



Newsletter 10 – Friday 21st February, 2025

Dear Cragside Family,

Time seems to be passing so quickly and once again we have reached the end of another half term. As always in school, our children and staff have been working hard. It's been wonderful to see that our curriculum mornings have been exceptionally well-attended, and it is always heartening to see and hear about the children's enthusiasm as they work alongside their grown-ups, showcasing their abilities and learning. We are immensely grateful for the support provided by families in attending these sessions, preparing our oldest children for SATs, reinforcing Phonics learning with our younger children and practising multiplication facts with nearly all of our children in school.

The February Times Tables Rock Stars competition saw phenomenal participation, with numerous children receiving awards during Monday's Worship. It is a joy to observe the children's increasing speed improving, over time, as they get quicker and more confident in recalling these crucial facts. Congratulations to Miss Hames' class for their outstanding performance once again.

Our school football team continue to excel, securing second place in the Northumberland Coastal League at Wednesday's matches at Whyrig. This impressive result qualifies them for the next stage, where they will compete against League finalists from the West of the county. After each game, Mr Freedman shares with me how well the team plays. We are so proud of this group of children whose conduct is exemplary, who consistently demonstrate encouragement and sportsmanship and respect for the game.

An invitation to Cramlington 2025-The Movie!

I have been asked by a representative from the town council to invite all of our families to the following event. An accompanying flier is also attached to this newsletter.

'CRAMLINGTON 2025' captures a record of the town and its people as they are now and the development in recent years of the relationship between residents and community groups as the Council introduced a more community-focused approach.

The premiere of the documentary will take place on Tuesday, 4th March 2025, at 6.00 pm at The VUE Cinema, with residents invited to witness their town's journey of positive change highlighting community spirit, initiatives, projects, and most importantly, the people. Through personal stories and striking imagery captured by local content creators Here You Belong, the film demonstrates how putting people first has created lasting positive impacts throughout the community.

Following the screening, attendees are invited to continue the celebration at Cramlington Village Social Club from 6.30 pm onwards. This after-show gathering will provide an excellent opportunity for community members to discuss the documentary, share their own experiences of Cramlington's transformation, and connect with others who have been part of this inspiring journey. For more information contact

maggie@cramlingtontowncouncil.gov.uk. Event RSVP <https://www.hereyoubelong.co.uk/event-details/cramlington-2025-film-premier-and-after-party>

Year 4 Litter Pick in Valley Park – A message from Miss Hames and Mrs Urwin-Clark

On Thursday morning our Year 4 children took part in a litter pick at Valley Park. The initiative came from the children, who are working so conscientiously to protect their school and local environment, after being inspired by the book One Plastic Bag, which they have been studying in their English lessons. Well done Year 4 on your courageous advocacy and for making such a difference in your community!



Attendance Matters – A message from Mrs Bilton

I am delighted to share that our current attendance stands at 96.3%. **That places us in the top 10-20 % of school nationally.** Well done Cragside children and families!


To help with this further, and following lots of feedback about the challenges families often face when trying to organise a doctor's appointment, I wanted to share this useful update from The Village surgery in Cramlington. Essentially, they're encouraging families to use them as a more accessible first call, if your child is unwell. I very much hope you find this useful.


Children with the following illnesses, can attend the pharmacy, no appointment required, and be seen in a clinical setting by our experienced Pharmacist. The pharmacy is located in the Village surgery Cramlington NE236US.

The conditions are as follows:


- Sore Throat


1	Is the patient over 5 years old?
2	Symptoms appeared less than 3 day ago?
3	Inflamed tonsils/visible puss on tonsils?
4	Does the patient have a fever?






- Earache






1	Is the child aged 1-17 years old?
2	Does the child have any earache?
3	Is child tugging/rubbing/holding ears?
4	Any fever or flu-like symptoms?

- Impetigo







1	Any red patches/lesions around the mouth or nose that are likely to rupture and dry forming yellow-brown crusts?
2	Is the patient over 1 years old?
3	Any fluid filled blisters on affected area?
4	Patient not had impetigo within last year



- Infected Insect Bites

1	Is the patient over 1 years old?
2	Has 48 hours passed since the bite?
3	Is the bitten skin painful or hot to touch?
4	Is the bitten skin red or swollen?



If the ill child meets the NHS requirements, as above, then antibiotics can be prescribed. Those who do not meet the NHS requirement can be given something to help with their symptoms, free of charge, through the Minor Ailment service.

Year 3 Moki League Victory!

During the winter months, Year 3 participated in the Cramlington Moki League competing against other schools. Over a period of four weeks, the children wore Moki bands that monitored their steps and active minutes. During this time, the children were incredibly motivated to be active and score points for our school. They topped the leaderboard with an incredible 11 points and were awarded with the trophy! Well done Year 3- we are so proud of you!

Updates from Friends of Cragside PTFA

Next half term, we have organised an Easter disco to take place in school, on Wednesday 2nd April. On the same date, children will be allowed to come into school wearing non-uniform, based on the theme of 'Express Yourself.' The Friends of Cragside kindly request a chocolate donation is made on this date. Further information about these events can be found in the attached poster from the PTFA.

The PTFA will also be present during our upcoming parent consultation meetings on Tuesday 4th March and Wednesday 5th March, where volunteers will be providing refreshments as well organising lost property to be collected. The PTFA want to ensure our school is as sustainable as possible and will be organising a uniform shop of secondhand uniform to be sold for a small donation at a later date. Items which are left over from the lost property following the parent consultations will be put into the sustainable uniform shop. If families have any old uniform that your child has grown out of, please can you donate this to the sustainable uniform shop which the PTFA are planning to organise. The Friends of Cragside would also appreciate any spare coat hangers if you have any to donate.

Warm regards and have an enjoyable half term break.

Joanne Parker