THE WEEKLY UPDATE

Primary Update - 6th December 2024

Dear Families,

This week, I've been incredibly proud of our school community. While we haven't had assemblies or field trips, I've witnessed remarkable moments across our school. Our pupils have demonstrated pride in their learning during assessment week, and some of our youngest students have shown wonderful engagement in Oracy and Performance as they prepare for their nativity. Additionally, I've seen pupils step up to be even kinder and safer with their peers. A special mention goes to Year 6, who have exhibited exemplary behaviour, standing tall as role models for the entire school.

In last year's Community Listening Projects—including our Pupil, Family, and Staff Surveys—one recurring theme was the challenges pupils faced when working with supply teachers during teacher absences. I'm pleased to share that we've made significant strides in this area. This week in Primary, we achieved a milestone by using **zero supply teachers**, with our own staff stepping in to support. Many even gave up leadership time to ensure consistency for our pupils. This humble and collaborative effort reflects our *Relentlessly Positive in Collaboration* pillar, which is at the heart of our school culture.

I want to thank our dedicated staff for their incredible teamwork and our community for the invaluable feedback that helped us improve—my teacher mentor always said, "Feedback is the breakfast of champions," and it has truly driven positive change in this area.

Wishing you all a wonderful week ahead. I'm looking forward to seeing all our pupils next week for some festive fun, and I look forward to sharing our carols with you later next week.

Warm regards,
Krisha

Crantastic Festive Events

Click the button to view our Crantastic Festive events from the Campus and the wider community

Cranbrook Christmas light switch on

A massive well done to all the #crantastic performers at the Cranbrook Christmas light switch on Friday 29th.
We performances from the Primary y6 Choir, from the Secondary Choir and the school show cast.
They should be very **proud** of their excellent singing but also for representing CEC by being **kind and safe**. It was a brilliant event to be part of and I am so pleased to be involved in events in the heart of our community.

We wanted to let you know about the festive events we have coming up for our Primary Phase on Friday 13th December.

Christmas Jumpers

We are excited to remind you that **Friday 13th December** will be **Christmas Jumper Day** at Cranbrook Education Campus. We would love to see all pupils wearing their festive Christmas jumpers to add to the seasonal cheer. Please note that this is Campus wide, and therefore older siblings in the Secondary Phase will also be invited to wear their Christmas jumpers.

Annual Primary Christmas Carols

In addition, we warmly invite you to our **Annual Primary Christmas Carols** event for **Years 1–6**, which will also take place on Friday 13th December at **2:30pm in the Sports Hall**.
To make the event even more festive, the PTA will have a stand selling seasonal goodies, so please bring along some change or card to support their fundraising efforts.
Please come to the Community Entrance where a member of staff will guide you to the Sports Hall. The doors will be open from 2:15pm ready for a 2:30pm start. We aim to finish by **3:00pm**, after which children will return to their classrooms to collect their belongings before being collected in the normal way.

Father Christmas Visits to Primary Classrooms

We're delighted to share that our wonderful PTA has arranged for a very special guest to visit our classrooms this festive season! On **Friday, 13th December**, Father Christmas will be making a magical stop at our school to spread Christmas cheer.

Father Christmas will greet the children in their classrooms, share a little festive joy, and leave a small gift with teachers to be given to each child at the end of the day. It's sure to be a day filled with smiles, wonder, and holiday magic!

To help make this event extra special, we kindly ask for a £1 donation per child, payable via MCAS under the 'Shop' button. If you'd like to share even more Christmas magic, there's also the option to make a 'pay it forward' donation on MCAS. This thoughtful gesture can help bring the joy of the season to another family who might need a little extra support this Christmas.

We look forward to celebrating this wonderful time of year with you and sharing in the festive spirit!

Christmas Dinner - Wednesday 18th December

The celebration will feature festive food, delightful decorations, and cheerful music, creating a truly joyful occasion for all. Please note: Any meal orders placed on School Grid for the 18th December will automatically be converted into a Festive Roast or Lentil Loaf, which the children can request at the counter.
Campus staff are excited to join in the festivities by sitting and enjoying lunch alongside the students in the atrium, sharing in the spirit of the season together.

