



Crabtree Junior School

23rd November 2018

The blogs

Please be aware we are currently having technical difficulties with some year group blogs – we will notify you when your year group blog is available. We appreciate your patience.

Weekly timetables

If you would like to see the current weekly 'overview' Literacy and mathematics plan for your child's class, please visit the school website at:

http://www.crabtreejm.herts.sch.uk/teaching_learning/timetables.html

This week's school value is:

"Remembrance"

Diary Reminders

Monday 26th November

Yr 4 – Last swimming

Wednesday 28th November

AM – Prospective Parents
Tour

Thursday 29th November

AM – Prospective Parent Tour

Friday 30th November

Non-Uniform Day in exchange
for donation to the Christmas
Fayre

Saturday 1 December

PA Christmas Fayre

Dear Parents & Carers

Despite the miserable weather and a considerable drop in temperature this week, the children have continued to throw themselves into school life.

This term we have had many things happening behind the scenes to improve the school and to continue to strive to provide the very best experience for all your children. Last week, we began to work towards improving the technology at the school. The first, and most important, step is to improve the infrastructure – the wires and the server – to ensure that any new technology we do invest in will be supported and be effective. We have now re-wired the school and are looking forward to switching over to the new server soon. Next step...funding for some new computers. If anyone has any connections or links to computer companies let me know!

We are also in the process of updating our school library. We are looking for a team of parents to help with the painting – please see note later in the newsletter! We hope to brighten up the library and invest in some new furniture. Following the success of the book fair, we will also be able to add to our collection of books. A huge thank you to Mrs Goody for all her efforts in giving the library a boost!

The summerhouse, which arrived at the start of the term, is now in the process of being insulated and will then be decorated and kitted out, ready for use by the children. I think it will be a great addition to our school.

We are always looking at ways to improve break times at school. Due to the generosity of the PA, we have just bought a wide range of new equipment. The children are all enjoying having a go with various activities – I have to admit I am hooked on a slightly challenging 'swinging ball target game'! Any children who have seen me outside at playtime will know the game I mean!

As well as the new games for outside, we would also like to offer more opportunities for children to play inside if they choose to. In order to do this, we would like to run a 'Lego' club and a 'Board Games' club. If you have any Lego or any unwanted board games, do please let us know. We would be extremely grateful for any donations.

I have been fortunate to meet a large number of prospective parents and parents of children in Year 3 and 4 this week. It is always great to be able to give parents an insight into life at our school. The positive feedback from parents was lovely to hear and there was lots of praise for our Prefects, who led new parents on tours around the school. Listening to them talking with such passion and pride about the school and their time here was definitely a 'goose bump' moment.

Finally, I am not sure if you noticed the Sunday Times top Primary Schools list. Out of the top 250 schools in England we are 83rd (an improvement on 157th last year).

That, I am sure you will agree, is very impressive!

Have a lovely weekend,

School Letters

Christmas Fayre donation schedule

Christmas Fayre programme

PA News

Flyers sent home

Raring to Go!

School Uniform Shop

Friday 8.50am – 9.30am

30 Nov

14 Dec

Crabtree Community Noticeboard

Please note that these notices are provided as a community service and Crabtree Junior does not take responsibility for or seek to endorse any of the advertisements printed in this section.

E-Flyers

Understanding Behaviour

Harpenden Neighbourhood Plan

SJL Admissions Consultation

Miss E Simmons

Head of School

Follow us on Twitter @CrabtreeJnr

Staff Car Park

Please can we once again remind you that children are NOT ALLOWED in the staff car park. This means they are not allowed to walk, scoot or ride their bike through any part of the car park. Please for your own child's safety use the pedestrian gates. Parents should also NOT be using the staff car park at any time - that includes if you are collecting from after school clubs. Thank you.

Outdoor PE Lessons

Please can you ensure you have checked your child's PE bag and that it contains the following:

- Skins/base layers or thermals – dark coloured
- Fleece or hoody
- Joggers
- Socks, hat & gloves

PE Lessons are on the courts so they need trainers, any clubs on the field require football boots. Thank you.

Whole School trip to the Panto – Tuesday 18 December

Thank you to parents who offered to help with our trip to the Panto, we have managed to resource this from our staff team so will not be requiring parent helpers on this occasion.

Could all children please bring a packed lunch into school on this day, which they will eat when they get back from the panto. Thank you.

Christmas Fayre – choir singing times

The lower school choir will be singing from 1.20pm – 1.35pm and the upper school choir from 1:45pm – 2pm. Children singing in the choirs should meet their teachers in the school hall 5 minutes before their start time. Thank you.

