

Newsletter 1 – Friday 8th September 2023

Dear Cragside Family,

Welcome to the new school year and a very warm welcome to our new Cragside families whose children have joined us this week. We hope that you and your child have settled well into our Cragside community. Welcome to the first edition of this academic year's newsletter! Newsletters are emailed to the children's families fortnightly, on a Friday with important information about key dates and events happening in school, information is also included about the children's learning and any relevant events which are happening within our local community. We hope you find the information useful and informative. Copies of the newsletter are also added to our school website. Well what a week it has been! The children have settled brilliantly into their new classes and quickly adapted to their new classroom routines. After somewhat questionable weather over the Summer holiday, the weather has certainly changed this week and it has been delightful seeing the children enjoying the sunny weather during playtimes and lunchtimes, especially in the new music area and in the 'secret village' area which Mr Trobe and Mr Flynnwood have created during the holidays. I hope the photographs below give you a sense of how lovely our playtimes and lunchtime have felt this week and the impact of Opal play in helping with this.





School Uniform

The children have returned to school looking really smart in their school uniforms. Please can I emphasise the importance of naming all items of clothing! As I'm sure you can imagine, it is particularly hard to reunite missing jumpers if they are not named! As a reminder, PE kits should consist of:

- Plain black shorts/trousers
- White round-neck T-shirt
- Plain black sweatshirt/hoody

School Attendance Matters! - A message from Mrs Bilton

At Cragside, we take attendance and punctuality at school very seriously. Every child attending school, every day, is always our goal. We know that school keeps children safe, educates and prepares children well for the future, so, we don't want any child to miss out. With this in mind, we carefully monitor our whole school attendance, and that of individual children. To ensure as many children are in school as possible, we are working closely with our Education Welfare Officer (EWO) to identify any barriers to full attendance. This will include checking the registers every week to identify children and families who may need some additional support. If we do identify any child as having lower attendance, our EWO has advised us to send out letters to families, offering support and encouraging communication. These letters are not intended to cause alarm, they are only sent to encourage closer work to make a difference and improve attendance.

If you have any questions about attendance, or would like to know the attendance figure for your child, please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Gillooly or myself.

Flu immunisations

The school health team will be administering flu immunisations in school on Wednesday 15th November. If you would like your child to receive their flu immunisation please follow the instructions on the attached letter, as parental consent is required for this to happen. Immunisations will take place in school on this date.

Request from Early Years

We are looking for donations of wooden kitchen toys, wooden food, wooden people, small world animals, and buttons. If you are out and about at the weekend, we would also love and pebbles or shells that you might collect. If you are able to help with any of these, please can you hand your donations to the Main Office or Mrs Clarke. Thank you.

Wishing you a lovely weekend
Joanne Parker



Diary dates

Please see below for a list of key dates relating to the Autumn term. It feels strange to be planning our Christmas events when the weather is so warm, however, I know this is always a useful reference to have in order to be able to plan ahead.

Tuesday 12 th September	Northumberland County Council Online Admissions portal opens for Year 6 parents to complete Secondary school applications
Mon 18 th - Weds 20 th September	Year 6 Residential to Robinwood
Friday 29 th September	MacMillan Coffee Morning Year 6 undertaking First Aid training in school
Wednesday 4 th October	Nursery Stay and Play – morning and afternoon sessions
Thursday 5 th October	Year 2 visit to Newcastle Central Mosque
Friday 6 th October	2.00-3.00pm – Reception Stay and Play
Wednesday 11 th October	3.30-6.00pm Parent consultation meetings in school
Thursday 12 th October	3.30-6.00pm Parent consultation meetings in school
Thursday 27 th October	Harvest Festival Church Services at St Nicholas' Church 9.30am Year 5 & Year 6 11am Year 1 & Year 2 2pm Year 3 & Year 4
Friday 28 th October	Teacher Training Day-school closed to children and half term begins
Tuesday 31 st October	Online Admissions portal for secondary school applications closes
Wednesday 1 st November	Northumberland County Council Online Admissions portal opens for September 2024 Reception intake – please note that parents/carers of children in Nursery need to complete this for a place in our Reception class
Monday 6 th November	Children return to school following Autumn half term Tempest Photography in school for individual/sibling photos
Wednesday 15 th November	Flu Immunisations
Friday 17 th November	Children In Need day
Monday 4 th December	2.00pm Year 3 & Year 4 Nativity
Tuesday 5 th December	9.15am Year 3 & Year 4 Nativity
Thursday 7 th December	2.00pm Year 1 & Year 2 Nativity
Friday 8 th December	9.15am Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity
Tuesday 12 th December	9.15am EYFS Nativity (Nursery and Reception)
Wednesday 13 th December	Christmas lunch and wear something Christmas-sy day 2.00pm EYFS Nativity (Nursery and Reception)
Thursday 14 th December	2.00pm Year 5 & Year 6 Christmas performance
Friday 15 th December	9.15am Year 5 & Year 6 Christmas performance
Monday 18 th December	am - Nursery Christmas Party pm – Reception Christmas Party
Tuesday 19 th December	1.30pm Key Stage 1 Christmas Party
Wednesday 20 th December	1.30pm Year 3 & Year 4 Christmas Party
Thursday 21 st December	Christmas Church Services at St Nicholas' Church 9.30am Year 5 & Year 6 11am Year 1 & Year 2 2pm Year 3 & Year 4 1.30pm Year 5 & Year 6 Christmas Party 3.10pm End of Autumn term
Friday 22 nd December	Teacher Training Day – school closed to children
Monday 8 th January	Children return to school for Spring term

