



Cramond Primary School. Spring Newsletter March 2016

How lovely – the days are getting longer and we are seeing some blue skies at last! Busy, busy days at Cramond – my sincere apologies that the February newsletter was overlooked entirely as time flew past. Sometimes, I have no idea what I do with my days!

We had a great turn out at parent night consultations last night, the feedback from parents as they left was very positive. We have our second parent night appointment slots tonight, Nursery consultations were on Monday and Tuesday, P4 have been rescheduled. Please remember, you can contact Gillian Waddell (DHT) or myself (HT) at any time. Please call school office to book an appointment or request a phone call back. You can also email us. We endeavour to get back to you as quickly as possible.

School Bookfair: The pupils are very excited to see travelling books display in the foyer. These will be on sale until Friday afternoon. Parents can pop in with their children if they wish. All classes will get a visit to the book fair to browse and were each issued with a £1 book voucher and catalogue.

Staffing Update: Mrs Ali King was back at work but has now been signed off again. We miss her at Cramond and wish her all the very best. Support groups continue to run in her absence as far as possible. Ms Warrender has been unwell and hopes to be back soon.

Hall Update: Planning permission has been granted. We don't have an official start date for building yet but plans are moving on well. We are still hoping that the hall will be ready for opening October 2016. I have had additional meeting regarding disco lighting and stage lighting. The new hall will be used as our sports hall and for any school events, shows, functions and assemblies. It will also be available for evening lets for community clubs.

Breakfast and After School Club at Cramond: I am delighted to share with you that I have now managed to progress parental request for wrap around care at Cramond, despite our issues with lack of space. It will be far from easy but we do understand the importance of having this provision for our families. We will be working with Oscars who are in the process of setting up a breakfast club and afterschool club at Cramond Primary from August. Further details will be shared by Oscars who run the clubs independently of the school. I have had to make compromises with our ability to offer pre-school sports clubs and after school club sports between August and October until the new hall is built. The Breakfast club and afterschool club will be held in our existing gym hall – parents will not be able to use the staff carpark to drop off or pick up children.

Reports: You will have had a full update on the progress, attainment and achievement of your child(ren) at parent consultations in November and March. You will receive a written report at the end of May with summative information and next steps in their learning. This will be added to the purple learning folio we have built up over the past few years. We do ask you to add your comments and return the purple folio to school. Should you require a copy at any time we can arrange this. When your child leaves Cramond they will be given the folder home. Many thanks to those who have found a purple folder lurking at home – I know a few folders seem to have 'disappeared' – we have digital copies and in almost all cases they do turn up. Please hand in any which do. Many thanks.

Reading Books amnesty: similarly, should you find any old reading books belonging to us please simply hand back to school office or via your child. No questions asked!

Active schools vouchers – we are collecting these to fund equipment for our new hall, thanks

Place at Cramond: As you will have seen in recent local media – places for primary school in Edinburgh are at the highest level ever. Demand for places at Cramond is particularly high – finding spaces for children at their catchment school is Edinburgh Council's priority. All schools now try to reserve a place per class for children moving into catchment. This is not always possible and we have got some catchment pupils on our waiting list. If you have plans to move your children from Cramond it is helpful if you can confirm in writing when you can. This allows us to keep parents on the waiting list informed. We do understand, however that plans change. We realise that you may not be in a position to give definite plans. Places for P1 and S1 in August are organised centrally. Details of these are shared after Easter. We anticipate the same structure of classes for next session – i.e. 2 classes per stage with a team teaching situation in P1. Teacher : pupil ratios in Edinburgh are 1:25 in P1, 1:30 in P2 & P3 and 1:33 in P4-P7.

Summer activities: We have a 'special summer trip' for each year group –dates, costs & full details will follow. P5 go to Beamish by train for an extended day trip – catching the train to Newcastle early in the morning, meeting at the station and returning around 9pm. P6 are having a one night residential at Comrie Croft, Crieff in preparation for week long residential in P7.

P7 are off to a week-long residential school camp next week at Lagganlia. For more details, google 'Lagganlia youtube' or click [Lagganlia](#). We know they will have a great time – it will be very quiet back at Cramond without them! I will keep you updated on the school website. Many school staff accompany the two classes which will mean other classes may have a different teacher(s) next week. Mr Powell, Mrs Fortune & Mrs Tekatte are going along with Mrs McKay, Ms Cessford and Ms Hume. Due to staff illness, we have had to adapt our original plans. Mrs Collings will teach P2C all week (Mrs Powell on Tuesday), Mrs Waddell will teach P6M all week Ms Hume will not teach P3F on Thursday as she is at camp, Ms Fialka will teach in morning and Mrs Dalziel in afternoon.

