



# Newsletter

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025

## Message from Mrs Knight

Dear Families

It has been an absolute privilege to serve as your Interim Headteacher. I have thoroughly enjoyed immersing myself in the Crown Wood community—getting to know your wonderful children, meeting so many supportive parents, and working alongside the incredible staff team.

I will certainly miss the energy and warmth of the school, but I leave knowing that you are in incredibly safe hands. I am delighted to hand over the reins to Mrs. Ralley, who I know will lead the school from strength to strength in the New Year.

Thank you all for making me feel so welcome. I wish you all a restful break and a wonderful 2026.



## Reception

In Reception we have had a half term full of firsts!! We took home our first reading book and to celebrate our love for reading we held a "Bedtime story" event. We changed into our PJs and had an afternoon of our favourite stories. Some year 6 children also came to read to us!

We went on our first school trip to South Hill Park to see "Mother Goose and the Golden Egg." It was a fabulous show, and we really enjoyed the experience.

We finished this half term with our truly amazing performance of "Wriggly Nativity." The children have worked so hard this half term to learn all the songs and their lines which was showcased in two incredible shows for their parents! We also

drew the nativity scene and had a go at writing the names of some of the characters.



## Nursery

It has been a truly magical and busy term in Nursery! The children have been learning about the topic, "All About Me," where we celebrated what makes each child unique. The children spoke with such pride about their families and their lives at home, helping us build a wonderful sense of community in the classroom.

As part of our focus on self-care, we have been learning how to keep our bodies healthy. The children practiced their hand-washing and teeth-brushing techniques. We also explored the world of healthy foods, where the children enjoyed a "tasting tour", trying a wide variety of colourful fruits and vegetables.



Our learning wasn't just limited to the classroom; the children have thoroughly enjoyed their Forest School sessions. These outdoor adventures have been a highlight of the week, allowing the children to explore nature, build

confidence, and develop their curiosity in the fresh air.

To top off the term, the children worked incredibly hard to practice and perform their Christmas Sing-a-long. All that practice certainly paid off; they sang beautifully and performed with wonderful confidence. We were immensely proud of them and would like to thank all the families who joined us for such a lovely performance.

### Year 1

In Year 1, the children enjoyed writing character descriptions of the Grinch, showing great creativity and developing their use of adjectives.



### Year 2

Year 2 have been learning about 'The Magic Toymaker' as our IPC topic. We have looked at the history of toys, what materials toys are made from and toys around the world. We opened our



own toy museum and the children found out what toys their parents played with. In science we tested different materials to see which one would be most suitable as a bath toy. The children had a



fantastic workshop run by Brickies where they made their



own time machine and house out of Lego. They also learnt about the history of Lego.

### Year 3

On Friday, we were learning about robots in Guided Reading and circuits in Wider Curriculum. In the hall, we saw the robot dog turn into a ball on the floor and do lots of tricks. I learnt that robots can move just like humans and that they are filled with different types of sensors.



Beauden C 3HW

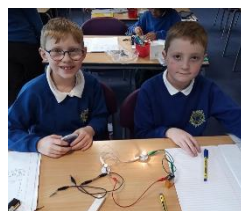
### Year 6

Year Six have been busy putting their persuasive writing skills into action this term! The children wrote thoughtful letters to Mrs Thomas, encouraging her to include more cooking in the curriculum. Their efforts paid off, as they soon found themselves preparing a delicious minestrone soup. From chopping fresh vegetables to mixing the ingredients together, everyone played a part in creating the dish. The best moment came when they all sat down to taste their homemade soup — a wonderful way to celebrate their learning and teamwork.



### Year 4

It has been a busy half term for Year 4, with lots of hard work happening in the classroom. We have been learning about properties of materials in our topic 'Material World'. The children have had the opportunity to carry out lots of scientific experiments to learn about which materials are most suitable for a variety of tasks. This also linked to our topic 'Bright Sparks', where we have been assembling electrical circuits and carrying out fair tests to develop an understanding of electricity. With Christmas approaching, we made Christingles in RE to gain an understanding of the symbolism of Christmas for Christians. We were all excited to have a visit from two of Santa's lovely reindeer last week!



### Year 5

This term, children in Year 5 have really enjoyed learning all about space in our Mission to Mars topic. We have tested soil samples for evidence of life, we have designed, built and tested prototype Mars rovers and we have designed our own rules for living on another planet. We have also started to look at electricity in our Full Power topic, where we have really enjoyed learning all about Iceland as our contrasting country.

In English, we have produced some wonderful science reports to go with our Mission to Mars learning. We have also written diary entries based on Shackleton's Failed Journey to The Antarctic.

Our swimming lessons have sadly come to an end. All the children made fantastic progress and were very proud of their certificates. Next half term, 5NF will start Forest School, to be followed in spring 2 by 5JM, then 5AL in the summer.



## Forest School

At Forest School this month, the children have been busy making their own unique Christmas Tree. Using a combination of old cable reels and bottle lids (kindly donated by parents and our own kitchen staff respectively), the children have been able to create their own decorations including a lovely pinecone 'star' for the top of the tree. From painting the reels to decorating and threading the 'baubles', they have created something quite simple but highly effective.



## Christmas Dinner

On Wednesday 10th December, the children all enjoyed eating a yummy Christmas dinner. They had a great time eating their Christmas lunch with their friends, whilst singing along to a variety of Christmas songs. Their bright and colourful Christmas jumpers added to the atmosphere. We would like to say a big festive **Thank You** to all of the catering team (and Mrs Greenaway) who baked, peeled, roasted, and boiled for many days to ensure all of the children had a great time.



It was the first time we had run Christmas dinner on the same day for all of the children and it was a great success. Here's to next year.



