

# The Richard Crosse C of E (A) Primary School

## Newsletter February 2025



**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'

Email: [office@tssmat.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@tssmat.staffs.sch.uk) website: <https://www.richardcrosse.staffs.sch.uk/>

Instagram: richardcrosseprimary Telephone: 01543 472245

Dear All,

What a joy it has been to witness such a fantastic start to 2025! I have been so impressed by the incredible teaching and learning happening across the school, the engagement from our children and the consistent respect shown by everyone in our school community, makes me extremely proud.

We have had so much to celebrate this half term. Our recent Parents' Evening was a resounding success, buzzing with positive energy and a shared commitment to supporting our children's learning journey. A huge well done to our Year 5/6 girls' football team who demonstrated fantastic effort and sportsmanship in their recent tournament. Their dedication and teamwork were truly inspiring!

I would also like to give a special shout-out to our Year 6 pupils. Their hard work and 'can-do' attitude, particularly in attending the morning booster sessions, is commendable. They are demonstrating real determination as they prepare for the upcoming part of their school journey.

We were incredibly fortunate to welcome GB athlete Joel Fearon to our school. His visit was truly amazing and inspiring for our students. A huge thank you to everyone who sponsored this event; your generosity will be of great support to the school in terms of PE equipment and sports funding.

Finally, I'd like to thank all those involved in making our Spirituality Day such a success. It was a truly enriching and inspiring experience for everyone.

I look forward to sharing more exciting news and achievements with you in the next half term. Have a wonderful break and enjoy time together, we look forward to seeing you all back on Monday February 24th.

Kind regards  
**Ms Bowring**  
Headteacher

## Attendance update

Our attendance this year is looking great so far, thank you to everyone who is ensuring that their child/ren are in school on time and ready to learn. Attendance is measured within a school on a whole and individual basis by the DFE, local authority and also forms a large part of the schools accountability with OFSTED. The school and school staff have to follow national guidelines, procedures and criteria in terms of informing parents at certain absence percentage markers, attendance meetings, penalty notices etc.

I would just like to highlight a section from our policy, taken from national guidelines.

### **An unauthorised absence is where:-**

- The school considers that the the child was well enough to attend school but did not (for example the reason for illness absence is not listed by UK Health Security Agency guidance.)
- Medical evidence is not provided for an illness absence from school for 6 days or more.
- Medical evidence is not provided for a child who has already been absent from school for 6 days or more.
- **Medical evidence is not provided for illness absence immediately before or after a period of school holiday.**
- Medical evidence is not provided where there is a regular pattern to illness absence.
- The school considers that the absence was not unavoidable or exceptional.
- **A leave of absence request is declined but still taken (this includes holidays in term time).**
- **Reasons for absence have been falsified.**

Link to full policy: <https://www.tssmat.staffs.sch.uk/governance/policies/attendance-policies>

## Spring 2 After School Sports Clubs

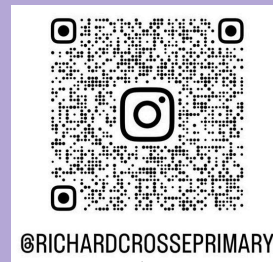
All of our after school clubs are  
now run by Progressive

Monday - Nerf Battles  
Tuesday - Multi-Sports  
Thursday - Football  
Friday - Dodgeball

**To book these or after school**  
**wraparound care please follow the link:**

<https://enrolmy.com/progressive-sports-staffordshire/activity/49-Richard-Crosse-Spring-Term-After-School-Club>

## Instagram



As a school we will no longer be using X/Twitter as our social media platform.

We now have an instagram account @richardcrosseprimary This is a really great way for us to continue to raise the profile of our school and celebrate the wonderful things that we do with the wider community!

If you are happy for your child to appear on our page, please complete the attached googleform. Please note that children's names will never be placed on our page.

<https://forms.gle/VkeBCVzAbpnZicU96>

## PTA

### Annual General Meeting 2025

**When: Wednesday 19th March 6pm**

**Where: Hybrid!!**

Join us in school or log in online

[meet.google.com/mka-dukt-tba](https://meet.google.com/mka-dukt-tba)

Please come along and support our amazing school!



