



Newsletter 14 – Friday 15th May 2026

Dear Cragside Family,

This week, our Year 6 children have completed their end of Key Stage SATs tests during which each and every child who sat the tests demonstrated remarkable confidence, focus and concentration throughout the testing period. I am immensely proud of the effort and resilience shown by all our Year 6 children. The children approached the assessments with unwavering determination, giving their absolute best. Both myself and the Year 6 team would also like to say thank you to all of our Year 6 families who helped to prepare the children for these tests, by encouraging extra learning at home, providing reassurance and ensuring the children were calm and focused when they came to our Breakfast Club. It's felt like a real team effort and this has enabled our Year 6's to shine.

Bicycles and Scooters

It's great to see so many children coming into school using their bicycles and scooters. This is not only a fun and healthy way to travel to school, but also helps to ease the travel congestion and ongoing parking problems that can occur around school. When children do travel to and from school on their bicycles or scooters, please can I remind you that children need to push their bicycle or scooter whilst on the school yard. Our yards are very busy places and we need to avoid any accidents occurring for any of our children, parents and families. We have relocated the bicycles and scooters from the 'Opal Play' shed so that both bicycle sheds can be used for children to store their bicycles in during the Summer term.

Parking around school

On the subject of travelling to school, if you do need to use your car to transport your child to school, please can you adhere to the parking restrictions in front of our school, on Westloch Road and at the back of our school, around Glenluce Drive. Parking Enforcement Officers have been asked to monitor these areas to ensure that all of our children are safe on their walk to and from school. The markings at the front of our school, clearly show that this is a no parking area – this is to enable our children to enter and leave school safely and to allow access for emergency vehicles to get to our school quickly if this was ever needed.

Year 5 Visit to Valley Park – A message from Mrs Cowie

Year 5 had a wonderful Fieldwork trip to Valley Park on Monday. Many thanks to Chris Brennan, the Friends of Valley Park and the adult helpers for their support. The children created questionnaires, used 6 grid map references and applied their mapping skills. They also, just enjoyed being in nature and appreciating what we have so close to our school. Both classes were even lucky enough to spot two baby deer. A magical moment! I was very proud to hear from the Valley Park team how sensible and curious our Year 5 children were.

Supporting your Child's Emotional Regulation and Resilience Parent Workshop - Friday 12th June

Join us for our upcoming parent workshop about supporting your child's emotional resilience and regulation, taking place on Friday 12th June in our school hall. This session will be led by the BeYou team and will offer helpful insights and practical strategies to support your child in managing big feelings, building resilience, understanding regulation and coping with everyday challenges at home. This workshop is open to all parents and carers across school with no booking required - simply come along to the main office for 8.55am. We would love to see as many of you as possible! For further information, please contact Miss Harris - ellie.harris@cragside.northumberland.sch.uk. Please see the attached document for further information.

Times Tables Rockstars – A message from Mr Beck

Well done to the winners of our TTRS competition for May who were awarded their prizes during our Celebration Worship this morning. The classes with the most points from each of the phases also won some extra play time this afternoon for all their hard work- well done 2RC, 4SG and 6ER. We'll be back with a new competition in June; please encourage your children to take part and try to win one of our cool, rock themed prizes. Thank you for your continued support.



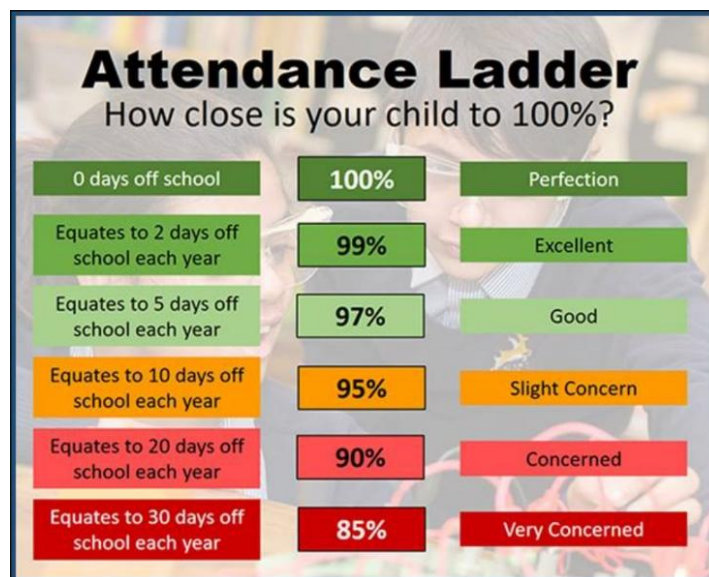
Attendance matters- a message from Mrs Bilton

Thank you so much for all of your support with attendance during this busy summer term. Whilst we have maintained our usual good attendance, there has been a slight slip to 95.9%. As we're looking at reasons for absence, we can see that there are some families taking children out of school during term time. Whilst we appreciate all of the reasons for this, we urge you to consider this very carefully.

