



Newsletter 15 – Friday 5th June 2026

Dear Cragside Family,

As always, our children have been very busy and purposeful as we begin the start of our last half term of this academic year. Time seems to pass so quickly and I can't believe it's that time of year again where our lovely Year 6 children are beginning their transition events with their next schools and we are planning our welcome meetings for new families who are joining us in September. It was lovely this morning, leading the Celebration Assembly, and seeing so many children receiving certificates for a range of different things – from amazing printing, learning in phonics and demonstrating their perseverance with learning, to name but a few. Well done the group of Year 6 children who represented our school during an athletics tournament at Seaton Sluice Middle School – I heard how well you all represented our school so brilliantly and demonstrated excellent sportsmanship! Thank you also to the PTFA for ending the previous half term with two successful disco's which the children thoroughly enjoyed...with one child saying it was the best time of their life!

Transition Day

Our Year 6 children who will be attending the Cramlington Learning Village School from September will spend the day at their new school on Thursday 25th June. We have however, changed the date of the transition events which will happen in school. This will now be during the morning on **Wednesday 1st July**. During this time, our Year 6 children will be in Cragside where they will engage in some different activities whilst Year 6 staff spend time with their new classes.

Attendance Matters – A message from Mrs Bilton

Thank you so much for all of your support with attendance at the beginning of this new half term. We've maintained our strong attendance at 95.8%. This maintains our place in the top 20-30% of schools in the country. We also compare very favourably in Northumberland where our attendance is 33rd out of 127 schools. This gives our Cragside children such a brilliant start to their education.

Class Attendance this week:

RLC 99.05%
RNH 91.82%
1LT 93.46%
1KB 98.75%
2RC 99%
2JF 97.78%
3EO 97.08%
3DF 86.67%
4UC 95.93%
4SG 90.8%
5KR 95.81%
5HC 100%
6ER 92.5%
6JB 84.09%

Well done 5HC, 100% attendance! Great achievement.

What is persistent absence and why do we monitor it closely?

Persistent absence is an official government measure for any child who misses 10% or more of their

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schooling across the academic year. In primary schools, this equates to roughly 19 days off (or about one day every two weeks). Missing this much learning can significantly impact a child's academic progress and social development.

We closely monitor attendance to ensure all students reach their full potential. The 10% threshold applies to all absences, including authorised and unauthorised leave of absence, illness and medical appointments.

What are the statistics for persistent absence?

At Cragside, our rate of persistent absence is 7.8%. This changes every day as children's attendance changes, but it's something we closely monitor. We monitor it closely because of the significant impact persistent absence has on children. We look to avoid persistent absence wherever, and whenever, we can.

Nationally, the rate of persistent absence is 13.13%. As you can see, our rate at Cragside is much lower than the national, that's something we're very proud of. It's also something we are working hard to improve. We're always ambitious for more for our children!

If you would like to discuss any issues in relation to your child's attendance, and how to avoid your child reaching persistent absence, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you very much for all of your support.

Electric Scooters

I would like to share with families that electric scooters are not permitted for children on pavements, cycle lanes or public roads and can only be used on privately owned land. Riding electric scooters on cycle paths and pavements poses a safety risk to others, especially young children, the elderly, parents/carers with pushchairs and those with mobility aids. Please can families help to ensure children are aware of these rules, With this in mind, electric scooters can not be used by children to travel to and from our school. Thank you for helping us to keep our school and wider community safe.

New Report - Children's Online Experiences

Released last week, Ofcom have published their new report which goes into a lot of detail about the online experiences of children. Reports such as this are invaluable to enable us as staff and for you as parents to be aware of the issues facing our children. For example, some of the findings of the report are:

- AI is widely used, but not well understood. AI is used by **over half of 8-17 year olds** rising to two-thirds of 16-17's.
- Harmful content remains an issue - nearly three-quarters of 11-17's said they had seen harmful content. Importantly, there has been little change since new legislation came into place and the biggest factor is personalised feeds (algorithms).
- Children are using devices younger than ever with the majority of children under the age of two already using screens. 65% of parents of children aged 6 months to 2 years say that their child goes online.

Link - [Ofcom Report - Children's Online Experiences](#)

For Parents - A Practical Toolkit for Families

The Molly Rose Foundation has some wonderful resources for parents including guides and other resources. One of these guides helps families understand who and what may be shaping a child's online world and how these influences can affect mood, confidence and safety. To download this guide and check some of the other resources see the link below.



Link - [Molly rose Foundation - A Practical Toolkit for Families](#)

Climate Change Challenge – A message from Mrs Beacher

This week we are thinking about saving water ... Do we sometimes take water for granted?

Water is one of our most precious resources, and small actions can make a big difference. As a school community, we can all help save water by turning off taps while brushing our teeth, taking shorter showers, reporting dripping taps, and only filling water bottles with what we need. By working together to reduce water waste, we can help protect the environment and ensure there is enough clean water for everyone. Thank you for doing your part to make our school more sustainable!



**Do we take water for granted?
Are you up for a
Bathroom Water Blitz?**

How much water do you reckon you use in a week?
The UK average is 140 litres a day!!! Yet in Mali people have to survive on 11 litres a day.

A typical bath uses 80 litres of water. Join in with the Bathroom Water Blitz! Swap to a shower - as long as it's not super long - and save a huge amount of water.

What's your favourite 'sustainable showering song'? Just the right length to keep your shower nice and short. Let us know and we'll add it to our **'Sustainable Showering Songs' playlist!**
#greatbiggreenweek, #youngclimatewarriors

Together for good' ... join in with this water challenge!

THE GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK

YOUNG CLIMATE WARRIORS

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

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Mrs Parker





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