Christmas Carols – Monday 10 December

Our concert will be taking place on Monday 10 December from 6:30pm – 7:30pm with a reserve date of Monday 17 December. The children will be singing a selection of Christmas Carols and both the lower and upper school choirs will be performing. We will be singing outside in the front garden – exact details will follow shortly.

We are able to offer 2 tickets to each family and are happy to open this up to siblings but please be aware we will be standing outside with no access to an indoor area.

We do need to know who will be attending so please sign up on Wisepay. Tickets will be sent home and these will be collected on the gate as you arrive.

Christmas Lunch

This is only for children that have a packed lunch on a Friday

If your child has a packed lunch on a Friday but would like to have the school, Christmas Dinner on Friday 14 December please log onto Wisepay under "Ticket Payments" and book your child a meal. You will be invoiced for the cost later - £2.40.

Please indicate in the box provided if they would like the Turkey or Vegetarian option.

Wisepay MUST close on Sunday 2 December to allow time for the food to be ordered.

Celebrating Thanksgiving

Thank you so much to Luke and Heather who baked the staff a wonderful pumpkin pie and even provided the cream to go with it. Your cards were beautifully made and everyone really appreciated your messages. Thank you for being so thoughtful – the pie was delicious!



Kids Against Plastic

Charlie M and the Eco-Team are very keen to make sure we become an environmentally aware school. There are lots of exciting things happening that we will tell you more about soon, but Charlie wrote to Miss Simmons this week to share his thoughts on using less plastic and suggesting we all watch this video to learn more. It is great to have such a passionate Eco-Team.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TLQN2Y4v1bl>



Click on the WisePay logo for online school payments; or the Spend and Raise logo below to raise funds for the PA when you shop online



Kids Against Plastic - a talk for schools

www.youtube.com



Charlie and Ella share their knowledge of the issues around single-use plastic, as well as some tips on how to become a 'kid against plastic'. Perfect for schools.

Harpenden Neighbourhood Plan Referendum

As you are aware, the school is closed on Thursday 7 February for voting on the Harpenden Neighbourhood Plan. Please find attached a leaflet, which provides further information about the Referendum and its importance for the residents of Harpenden.

Sir John Lawes Admissions Consultation

Please find attached, for your information, a letter that has been issued by Sir John Lawes regarding their proposed admission procedures for September 2020. Details of how you can comment on the proposals are included in the letter. Please direct any questions to Sir John Lawes School. Thank you.

Contact us:

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www.crabtreejm.herts.sch.uk

Telephone: 01582 623501

admin@crabtreejm.herts.sch.uk

governors@crabtreejm.herts.sch.uk

Christmas Tree Donation

Croft Farm has donated our beautiful Christmas Tree, which will be arriving next week. They will be selling non drop trees from 4ft – 9ft throughout the festive period. Their café (an easy Christmassy walk from Harpenden over the fields) will be open for warming drinks and cheerful cakes at weekends in December. Croft Farm, Leasey Bridge Lane, Wheathampstead, AL4 8HP. 01582 832071. Orders for larger trees can be taken in advance and trees can be reserved for later collection.

Help us make our library inspirational – message from Mrs Goody

We are giving our wonderful library a much needed coat of paint and need to put together a group of keen decorators to help on Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th of December. The plan is to meet at 9.30am and paint until lunchtime and then return in the afternoon for a second coat and then assess whether we need to return on Sunday. Tea and cake will be provided.



If you can offer us any of your precious time please notify the school office. Thank you.

Lost glasses

We have 3 pairs of childrens glasses in the office – if your child has lost a pair please do come and see if they are yours. Thank you.

Stars of the Week



Cedar	Jet for a fantastic news report about an alien invasion.
Rowan	Alex for a brilliantly creative news report about an alien invasion.
Ash	Archie for being such a great friend and always choosing kind.
Birch	Isla C for consistent effort and participation in all her lessons.
Teak	Yasmin for always giving 100% effort and contributing to class discussions.
Redwood	Amy for excellent editing in her English writing resulting in a fantastic “Dragon Keeper’s Handbook”.
Elm	Stanley for showing an excellent attitude to his learning.
Elder	Gus for using an excellent reading voice and thinking carefully in our reading group.

Sports Champion – Lower School

Henry – Birch – for persistence and resilience in his swimming lessons.

Sports Champion – Upper School

Ben – Redwood – for being an excellent sporting role model in gymnastics and games.

For further information about events at Crabtree Junior School – including term dates and copies of previous newsletters – please visit the school website at www.crabtreejm.herts.sch.uk

If you have any comments on the newsletter or items for the Noticeboard, please contact the School Office.

