



The Craylands School

'The Kiln' Newsletter

www.craylands.kent.sch.uk

February 2016
Term 3, Issue 1



STAR (Skills That Are Real)

The children are looking forward to showing their STAR topic work to you at the upcoming STAR Exhibitions which will take place as follows:

Y1 and Y2 on 8th February, Y3 and Y4 on 9th February and Y5 and Y6 on 10th February, all starting at 9am.



On Friday (5th February) we are holding a non-school uniform day to help support World Cancer Day. This worthwhile cause is particularly close to our hearts and any donations would be greatly appreciated.

School Closure

In the event of school closure due to severe weather or exceptional circumstances eg prolonged loss of electricity, a text or email will be sent via SchoolComms and information will be put on our website: www.craylands.kent.sch.uk.

Announcements will also be made on Radio Kent, KMFM Radio and Heart FM. You can also sign up for school closure alerts at www.kent.gov.uk/winter.



Coffee Morning



Our Pupil & Parent Support Team are holding a coffee morning with SparkIT focussing on internet safety on Tuesday 9th February from 9-10.30am in Mobile 3. Everyone is welcome. *(Rumours are there may even be biscuits too!)*

Promptness

Please can parents/carers ensure that children are collected ON TIME, as more and more frequently we are having children left waiting to be collected. We appreciate traffic can cause problems but this is often not the reason for the lateness.



Contact Information

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Inside this issue

-  STAR
-  Non-uniform day 5/2
-  School closure
-  Coffee Morning 9/2
-  School Meals
-  Good News
-  Earrings/Lipsyl
-  Bikeability
-  Swimming
-  Collections
-  Penalties for parking
-  Absences
-  School Expansion
-  Lates
-  Residential
-  Football Results

Forthcoming Events

-  Half term 15-19 Feb '16
-  World Book Day 3/3/16
-  Parents Evening 16/3
-  End of T4: 24/3



Lunch Payments

Please ensure payment for your child's school lunch is paid in advance of the week your child is having lunch ie paid by Friday for the following week. Parents who have been sent payment reminders and who still have not paid will need to provide their child with a packed lunch.

Sodexo School Meals

School meals cost £2.36 per day and are available for either:

- The whole week
- A Wednesday (roast) only
- A Wednesday (roast) and Friday (fish fingers/fillet/burger—check menu).

Cheques should be made out to Sodexo and **placed in the black box marked 'Sodexo'** located in the entrance porch.

£2.36 for Wed only

£4.72 for Wed + Fri

£11.80 per week

Please inform the School Office 1 week in advance **IN WRITING** of any changes in packed lunch/school meal arrangements so the Kitchen can order in the correct amount of food and avoid unnecessary wastage.

Universal free meals

Although YR, Y1 and Y2 are entitled to the **Government's universal free school meals**, we would still encourage you to apply for means-tested free meals as this may give you discounts for other things eg school trips, after-school clubs, etc. (Your child does not have to actually have school meals, they can still have packed lunch if they prefer).

Free School Meals

If you are in receipt of one of the following benefits your child may be entitled to free school meals:

- Income Support
- Income-based **Jobseeker's Allowance**
- Income-related Employment & Support Allowance under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income that does not exceed £16,190
- **Working Tax Credit 'run-on'**.

Forms are available from the rotating carousel located outside the School Hall or from the School Office. You can either apply on-line yourself or the Office can do it on your behalf. All conversations/requests are dealt with confidentially.

Make time to eat!

Just a reminder that breakfast is the most important meal of the day, so please ensure your child has eaten something (*preferably something healthy!*). We do appreciate mornings can be one big rush but it is SO important your child eats and has a drink before they come into school.



Don't forget the birds still need to eat during the cold winter months. Any donations of bird food would be greatly appreciated.



Good news!



Congratulations to Mrs Williams who received a Silver Richard Neame Local Wildlife Sites Award 2015. A big thank you to you and all your little (and not so little!) helpers you had during 2015.

Bikeability



Some of our Year 4s are participating in Bikeability **this week. Don't forget to pump up those tyres and make sure your bikes are roadworthy.**



Congratulations

Congratulations to our brilliant Quiz winners who have done it again by winning the National Inter-School Quiz Competition General Knowledge Area Heat Winner 2015-16. Go Craylands!

Swimming

Next term our Y3s will be swimming, **so best check you haven't grown too big for your swimwear!**



Earrings

Just a reminder that only small stud size earrings are permitted to be worn in School, NOT hoop-style, for health and safety reasons.

Lipsyl

If your child needs to use lipsyl then please **send a note into your child's teacher who will allow them to use it during break and lunchtimes.** Many of our older children are being distracted during lessons by using it like lipstick!

Y2 Sealife Trip

Our Year 2 pupils are looking forward to their trip to Sealife Adventure in Southend on 10th February. We look forward to hearing all about it when you come back!

Poppy Appeal



Thank you to all those who bought poppies in November. We raised £69.23 for the Royal British Legion who were very grateful. Without your help, they would not be able to continue their vital welfare and benevolent work.

Christmas Jumpers

Thank you so much for your support **wearing Christmas jumpers for 'Text Santa'** We raised £177.29 to support Macmillan Cancer Support, Make-A-WishUK and Save the Children.





Dartford Council's School Safety First



No-one wants to hear of a child being involved in an accident from trying to cross the road outside their school.

Dartford have introduced a new School Safety Patrol vehicle which uses ANPR (registration number recognition) technology to gather evidence of cars stopping where **they shouldn't. Penalties will be issued to drivers when necessary!**

Absences

Please, whenever possible, inform us before 9.30am if your child is going to be absent from school.

All absences need to be accounted for **IN WRITING** so please make sure your child returns to school with a note explaining why they have been off. You can also email your reason for absence to enquiries@craylands.kent.sch.uk



School Expansion

If you haven't already completed a response form giving your views on the proposed school expansion, please reply by midday on 22nd February to School. Spare copies are available in the rotating leaflet holder.



Don't forget you can follow us on Twitter via the School website.

Lates!



Learning activities start at 8.50am so please ensure your child is not missing out on their morning instructions by being late. The morning gate opens from 8.40am—8.50am.

Even if you have only just missed the gate, please sign your child in the late book. They may not get a late mark if the class register has not yet been taken but we need to account for all **children's whereabouts.**

Being late disrupts your child's school day and a 'U' mark on the register will be given to any pupils arriving after morning registration has closed.

Residentials



Payments for residential trips are due by the following dates:

Y4 — **Grosvenor Hall by 11th March '16**

Y6 — **Isle of Wight by 22nd April '16.**

Football



Before Christmas the Craylands Football team played against Our Lady of Hartley but lost (*sob, sob!*)

After Christmas they played against Maypole Primary, drawing 3-3 after fighting back from 3-0.

Their next match is on Friday against **Our Lady's in Dartford** so we wish them all the best and hope it will be a winning score!