

Newsletter 1 – Friday 13th September 2024

Dear Cragside Family,

Welcome to the beginning of a new school and a very special welcome to our new Cragside families whose children have joined us at the start of the Autumn term. We hope that you and your child are becoming familiar with our routines and expectations and that you are feeling welcomed within our Cragside community. Newsletters are emailed to our families every two weeks, on a Friday, and include important information about key dates and events happening in school. On the newsletter you may also find information about the children's learning and any relevant events which are happening within our local community. Copies of the newsletter are also added to our school website.

During the Summer holidays, our school library has been refurbished to give it a brand new, fresh look. This refurbishment was mostly funded by a 'Community Chest Award' which our Friends of Cragside PFTA group successfully applied for and were subsequently awarded. We are hugely appreciative of the time which our Friends of Cragside representatives spent in writing this bid and to the town councillors for their support with this.



In addition to our library refurbishment, we have also had new external doors fitted in the Year 1 / 2 and Year 3 / 4 Cloakrooms and new carpets laid in 3 of our classrooms. In Nursery, we have increased the square footage of the Nursery through the creation of an additional room which can be used for targeted work with small groups of children.

I was also delighted to see Cragside's contribution to Cramlington in Bloom being recognised in Manor Walks shopping centre. As part of the accreditation process, Mrs Austin and Mr Flynnwood met with representatives from Cramlington Town Council and shared the work which they do at Cragside to support the children's appreciation of nature and the importance of caring for our environment. One child who featured in the display was delighted to see his photograph there, stating that he feels famous now!

A message from Mrs Clarke

A huge well done to our youngest children in school, they have settled into new routines really quickly and confidently.





Our Reception children are fully embracing our "let your light shine" motto. They loved receiving their personalised candle and are enjoying using the lighthouse in class.

Don't forget to follow and share our Early Years Instagram page at **@cragsidecofenursery**

We still have places this academic year in Nursery and Reception if you know any families looking for a space please direct them to the school office.

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

Families asked to help shape the future of SEND services in Northumberland

Families are invited to have their say on the future of services for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in Northumberland. Northumberland County Council and its NHS partners, would like to hear feedback and experiences about what is working well and what needs to change. The council has worked closely with the Northumberland Parent Carer Forum (PCF) to develop the survey, and the feedback will help to set the county SEND partnership's vision and priorities over the next three years. Areas covered included health, education, social care, preparation for adulthood, transport and access to leisure activities in their local communities.

To find out more and take part in the survey visit the new Northumberland Local Offer website here:

<https://nland.cc/SENDSurvey>.

The deadline for this is 20 September 2024.

For parents and Carers of Year 6 children

The citizen portal to use for secondary school applications opened yesterday and will close on 31st October 2024. All children in a First, Middle or Primary school who are due to transition to Middle, Secondary or High in September 2025 will need to make an on time application. Please can all parents and carers ensure that applications are completed within this time frame. Applications made later than 31st October may affect where a child is allocated. The link to the portal for the applications is below:

[Citizen Portal - Sign in \(northumberland.gov.uk\)](https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/citizen-portal)

Any parents experiencing difficulty applying or needing advice, please call the school admissions team on 01670 624889.

A message from the 'Friends of Cragside'

Hello from the Friends of Cragside PTFA! We are excited to welcome all of our returning families and give a special shoutout to our new families as we start off this school year! It's been an amazing start, and we're looking forward to supporting our students, teachers, and community throughout the year.

To be connected and up to date with the latest news and events, please join our Closed Facebook group open to Parents, Carers, and Teaching Team of children who attend Cragside CofE Primary School: **Friends of Cragside C of E Primary School**



Our community Facebook Page: **PTA Cragside** and our email address is friendsofcragsidecofe@gmail.com

Asda Rewards

Here's a simple way to support our school and make a real difference! From the 2nd of Sept to the 30th of Nov 2024, you can help Cragside CofE Controlled Primary School raise funds through the Asda Rewards app! By nominating our school and spending just £2 or more in-store or online, Asda will donate a percentage of your spend to us, plus we get £1 into our Cashpot for every nomination! Every little bit adds up to big support for our students!

We'd be truly grateful if you could nominate us and spread the word to friends and family. Together, we can make a big impact!

Many thanks
Friends of Cragside PTFA



Dates for your diary

Please see below for a list of dates of a range of events which will be occurring during the Autumn term.

Thursday 12 th September	Northumberland County Council Online Admissions portal opens for Year 6 parents to complete Secondary school applications
Mon 16 th - Weds 18 th September	Year 6 Residential visit to Robinwood
Friday 4 th October	2.00-3.00pm – Reception Stay and Play
Wednesday 9 th October	Nursery Stay and Play sessions – further information to follow
Monday 14 th October	Individual and family photos with Phototronics
Wednesday 16 th October	3.30-6.00pm Parent consultation meetings in school
Thursday 17 th October	9.00-11.00am SEN Coffee Morning 3.30-6.00pm Parent consultation meetings in school
Tuesday 22 nd 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
Thursday 24 th October	Teacher Training Day-school closed to children
Friday 25 th October	Teacher Training Day-school closed to children and half term begins
Thursday 31 st October	Online Admissions portal for secondary school applications closes
Friday 1 st November	Northumberland County Council Online Admissions portal opens for September 2025 Reception intake – please note that parents/carers of children in Nursery need to complete this for a place in our Reception class
Monday 4 th November	Children return to school following Autumn half term
Thursday 21 st November	Flu Immunisations
Monday 9 th December	2.00pm Year 3 & Year 4 Nativity
Tuesday 10 th December	9.15am Year 3 & Year 4 Nativity
Tuesday 10 th December	2.00pm Year 1 & Year 2 Nativity
Wednesday 11 th December	9.15am Year 1 & Year 2 Nativity
Wednesday 11 th December	2.00pm EYFS Nativity (Nursery and Reception)



Thursday 12 th December	9.15am EYFS Nativity (Nursery and Reception)
Thursday 12 th December	2.00pm Year 5 & Year 6 Christmas performance
Friday 13 th December	9.15am Year 5 & Year 6 Christmas performance
Monday 16 th December	Am - Nursery Christmas Party Pm – Reception Christmas Parker
Tuesday 17 th December	1.30pm Key Stage 1 Christmas Party
Wednesday 18 th December	1.30pm Year 3 & Year 4 Christmas Party
Thursday 19 th 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
Friday 20 th December	End of Autumn term – school closes at 3.15pm
Monday 6 th January	Teacher Training Day – school closed to children
Tuesday 7 th January	Start of Spring term – children return to school

Wishing you all a good weekend,
Joanne Parker