Just to remind you, we are not able to authorise absence for holidays. If you submit a leave of absence form, this is helpful for safeguarding, so we know where children are. However, unless there are very exceptional circumstances, we are unable to authorise this.

Given how important good school attendance is, please can we ask you to carefully consider when you take holidays with your child.

As you can see from this Attendance Ladder, a few days off for a holiday with possible time for illness, can have a very significant impact on your child's attendance.



Class Attendance this week:

Alongside individual attendance, we monitor class attendance:

- RLC 92.38%
- RNH 96.36%
- 1LT 88.08%
- 1KB 99.17%
- 2RC 98.5%
- 2JF 90%
- 3 EO 97.5%
- 3DF 96.3%
- 4UC 93.46%
- 4SG 90.77%
- 5KR 91.19%
- 5HC 95.52%
- 6ER 97.92%
- 6JB 99.55%

We've got some classes very close to 100% attendance this week. Well done!

Please don't hesitate to ask if you would like any support with your child's attendance. You can also request a copy of your child's registration certificate if you would like to see their individual absence and attendance.

Thank you very much for all of your support.

Cragside Church of England Primary School

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Let Your Light Shine

St Matthew's Gospel

Climate Change Champion Challenge A message from Mrs Beacher

'If you think you are too small to make a difference, try sleeping with a mosquito' Dalai Lama

A healthy, sustainable planet requires us to tackle climate change and needs us ALL to take action. This week we are encouraging families and our wider community to take small actions each week. Together, these cumulative actions can make an impact. 'Little by little, a little becomes a lot'. This week it's about getting outside more, walking to school. Avoiding the car where possible can reduce car exhaust emissions, and there's scope for fun along the way. Cloud-spotting, whistling birdsong, a 'funny faces' trail, or dew-bathing – what choice will you make as a family?

Walk to school week ...

In the KwaZulu-Natal province of South Africa, some children walk 6 miles to school every single day – and then 6 miles home again! [Check out these epic journeys to school.](#)

Over half of children in the UK are not meeting the NHS-recommended 60 minutes of physical activity a day.

It's 'Walk to school' week (18th–22nd May), and 'outdoor classroom day' on Thursday 27th - lots of scope for fun and learning outside!



Cats have 4, **beetles** have 6, **spiders** have 8 – how many do you have? Make more journeys 'on foot', tackling climate change and having some fun along the way.

Cloud-spotting - what shapes and images can you see - are they moving or changing?

Whistling - try whistling an easy well-known tune, or try to copy a bird's song that you hear - keep practising it takes time!

A funny faces trail - find twigs or stones and leave them along your journey for others to find?

Dew-bathing - wake up your feet on some dewy grass?

Walk to school challenges!

When you've completed this challenge ... Remember to hit the red button!



A generation ago, 70% of children walked to school — now it's less than half

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Dates for your diary

Thursday 21st May	Friends of Cragside hosting a school disco
Friday 22nd May	School closes for Summer half term holiday
Monday 1st June	Children return to school for Summer Term 2 Child Safety Week begins Year 4 Multiplication Check period begins (ends 12th June)
Wednesday 3rd May	RNLI Water Safety talk for Key Stage 2 children
Thursday 4th June	Parent Induction Evening at Cramlington Learning Village
Monday 8th June - Friday 12th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Checks and Re-screening check for some children in Year 2
Monday 15th June	Kielder Observatory visit for children in Space Club
Tuesday 16th June	Year 6 Leavers Service at St Nicholas' Cathedral (children and staff only)
Thursday 18th June	Class photos being taken
Wednesday 10 th June	5.00pm - New to Reception Parents evening (for children joining Reception in September 2025)
Wednesday 24 th June	Year 4 to Beamish
Thursday 25th June	Year 6 children to JLV for the full day and Cragside transition day
Thursday 25th June	Year 3 at Vindolanda (a different plan will be arranged for transition to accommodate the visit)
Friday 26th June	Year 6 PE transition session at the JLV
Thursday 25 th June	Year 1 to Rising Sun Country Park
Thursday 2nd July	9.15am – Y3/4 Sports Morning 2.00pm – Y5/6 Sports Afternoon
Friday 3rd July	Reception trip to Whitehouse farm
Tuesday 7 th July	9.15am Reception Celebration Assembly and Sports morning
Thursday 9th July	Friends of Cragside hosting a Circus/Summer Fayre (3.15pm onwards)
Thursday 9 th July	9.15am Year 1 Celebration Assembly
Friday 10 th July	9.15am Year 2 Celebration Assembly
Tuesday 14 th July	9.15am Year 4 Celebration Assembly
Wednesday 15 th July	9.15am Year 5 Celebration Assembly
Thursday 16 th July	9.15am Year 3 Celebration Assembly
Friday 17 th July	9.15am Year 6 Leavers Assembly 3.15pm End of Summer term
Tuesday 1 st September	Teacher Training Day
Wednesday 2 nd September	Start of Autumn term