School Lunches

We have noticed an increase in instances where children are reluctant to eat the meals ordered for them. This can be distressing for the children and contributes to unnecessary food waste.
To help ensure your child enjoys their lunch and to minimize waste, we kindly ask that you take a few minutes each week to review their meal preferences with them. If there are items they do not enjoy, please update their lunch orders accordingly.
Your support in this matter will make a big difference in creating a positive lunchtime experience for the children and in reducing food waste. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding

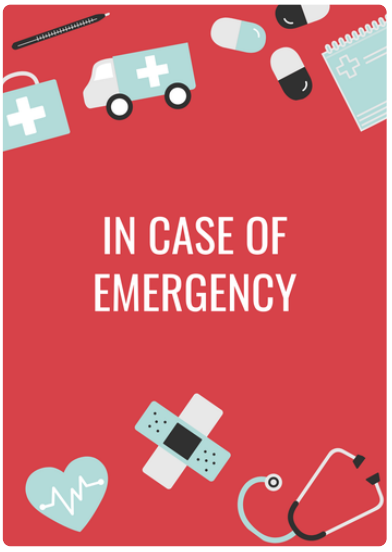
Feedback

We work closely with our catering provider Dolce to ensure students are provided with healthy and nutritious meals. If you have any comments or feedback you wish to share about the food, we welcome you contacting us by emailing reception@cranbrook.education

Dolce Autumn 2024 Menu

Download
1.4 MB

Medication



We would like to remind you of the importance of ensuring that your child has their necessary medication, such as inhalers, antihistamines, or EpiPens, available at school if they have a medical condition that requires it. It is vital that we have a set of medication handed to the main office and, ideally for inhalers, another set for the classroom.
If your child has been prescribed any medication, please ensure it is brought into school as soon as possible to help ensure their safety and well-being throughout the school day.
Thank you for your cooperation and collaboration as we work together to keep our pupils safe.

Nut and Peanut Free School

We have a number of staff and students who have a severe allergic reaction to nuts and peanuts and it is important that we keep them safe. In this regard, we ask that students, staff and visitors do not bring products containing nuts and peanuts into school.
Products that should not be brought into school include:
· Peanuts and nuts and products containing peanuts or nuts
· Peanut butter and peanut based chocolate snacks (snickers / reece's pieces, Nutella etc)
· Items where peanuts or nuts are listed as main ingredients
· Nut or peanut based oils or products

Products that are allowed:
· Items that "may contain nuts" and "may contain traces of nuts" or "made in factories that use nuts". These present a low risk and are not direct ingredients in the products
· All other non nut-based snacks and food stuff.

FSM Eligibility

If you wish to check your child's eligibility for Free School Meals, please use the Devon Citizens Portal This is the quickest and easiest way to apply and will result in you getting an instant decision.
Alternatively, call the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019 who will check eligibility, answer questions and help with your application.

School Attendance and Illness

Its that time of year when there are lots of bugs being passed around. Sometimes it's difficult to know whether your child should come to school or not. The poster below gives a bit more guidance

If you are ever unsure or would like further advice, please speak to one of our attendance team. You can contact them on attendance@cranbrook.education

Please note: We are also able to keep and administer medication in school if the correct form is filled in. Please speak to our Reception Team to arrange this

Handwashing is really important this time of year, please encourage your child to do this regularly to avoid the spread of germs.