## Pupil Parliament

Two members of our School Council proudly represented Crown Wood at a recent Pupil Parliament meeting in Croydon, joining children from other schools across the trust. Together, they collaborated on an exciting project exploring themes of belonging and sustainability, sharing ideas and working as a team. We are already looking forward to the next meeting in March, as well as a very special trip to the Houses of Parliament in June — a wonderful opportunity to see democracy in action!



## Uniform

At Crown Wood Primary we believe that our school uniform creates a sense of belonging and identity. When the children are out in the local community, they are proud to represent our school and this is shown with their smart school uniform. We have noticed that some of the children are not following the guidance set out by the school. In the new year, all staff will be expecting the children to wear appropriate school uniform. This includes tying long hair back and no extremes of hairstyles.



Please see the link below for our uniform guidance which includes information regarding jewellery and nail polish. As always if you have any concerns regarding finances please see Mrs Ruck or your class teacher.

<https://www.crownwoodschool.com/SchoolUniform>

### Poppy Appeal & Children in Need 2025

A huge thank you to all our school community for raising £604 for this year's poppy appeal and a further



£448 for Children in Need. This is a fantastic effort and your generosity in supporting these two very worthy causes is very much appreciated. This was one of the highest amounts collected in Bracknell Primary Schools.

### Pupil Achievement

Cody Bolton won 2nd place in his trampoline competition in the SEND category. In previous years he's placed 5th and 7th so it's a huge achievement and one he's extremely proud of! We would love more photos of the children to add to our achievement board. Please send you photos to Mrs Porter.



### Cross Country

On Friday 14th November we entered 4 teams into The Bracknell Cross Country Tournament. This was the greatest



number of teams we have ever entered and is proof of the hard work and dedication that the children show to the club. The conditions were wet and soggy and were a challenge for even the most experienced of runners. The children showed the most amazing resilience and determination, as all of the children finished the course despite a number of obstacles on the way. Two of the children had to run a lap on their own and pushed themselves to the finish line. I was very proud of the support the children showed for each other. They really are an amazing bunch of children. Mrs Thomas

### Choir

Our school choir did us proud again this year, with performances at Easthampstead Baptist church, Carols Round the Tree, The Lexicon and Faringham House. They sang with joy and enthusiasm at all of their performances. The residents of Faringham House enjoyed their singing enormously and the children were a credit to our school. A big well done to all!



### Car Parking



Please note only those who hold a permit may enter the car park during drop off and pick-up times. Only those people displaying a blue disabled badge or who have specific permission from the school may use the disabled bays. If you do enter the site, you must:

- Display your parking permit;
- Keep your speed low and watch for pedestrians;
- Park in marked bays only;
- Show respect to pedestrians and other motorists;

If you are unable to use the car park, there are other options nearby, but please be considerate of our neighbours. We thank you for supporting our efforts to make the car park a safer and less congested area.

### Catching up with teachers

Our teachers believe it is very important to maintain communication with the parents of children in their class. They cannot speak to you at the beginning of the school day as they are busy settling the children ready for their learning. If you would like to speak to them, please let the adult on the door know (Year 4&5) or email Mrs Porter with a summary of your request. The teacher will get back to you as soon as possible.



Parent-Teacher Meeting

## A Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year

We say a fond farewell to **Mr Grant Strudley** and wish him well in his new adventures. We also say goodbye to **Mr Jon Couzens** who is leaving us to join Brakenhale site team and **Miss Millie Southall** who is going onto a new role. We wish them the best of luck. We welcome **Mr Chris Reeves** who will be joining the site team in January.

From all the staff, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you and your children safe and well in January!

**We start back on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026. School starts at 8.45am and we open the doors at 8.35am.**

Keep an eye out for news and updates from CWP No-Reply ([no-reply@crowwoodprimary.co.uk](mailto:no-reply@crowwoodprimary.co.uk)) and the school website and our Facebook and Instagram pages.

Finally, please find the link below to our annual staff Christmas song. We hope you enjoy it.

<https://youtu.be/5VwQizpIRaU>

Merry  
Christmas



## Dates for Your Diary:

19 DEC 25	Last Day of Autumn Term (3.15pm)
05 JAN 26	Academy Day (School Closed)
06 JAN 26	First Day of Spring Term
06 JAN 26	Cinderella Visit (Year R)
06 JAN 26	Year 5 Debate Workshop
11 JAN 26	Year 6 leave for RYG (8.45am)
13 JAN 26	Year 5 Debate Workshop
14 JAN 26	Year 5 Debate Workshop
15 JAN 26	SEND Coffee & Catch-up (1.30pm)
17 JAN 26	Year 6 return from RYG (3.30pm)
23 JAN 26	Debating competition
26 JAN 25	Governing Body Meeting (5.30pm)
27 JAN 26	Year R Stay & Play
29 JAN 26	Year R Stay & Play
16-22 FEB 26	February half-term break
23 FEB 26	INSET Day (School Closed)
24 FEB 26	School re-opens
24 FEB 26	Year R Living Eggs
02-05 MAR 26	NCMP Screening (Year R)
05 MAR 26	SEND Coffee & Catch-up (9.00am)
05 MAR 26	World Book Day
16 MAR 26	Governing Body Meeting (5.30pm)
17 MAR 26	Alpaca visits (am only)
18 MAR 26	Alpaca visits (am only)
25 MAR 26	Parent Consultations (Face to Face)
26 MAR 26	Parent Consultations (Virtual)
27 MAR 26	Last Day of Spring Term (3.15pm)

*\*Cub, Brownie etc uniforms may be worn.*

*We use Bromcom / MCAS as our primary means of communicating with parents. We will also post news on our website, Instagram & Facebook pages.*



**Dare to DREAM**

**Determination – Responsibility – Everyone Together – Aspiration  
& Achievement – Mutual Respect**