Science Fair: we have had a great week of science- what a buzz of learning. The children have been hugely enthusiastic and shown not only fantastic science ability but also great group working skills. Thank you to those parents who have sent in the £4.90. If you have not paid yet, please send the money to school when you can.

Parking: a very concerned member of the public, shared details of an incident on Tuesday. Three cars were parked in the bus lane at Fair-a-far shot. This meant the bus was unable to stop safely and 4 children were forced, as they alighted from the bus, to be in the middle of the road. The drivers were also trying to move off from the bus stop with no regard for our children trying to make it safely to the pavement. I must stress how deeply disappointed I am that we still have (a few) selfish parents prioritising their convenience over our pupil's safety and wellbeing. This is also an offence and I have alerted the police to this. <http://www.highwaycodeuk.co.uk/waiting-and-parking---parking-239-to-247.html> I ask AGAIN for all parents to remember why we are part of this parking pilot. It is first and foremost to make our roads and streets safer for all children walking to and from school. Please avoid bringing the car where possible – park at a distance and walk. Be considerate when parking and appreciate the logistics of 400+ pupils along with 50 nursery pupils means that there will be congestion at key points in the day. Most people have places to go, demands on their times and are juggling a busy day ahead with the school run. We have collective responsibility for the safety of all our children, thank you for your support in this vital matter.

Dates for your diary:

14th March:

- P7 to school camp, returning Friday 18th March.
- P6 group to Cross Country event at Inverleith Park with Ms Craig.

15th March: P5 to Forth Road Bridge crossing

16th March: P4B to Gallery of Modern Art with Mrs Newton & Mrs Dalziel

18th March: Sports Relief Day (wear sports/leisure wear to school – bring £1)
Groups to bike challenge at Sainsburys Barnton – We are collecting Active schools vouchers for new hall!!

21st March: P4 to cricket competition

22nd March: CPSC 7.15pm staffroom – all welcome (any agenda items to class reps please)

23rd March:

- P4A to Gallery of Modern Art with Mrs Arthur & Mrs Dalziel,
- P7 swimming gala group - Mrs Fortune & Mrs Saunderson

24th March:

- **P1 to zoo trip**
- **Easter church service** led by P6, 9.45 Cramond Kirk – pupils ask for an Easter Egg donation for Freshstart Charity, please bring any donation to church. Parents and families welcome to join us.
- **End of term!** Normal times for end of school day.

Summer Term: All Resume Monday 11th April.

14th April P7 show hosted at Clermiston. Tickets available at office. 7pm start, doors open 6.45pm

Monday 18 April 2016, Spring Holiday: school closed to pupils and staff

19th April – World of Work – details to follow, organised by Mrs McKay.

22nd April All P7 to Royal High School – Cluster Health Wellbeing Morning activities

25th April Judo tasters – all classes, racquet sports at Meadowbank, P1 & P7 dental checks

27th April School Photographs – classes & sports groups, P4 parent appointments evening

28th April Judo Tasters, NSPCC visits, P4 parent appointments evening

Monday 2 May 2016, May Day: school closed to pupils and staff

3rd May: CPSC 7.15pm, all welcome. Agenda items to class reps please

Thursday 5 May 2016, staff only day to coincide with Scottish Parliament election

9th May P6 Bikeability week starts

Monday 23 May 2016, Victoria Day: school closed to pupils and staff

24th May P6 Games to Hub

25th May / 26th May P6 overnight to Comrie Croft

30th May Ruffity Buffs – nursery show at Cramond

31st May **P1-7 Sports day afternoon**- Cargilfield, all welcome to join us

6th June New P1 (Aug 2016) parent info meeting 1.30pm

7th June **P4 Summer trip to Muddy Boots, Fife**

16th June **P5 Day trip to Beamish Living Museum, England.** [About Beamish](#)

20th June New P1 visits in afternoon- meet the teacher

21st – 23rd June **P7 to Secondary – three day transition** (All P7 pupils attend for full 3 days)

22nd June P1-3 East Links Summer Trip

23rd June 2016 EU Referendum, Cramond is closed to all pupils. P7 transition days are unaffected

24th June 9.45am **end of term service at Cramond** – all welcome to join us for our outdoor service.

P7 Leavers Ceremony 11am all parents & carers are invited to join us

27th June

- **P7 day out – Cluny Clays**
- **Leavers Do 7-9pm** at School. (rescheduled due to election)

28th June Nursery show and graduations

Term ends Thursday 30 June 2016, 12 noon.

*Nursery trip to Almond Valley – dates to be finalised for end of May or June. Sports events will take place at Almond Valley Park – parents accompanying. Date tbc details to follow.