, but especially for children.

If your child is worried about this, **CBBC's Newsround** television program and website offers some useful advice. Alternatively please talk to us as we can support your child in school.

English Language Courses

On Thursday 31st March at 2pm, we will be holding an introductory event for parents who wish to learn English. If you would like to attend and meet with the teachers, please contact Mrs Hoque in the office.

Easter Holiday

The school will close for the Easter break at 3.15pm on Friday 1st April. We will re-open at 8.50am on Tuesday 19th April and look forward to seeing you all then. Have a great holiday!

Thank you for your continued support of the school. Please do come to see me if you have any queries, concerns or suggestions.

Mrs Francis



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