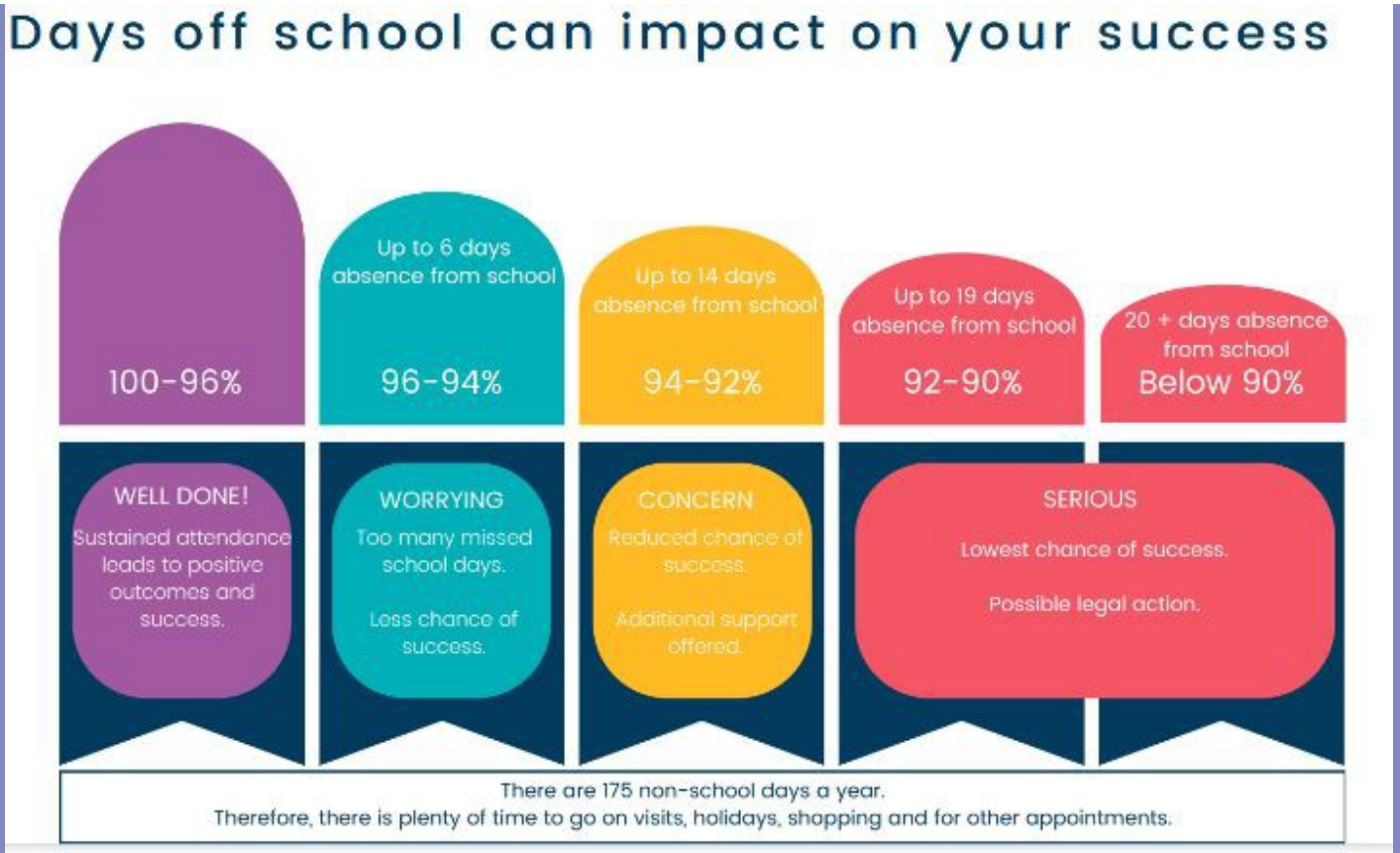
Reporting an Absence

Absences need to be reported no later than 8.30am. To make this process as easy as possible for you, there are various ways that you can do this:

1. The School Number – 01404 823293 (Please leave a message)
2. Via email - attendance@cranbrook.education
3. Via MCAS or the link on the website home page

For all options please state your child's full name, class and reason for absence. If you do not contact the school your child will be given an automatic unauthorised absence, these remain on their school records.

All of the above options are checked every morning. While we are unable to reply to all messages, please rest assured they will be recorded.



