



Newsletter 1 – 2nd September, 2024

Dear Cragside Family,

I hope this newsletter finds you and the children well and that you have all enjoyed a lovely summer holiday. I hope the children are feeling rested and refreshed and are looking forward to returning to school on **Tuesday 3rd September**. I am very much looking forward to seeing the children's smiling faces and hearing all their news from the last six weeks.

I am also looking forward to warmly welcoming our new children and families into our Cragside family– in Nursery, Reception and in some other classes throughout school.

As with all new beginnings, I am conscious that children, (and their families!) may be beginning to feel a whole range of emotions before the start of the school year. Change and uncertainty can bring with it a whole range of emotions and I want to assure you, that as a staff team, we will all do our very best to ensure that your child is settled, cared for and nurtured so that they have the best possible start to the new school year.

Timings of the school day:

A reminder that the timings of our school day are as follows:

- Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 classes - School are expected to be in their classrooms for registration at 8.45am. Children in these classes (Year 1 to Year 6) end their school day at 3.15pm.

To facilitate a soft start to the day, and to ease parking difficulties around our school, we will continue to open the external doors for children to come into school from 8.30am onwards. The doors will then be locked at 8.45am. Children can be dropped off at their door anytime between these times.

- Early Years classes –For Reception children, school will start at 8.45am and will finish at 3.10pm. External doors to the Reception and Nursery classrooms will open from 8.30am and will be closed at 8.45am. classrooms will open at 8.30am and will be closed at 8.45am.
- Families will be able to collect their child from our Nursery classroom between 3.00-3.10pm.

Start of the day

Registration begins at 8.45am so please make sure that your child arrives promptly into school. Please can we ask that parents and carers say goodbye to their children on the school yard without coming into cloakrooms or classrooms. School staff will be at the cloakroom and classroom doors to ensure that your child knows where to hang coats etc and to answer any of your questions. As always, Mrs Bilton and I will also be on the school yard at the start and end of every day to help you or your child with anything that you need.

Parking around school

Please can I ask all parents and carers to adhere to the clear parking restrictions which are in place around our school. Parking restrictions are in place on both Westloch Road and Gainsborough Place and are in place to ensure that every child coming to our school is safe. Over time, a number of 'near misses' involving children have been reported to me. The safety of all of our children is vitally important, so please take adhere to the restrictions which are in place to keep everyone safe.





School Uniform

To provide families with a range of affordable and sustainable options, we offer flexibility as to whether children wear a sweatshirt/cardigan with our school logo included or not. A lot of local shops and supermarkets sell items within our school uniform expectations (charcoal grey skirts and trousers, plain white polo shirts and red cardigans and jumpers. The Hope Centre in Cramlington also has supplies of pre-loved uniform if you want a more sustainable option. Sweatshirts and cardigans with the school logo on them can be purchased from Cloud Nine and Ark. I have listed the contact details below:

Aark: <https://www.aarkshop.co.uk/cragside-primary-school>

Cloud 9: <https://www.cloud9leisure.co.uk/cragside-primary>

Hope Centre: <https://www.facebook.com/Hope-Centre-Uniform-Bank-120300189365324>

Please would it be possible for children to wear plain black shoes to school.

Please can I also ask that all items of uniform are clearly labelled with your child's full name. This is helpful in enabling us to return any lost property to your child as quickly as possible.

All school equipment is provided for children, so children do not need to bring any stationery items into school. On a daily basis, we would expect children to bring in their reading books and reading records and their water bottle.

PE Kits

Children will come into school wearing their PE uniform on their allocated PE days. This arrangement maximises the amount of time in which our children can participate in physical activity whilst reducing the amount of lost property around school, which I'm sure you are all grateful for. Our PE uniform consists of plain black shorts or joggers (**no logos please**), a plain white T-shirt and a plain black sweatshirt or hoody (these are available from Cloud 9 with CRAGSIDE printed on the back). Please make sure that trainers and plimsolls are also plain black and are labelled with the child's name where possible.

Class teachers will let you know which days your child has PE and needs to come to school dressed in their PE uniform. If your child is going swimming with their class, please can they come into school wearing their PE kit.

School lunches

Our school catering will continue to be provided by Dolce this year and I would like to remind parents/carers to ensure that you pre-select your child's food options before they come into school on Tuesday.

We continue to promote a healthy eating culture at school and we therefore encourage parents and carers to provide a healthy packed lunch for their children, avoiding junk food and high sugar foods. If you would like some ideas about healthy lunch boxes, please look at the suggestions shown on the following link:

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/>

No Nut Policy

We continue to be a nut free school. Please be mindful of this when sending your child into school with snacks and/or packed lunches. We do have a number of children with severe nut allergies and it is important that we all adhere to this to ensure the safety of all of our children.

Wish very best wishes to you and the children.

Joanne Parker.



**Let Your
Light Shine**

St Matthew's Gospel