

The Richard Crosse C of E (A) Primary School

Newsletter December 2024



Our Motto: Believe and Achieve

Our Values: Love - Respect - Friendship

Our Christian Vision: Philippians 4:13: 'I can do everything through Him who gives me strength'

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Dear All,

As we draw the curtain on a truly wonderful half term, I want to take a moment to reflect on the many highlights that have enriched our school community.

We began the term with a poignant Remembrance Service in the village, honouring those who have sacrificed for our freedom. The children's behaviour and involvement in the service was positively commented on by many members of the public, this is especially wonderful to hear for the staff who work hard to instil behaviour and values on a daily basis. The festive spirit was ignited (without the need for a fire extinguisher!) with our beautiful Christingle, Christmas service and Christmas Fayre, topped off with a whole school visit to the Pantomime, supported by the PTA.

Our school community also extended its compassion beyond our school gates. Children selflessly raised money and spread awareness for the Children's Society and Children in Need, demonstrating the power of kindness and empathy through courageous advocacy.

Our commitment to safety was evident in our informative Y5 visit to the local fire station, where children learned valuable lessons about safety from the fire service, police, banks and RNLI. Class 3 were also visited by Severn Trent Water providing festive tips for saving water and energy over the winter months.

Our Outdoor Learning Days provided opportunities for exploration, creativity and a deeper connection with nature.

The EYFS and KS1 children brought the magic of Christmas to life with their heart-warming nativity play - 'Simply The Nativity'. The brand new stage, generously provided by the PTA, was transformed into a winter wonderland as the children captivated the audience with their angelic voices and expressive performances. The play was a delightful blend of traditional retelling and modern creativity. The children's confidence and enthusiasm shone through, leaving everyone feeling festive and extremely proud.

Our choir has been super busy this half term with cathedral and community church carol concerts, they were truly unforgettable experiences.

So many memories in such a short few months!

So finally, thank you! To our supportive parents, PTA and community for your continued partnership. To my dedicated staff, whose tireless efforts have made this half term so special. To our wonderful children for their enthusiasm, hard work and exemplary behaviour. All I ever ask of the children and staff is that we try our very best, be kind, make the best decisions that we can at the time and care for each other. Striving to be 1% better everyday does not mean never making mistakes but it means learning from them, which makes us all imperfectly perfect!

Thank you from all of the staff for your lovely kind wishes, cards and gifts this Christmas. We wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope that you all have a wonderful and restful festive holiday. We will see you all on **Monday 6th January 2025** for another year around the sun!

Kind regards

Ms Bowring
Headteacher



Note from Chair of Local Governing Committee

Dear Parents and Friends,

As we approach the festive season, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful year we've had at Richard Crosse. It's been a year filled with learning, growth, and community spirit, and I am incredibly proud of all that our students and staff have achieved.

This term, our students have shown remarkable dedication and enthusiasm in their studies and extra curricular activities. From the impressive performances in our KS1 and EYFS school play, to the outstanding choir service at Lichfield Cathedral, their hard work is truly commendable. I would also like to extend my gratitude to our dedicated teachers and support staff, whose unwavering commitment ensures that our school remains a nurturing and inspiring environment for all. I would also like to extend a warm welcome and thank you to the excellent team from Progressive Sports who have seamlessly taken on the after school wrap around provision.

The festive season is a time for giving, and I am delighted to see the generosity of our school community in action. Our recent charity drives, (many of which are organised by the amazing Richard Crosse PTA) where clothes and food have been donated have been a great success, and it's heartwarming to see everyone come together to support those in need. Your contributions have made a significant difference, and I thank you all for your kindness and support. Can I also ask that you share the wish list that the school has with friends and family. This helps the school, teachers and importantly our children enormously.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/100GFMJ7LT214?ref=wl_share

As we look forward to the new year, I am excited about the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. We will continue to strive for excellence in all that we do, ensuring that every child at Richard Crosse has the opportunity to reach their full potential.

On behalf of the governing body, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May your holidays be filled with joy, peace, and wonderful memories with your loved ones.

Warmest regards,
Darren Walsh

What's your job or passion?

A key part of our Curriculum Intent is to inspire our children to be Citizens of the Future. We want our children to have the tools they need to succeed in later life and to be inspired by what they learn and experience with us. Our curriculum covers a broad range of topics, themes and subject areas from computing to science.

We would like to inspire our children further by helping them realise where their lessons and the skills they learn might take them. As such we are appealing for adults to share their professions and passions with our children.