Holiday in term time letter

Download
168.9 KB

Moving around the Campus

A polite reminder to families that cycle or scoot to school that these should not be ridden anywhere on site. We ask please for you to dismount from your bike / scooter at the school gates and use the shelters provided. **It is essential that bikes and scooters left on site are secured using bike locks!**

We have a small car park at the campus that is intended for use by blue badge visitors and staff who live outside of Cranbrook only. Please walk to the campus where possible and if you do need to drive to the campus, there is plenty of on road parking available. Please remember to park sensibly and safely for our neighbours.
Thank you

Year Group Updates

Preschool Update

What an excellent week we've had in pre-school. This week, we have been continuing our work on the story, The Gingerbread Man. We have worked together in our classes to make and bake gingerbread men and enjoyed discussing how the dough smelt and felt. In maths, we have been making comparisons between objects relating to their size, talking about which gingerbread men are bigger and smaller. In phonics, we have been learning the sound 'p' and have been practising orally blending the sounds for simple CVC words, for example 'p-i-n' and 'p-o-t' as well as identifying animals which start with the 'p' sound. We're really looking forward to seeing those of you who can make it along to our Christmas workshops over the next two weeks. If you have been unable to sign up but would like to attend then please speak to a member of the team. Wishing you all a wonderful weekend and we're looking forward to seeing you back in pre-school next week.

Reception Update

This week, in Reception, the children have been very busy preparing for our Christmas Nativity performance on the 9*th* December. The children took part in a dress rehearsal and performed for Pre-school. Pre-school staff and children shared lovely, fantastic praise for our Reception children. In Maths, we have focused on positional language. The children have used amazing full sentences to explain where different objects are positioned. In English, we have challenged the children to write a fact/phrase about Diwali. We are very proud of all the facts they can remember. During independent learning, the children have created beautiful Rangoli patterns using small stickers and have practised writing CVC words. Whilst a new Forest School Leader is trained, Forest School will be paused until January. We look forward to seeing you all at our Reception Nativity on Monday!

Year Two Update

In Year 2 we have been working really hard this week on our NFER Papers.
We have also been making cards in design and technology which the children really enjoyed. They were making cards with a linear movement.
In RE we have been learning about the differences and similarities between Christmas and our birthdays. In the lesson we drew things we see and do on Christmas and things we see and do on our birthdays.
Geography we have been continuing our learning all about the oceans and continents and even doing our own research using an atlas.
In Science, we have been learning all about different habitats that animals live in. We had to match pictures of the animals to their habitats and then write a sentence about an animal of our choosing.

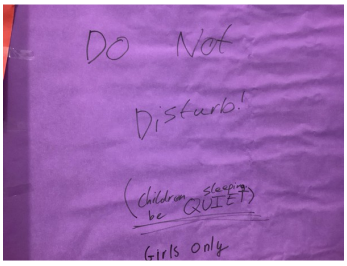
Year Three Update

Year 3 have been very busy this week. They have been completing their NFER assessments and writing a story in English. In DT the children have painted their papier mache volcanoes ready for the next stage in their construction and explosion! We have also been learning more about the Ten Commandments in R.E and how they are important to the Jewish community. Year 3 have also been busy practicing the Christmas songs ready for our carols with families. This weeks spellings are: forgetting, forgotten, beginning, propelled, preferred, permitted, regretting, committed, forbidden, equipped.

Year Four & Five Update

Years 4 and 5 have been working hard completing test papers this week alongside preparing for their Christmas singing next week. We've worked really hard to ensure all children felt prepared and READY whilst putting in their best efforts. Across Year 4 we've been taking part in Maths battles using Times Tables Rockstar's to build knowledge and our top players for the week are...

Here a few pictures to enjoy following on from our year 4 sleepover! They were too good not to share.



Year 6 Update

We have had a great week in Year 6 this week. In PE, we have continued to learn more skills needed for dodgeball, focussing on blocking the ball to protect our team mates. In RE, we have been learning about activists such as Greta Thunberg, creating a fact file about her. We have been completing our NFER papers this week, adults are so proud of all of the effort that has been put into these assessments this week, showing great engagement and focus.
Have a brilliant weekend!

✨Stars of the Week✨

Lets celebrate the pupils who have be Proud, Engaged, Ready, Kind and Safe this week

Year 2 : Lera Nishangan and Samuel Stewart
Year 3 : Poppy and Tharcika
Year 4 : Patrycja Drewczynska in Murphy, for being a great member of the class and always being engaged and ready to learn.
Year 5 : Harry H and Zach P.
Year 6 : Joey Castle and Alice Zarzycka.