For any questions linked to the PTA please contact Kerrie O'Mara [richardcrossepta2@gmail.com](mailto:richardcrossepta2@gmail.com)

## Amazon Wish List

### Richard Crosse

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/100GFMJ7LT214?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/100GFMJ7LT214?ref=wl_share)



### Thank you!!!

To everyone who has kindly purchased items for us from our wishlist, it makes such a difference when working with such a tight budget!

We are constantly updating this to reflect the up and coming needs of the school. Art & DT projects, seasonal activities etc.

## Term dates up to 26/27 have now been added to our webpage

Please always check our term dates directly through our website for the most up to date version.

<https://www.tssmat.staffs.sch.uk/about-us/term-dates>

Stay up to date with all events by synching to our School Calendar and checking our Events page!

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

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

# eSafety



This week has seen Internet Safety Day, which we took part in at school. In an increasingly digital world, ensuring our children's online safety is paramount. Recent national events, such as the surge in cyberbullying incidents and online scams targeting young people, highlight the need for heightened awareness and proactive measures. By educating our children about responsible online behavior, privacy settings and potential risks, we empower them to navigate the digital landscape safely. Together, we can create a secure online environment where children can learn, connect and thrive without compromising their well-being.

**Please come into school and talk to us if you are concerned about your child's online safety habits.**

We will be running a parent e-safety awareness event later this year.

In the meantime some great resources for support are:

**NSPCC**

**Free online safety virtual workshop**

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/free-online-safety-group-workshops/> a 40 minute pre-recorded presentation covering topics such as online bullying, mental health and social media, as well as signposting to resources and organisations for help and support.

<https://www.iwf.org.uk/> Internet Watch

Foundation - work to stop the repeated victimisation of people abused in childhood and make the internet a safer place, by identifying & removing global online child sexual abuse imagery. Report suspected online child sexual abuse images or videos anonymously [here](#).



**Working together  
to stop child sexual  
abuse online**

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/> Activate parental controls with how-to guides

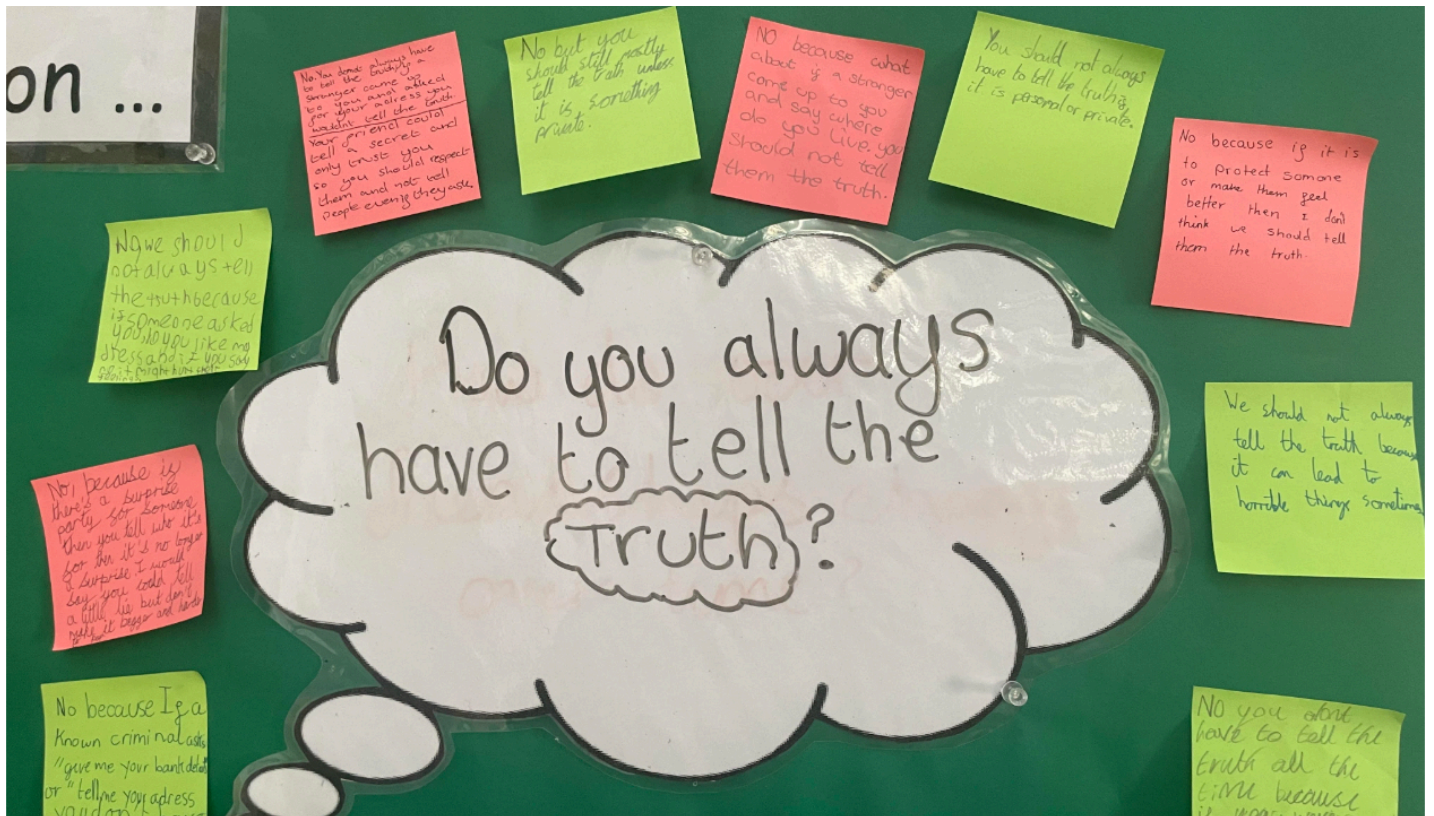
<https://parentsafe.lgfl.net/> PARENTSAFE - keeping your children safe: online & beyond

