

## Newsletter 8 – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2025

Dear Cragside Family,

I hope this newsletter finds you all well. It is wonderful to see so many of our children overcoming the windy conditions this morning and coming into school with their smiling faces which have certainly warmed up these cold, blustery mornings! In the event of any unplanned school closures, please be assured that we would let you know at the very earliest opportunity if school needed to be closed. A message would be sent to all families via SchoolsBuddy and information would be available on the Northumberland County Council website. I have had another delightful Friday morning, celebrating our Shining Star awards with children who have shown exemplary learning behaviours or who have produced high quality work during the week. I hope you take some joy in celebrating these achievements with your child, if your child has received an award today.

### Young Sports Leaders – A message from Miss Rennison

Our Year 6 Sports Leaders have been developing ways they can encourage sport at playtimes. Next week, they will begin to lead a range of activities that they have chosen such as fundamental skills, team games, football coaching, basketball, fitness and hula hooping. This will help to promote physical activities for all children during lunchtime breaks.



### Kielder Observatory visit – A message from Mr Flynnwood

Wow, that was a wonderful visit! The children in our Space Club got to visit the observatory in Kielder Forest this week. We travelled the long winding roads to reach the forested hills by Kielder water. Unfortunately, as we ascended up to the observatory we found ourselves inside a cloud so visibility with the huge telescopes was a problem. Despite this, the children had a fantastic time engaging with the astronomers, touring the facility and were wonderful ambassadors for our Cragside Family, asking lots of interesting questions and showing fantastic levels of excitement and enthusiasm. I would like to say a big thank you to our parent helper and our bus driver, who also joined us for the tour of the facility.



### Information from the Family Hub

Across the UK and internationally, the Solihull Approach supports mental health and wellbeing in parents, children, schools, older adults and high stress workplaces through an evidence based model in training, online courses and resources. Please find attached a poster sharing information about a free event being held at the Cramlington Hub Library on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January from 9.30am-11.00am. During this event parents can learn how to understand their child better by using a free digital package, meet with staff from the Family Hub and meet and talk with other parents.

### Times Table Rockstar Competition

In last week's Celebration Worship, we gave out prizes to children from Year 1 upwards who had completed the most questions in our January Times Tables Rockstars competition. Children in school answered more than 40,000 multiplication questions between them, with Miss Hames' class being the overall class winners. We are having areal focus on teaching our children their times tables and it is wonderful to see so many children participating in these monthly competitions.



### Dates for your diary – Spring term 2025

I have added two new dates (shown in blue) into our diary of events from the Spring term. These are the dates of our Spring term parent consultation meetings. Additional information about booking these sessions will be available closer to the time.

Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 6 Curriculum workshop and SATs Information session for parents and carers
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Children's Mental Health Week begins
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	9.00am Year 2 Curriculum Workshop for parents and carers
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day – Be kind online workshops arranged for Years 5&6
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	9.00am Year 4 Curriculum Workshop for parents and carers
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	9.00am Year 3 Curriculum Workshop for parents and carers
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	9.00am Reception Classes Curriculum Workshop for parents and carers
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	3.15pm – School closes for Spring half term holiday
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Children return to school following the half term holiday Fairtrade Fortnight begins
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent Consultation meetings 3.30-6.00pm (not 2JF)
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent Consultation meetings 3.30pm-6.00pm
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day Parent Consultation meetings 3.30pm-6.00pm – 2JF only



Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00am Year 1 Curriculum Workshop for parents and carers
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00am Year 5 Curriculum Workshop for parents and carers
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Judging Day – Decorate an Easter egg competition
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Easter Church Services at St Nicholas' Church</b> 9.30am Year 5 & Year 6 11.00am Year 1 & Year 2 2.00pm Year 3 & Year 4
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	3.15pm – End of Spring term
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	8.45am – Children return to school for beginning of Summer term

Many thanks for your ongoing support.  
Joanne Parker