Community Notice Board

PDF **Lumi_Nova_Parent_Info_Sheet_-_Devon.pdf** Download 707.8 KB

Free Education Skills Courses

This is FULLY FUNDED (FREE) for parents and carers in your area, from The ESFA (Education Skills Funding Agency).

Our deadline to enrol is approaching fast for our start date on 6*th* January 2025.

Premier Education Christmas Services.pdf

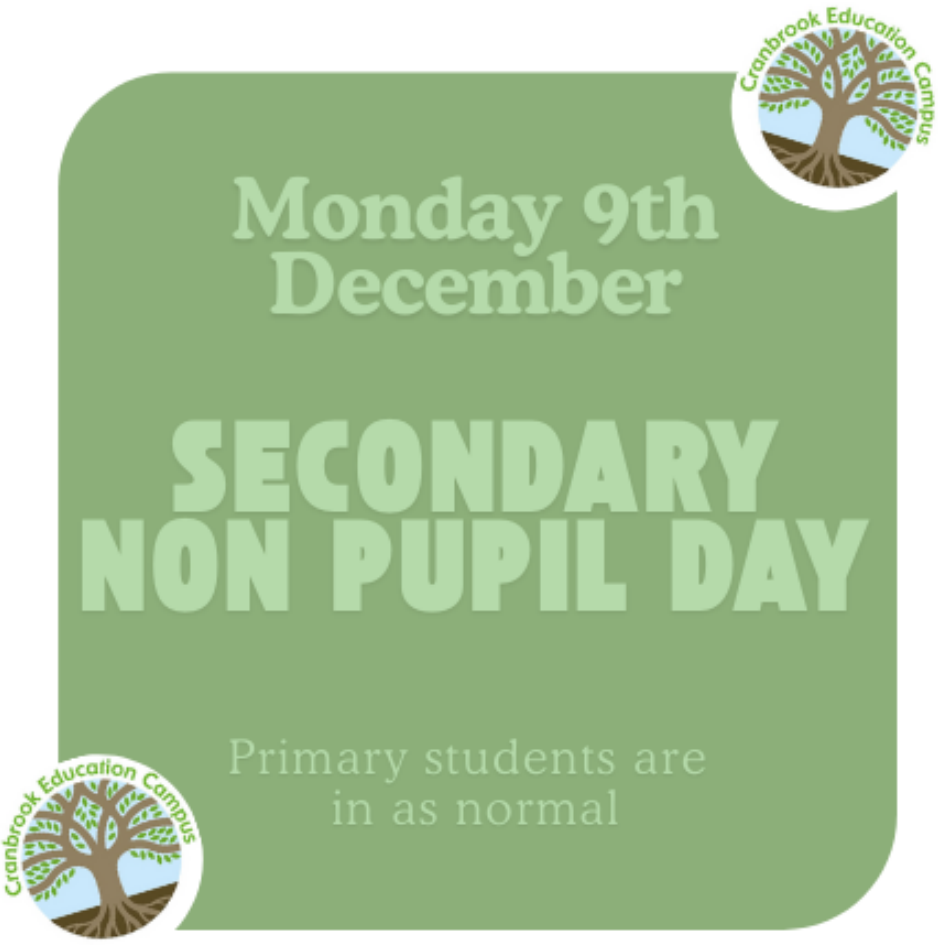
Download
823.4 KB

Dates for the Diary

Term Dates

A reminder that Monday is a non-pupil day for Secondary only.

We look forward to seeing all Primary pupils in school as normal on Monday 9th December from 8.30am.



Please take a moment to review the Key Dates and mark your calendars accordingly. This will help you stay informed and ensure you're up-to-date with all the key activities such as Trips and PTA Events. **This includes the exciting news of a Winter Showcase on 19th December with Primary Dance and Choir clubs. More information to follow soon.**
If you have any questions or need further details please email reception@cranbrook.education

Key Dates for 2024/25

Please note that details of our Privacy Policy can be found here

Krisha Gandhi
Head of Primary