## The Big Question - Spring 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:

### **Do you always have to tell the truth?**



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

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

### **Should we always forgive?**

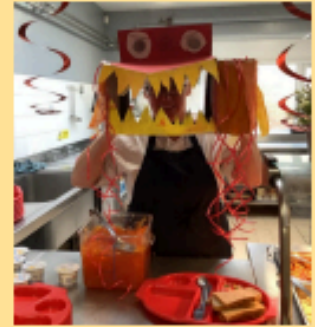
It would be lovely for the children to come to school with some ideas that you have discussed as a family!

## Note from the CEO - Mrs Charlene Gethin



### **CEO Update Spring 1 2025**

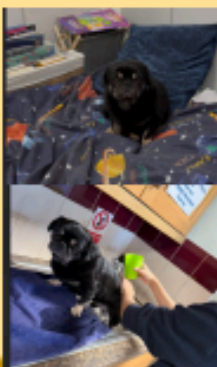
It has been a fast paced half term for all of our schools. There have been a huge range of wonderful curriculum linked activities from special menus for Chinese new year and a range of activities to trips such as Letocetum (the ancient remains of a Roman settlement at Wall) and Tamworth castle. Several schools have held beautiful spirituality days and Ralph and I enjoyed the leadership and delivery by Jordan and Reverend Jeremy at Richard Crosse. Greenpower has also started with gusto!



**Thank you to our whole team for ensuring our children have had a vibrant time and excellent learning, it's been a great half term!**



It has also been a strategic half term for all of our Headteachers, Governing Committees (LGCs) and Directors. They have enjoyed meeting to identify the next steps in our school and Trust journeys. New LGCs to our Trust have conducted evaluations and developed plans for the future. We are so lucky to have such exceptional volunteers. It is important that we take this moment to thank one of our Directors for her 11 years of service. Sue Cockayne will remain an associate of our team but has resigned her post as Director of wellbeing. She will be sorely missed for all her work, especially as a tangible, supportive link to myself and our Headteachers. As you are also aware from our recruitment drive, we are securing new Governors and Directors across the Trust and ask that you contact your Headteacher or myself if this is something you are interested in.



Ralph and I have enjoyed being connected with our schools and were able to attend almost all LGCs as well as seeing children and staff. We were so proud of the children at St Marys who led our Trust worship on 'trustworthiness' and Ralph had a much needed bath with the children at All Saints - the children were so kind and gentle and had a ball playing with him - he liked the book corner too.

Have a good half term and we look forward to seeing you all in a week! From Charlene Gethin and *Ralph*.