Our aim is to compile a list of professions and skill sets our parents possess and then look at where we could invite people in to discuss their jobs with the children. This would not be a whole day event but more of a chance for us to look for links to topics that you may be able to support with. For example, when we have a science electricity topic, it would be great for the children to talk to an Electrician. We are also keen to find skills from artists, story tellers, dress makers etc

If you are willing, would you please complete the below form detailing your profession or any particular area of expertise or passion you may have. We will then keep this information on file and look for links in the future where we may contact you to see if you would like to come into school and talk to the children.

<https://forms.gle/ES4VAJYe6mEe3hbPA>

School Places!!

If you have a child starting school in Reception September 2025 please remember that the Staffordshire deadline is January 15th

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/12/06/primary-school-admissions-2024-apply-deadline/>

If you would like a Pre-school place for 2025 please contact the school office to be placed on the waiting list. These places will be given once the number of Reception starters has been confirmed.

We also currently have a few free places within certain year groups. If you know anyone who would like to join our amazing school please contact the office to be placed on the waiting list.

Change to Achievement Worship after half term

After half term we will be making a slight change to the way we do Monday's achievement worship. From January, a child from each year group, rather than class, will be given a star of the week.

However, due to time constraints, this means that during this worship we will need to prioritise school awards and will no longer have time to hand out external certificates.

We still really want to celebrate these achievements though, so if your child has an award that they would like to share, please drop it into the office on a Monday and during one of the other worships that week, the teacher leading the worship will celebrate this with the rest of the school.



Amazon Wish List

Richard Crosse

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/100GFMJ7LT214?ref=wl_share



Thank you to all of those who have supported us so far with our wish list! As you know budgets are incredibly tight and are only getting tighter with the rising inflation rates, compared to the allocated government money per pupil received by school. Therefore, if you know of any companies or people that would like to donate towards our school wish list, please click or share the above link.

Thank you!!

Dates for your dairy

Please remember to keep an eye out for information on the weekly round up and the school calendar.

As much as we try to plan things in advance, sometimes plans have to change. We have taken on feedback that the roundup is more appreciated than the daily emails but please make sure that information is read and responded to.

Thank you

<https://richardcrosse.staffs.sch.uk/events>
<https://richardcrosse.staffs.sch.uk/calendar>

Our Half Term in Pictures!

Click on the photo to go to the individual gallery!

You can visit all of our galleries at:

<https://www.richardcrosse.staffs.sch.uk/photo-gallery-category/school-gallery>



Remembrance Service
2024



Year 3 & 4 Athletics
Competition



Christingle Service
2024



Christmas Pantomime



PTA Christmas Fayre



'Simply The Nativity'



Worship Council Trip -
The Big Christmas Give



Christmas Guitar
Concert



Safe and Sound - Fire
Station Visit - Year 5



15 November 2024

BBC Children in Need 2024 - thank
you for all your donations!



21 November 2024

Say hello to our new pupils!



26 November 2024

Thank you to the Morrisons
Foundation!

CEO Letter Autumn 2 Christmas 2024



Welcome to my Autumn 2 CEO letter culminating at the end of a wonderful half term.

Our Remembrance services feel like a very long time ago, as does All Saints Ranton's celebration event which was so well attended by families, the community, Governors and Directors. Children had a blast and it was great to draw Ralph's bandanna competition. Here is the winner!



It was wonderful to see all our schools online for our Trust values worship on generosity. It was led brilliantly by our year 6 children at Mary Howard CE primary school and was enjoyed by all.



Richard Crosse and St Mary's choir have been so busy, they took part in the ENTRUST Music service Staffordshire Christmas concert at Lichfield Cathedral which was magnificent and they also sang at All Saints church with the Kings Bromley Village Harmony Choir. The church was full of all generations and we were treated to refreshments too. All the singing was beautiful.



I have been blessed to attend at least two christmas events per school and Ralph and I have been made very welcome. They were all so magical and such special times for our staff, children and families.



From top left to right: Richard Crosse, St Marys, Anson, All Saints, The Howard, St Andrews and Mary Howard.

I hope you all have a safe and happy half term ready for the run up to Christmas!

Regards, Mrs Charlotte Gethin and Ralph!

Spring 1 After School Clubs



Progressive Sports now run our after school care club and sports clubs. Please contact them on 01889 343120 or visit www.progressive-sports.co.uk to find out what is on offer and book your place.

Attendance

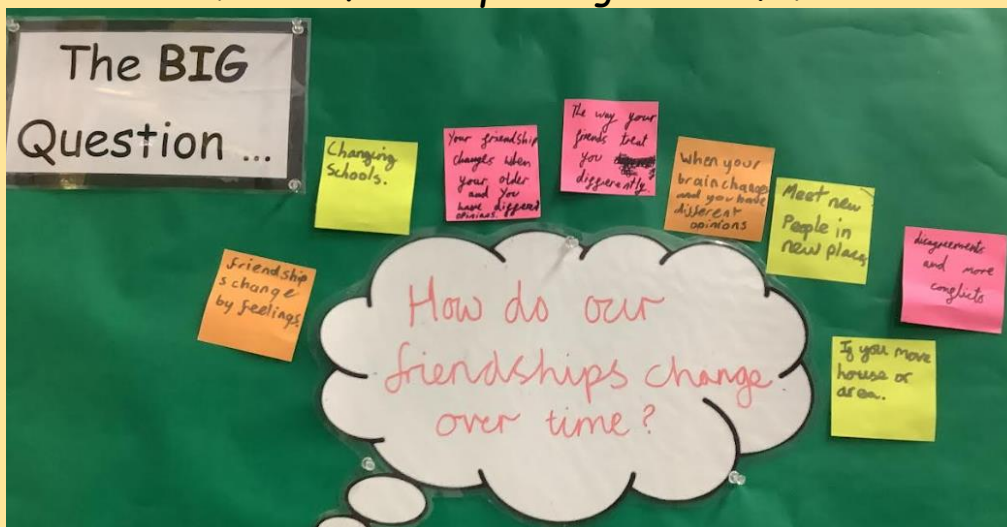
Thank you so much for your continued support with your child's attendance and punctuality! Remember to leave extra time in these winter months to travel safely and still get to school on time. Attendance letters will be sent home with your child in the new year.



The Big Question - Autumn 1

We are trying to support our children to become deeper thinkers by posing and discussing questions that have no right or wrong answer. This half terms question was:

How do friendships change over time?



As you can see the children came up with some amazing ideas and had some beautiful, respectful discussions along the way!

Our **BIG question** for next half term is:

Do you always have to tell the truth?

It would be lovely for the children to come to school with some ideas that you have discussed as a family!

Message from the PTA

Thanks to everyone for their support this term with the PTA events and fundraising.

The PTA have been busy this term with the following activities and events:

- Planting with every child in school, in preparation for Mother's Day
- Rags to Riches Collection
- Movie night in October (first event to be organised by a designated class)
- PTA Christmas Fayre and Santa visits
- Pantomime Trip - Theatre booked and paid for by the PTA and subsidised 50% of the coach costs.
- Raffles - Sleigh of Sloss and Nativity Performances
- Jam Jar Competition with Prizes for the winners

We've funded:

- The new stage
- Climbing A Frame for EYFS
- PE shed, shelving and storage containers
- New bins for play areas
- Coaches for Class 4 trip to Birmingham University
- New fencing for forest school
- New sound system for the hall
- EYFS Play shed
- Traffic calming signs/safety signs
- Recommended read books

We've raised money via:

- Easy fundraising - another £220 paid to the PTA this term, thanks to you shopping via Easyfundraising.

If you aren't already signed up, please do, we get donations from most retailers you shop with.

- Co-op - £1062 paid to the PTA for the reading books.

We aren't a chosen charity for this next period (October 24 to October 25). We hope to be reselected as one of the Co-op chosen charities next year as the PTA get a substantial donation from your spending in the Co-op when part of this scheme.

- IQ Cards - £122 (from Christmas card orders)
- Sarah Baldock Photography - £150 (from class photo orders)
- Christmas Fayre - £932
- Rags to Riches - £48
- Morrison's charity donation - £8000!! This has been used to pay for the new stage, curtains and sound system

Upcoming events and activities in the Spring Term:

- Disco in January - to be organised by class 3 parents
- Pancake Flip Activities and Competition
- Movie Night in March - to be organised by class 2 parents
- Mother's Day Gift Shop

Kerrie has been the Chair of the PTA for two years and will be stepping down in the New Year. Therefore, there will be an opportunity for a new chair to lead the PTA. Please get in touch with the office or the PTA if you'd like to discuss joining the PTA Committee.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas, a wonderful Christmas break and a Happy New Year!

The PTA Committee