



Newsletter

Friday 27th March 2026

Staffing Update

What a busy term this has been from Easter Egg competitions to dinosaur parties. Thank you so much for your support with all of the activities the children have been involved in. I have great pleasure in being the Headteacher of Crown Wood for the future. I am looking forward to working with you all over the coming year. Enjoy your Easter break.

We are saying farewell to Miss Southam and Mr Hensby as they move onto pastures new. We are also saying farewell to Mrs Saunders, who has worked diligently in the office for over 12 years. We thank her for her dedication to our school for such a long time. We are pleased to welcome to the team Miss Southall and Miss Byrne who are joining us after the Easter break.

Congratulations to Mrs Wild on the birth of her baby daughter Anna. We are all looking forward to meeting her.

Mrs Ralley



Reception

We had an eggciting start to the beginning of term with the arrival of 10 eggs. We practiced our number bonds as they started to hatch, whilst keeping a diary. We had great fun watching them hatch and grow. We had lots of cuddles! Dinosaurs invaded our playground and lay some eggs. This inspired us to write about what might hatch and think about other facts we would like to know about dinosaurs. We also made some Herbivore pots in our cooking sessions, along with some other dinosaur inspired treats.



We then became scientists looking at fossils and watching volcanos erupt. We even did an experiment in class creating a volcanic eruption! We celebrated the end of our topic with our Dinosaur party!



Nursery

It's been out of this world in Nursery this half term as we began to explore Space. We looked at all the planets and space travel, learning about the solar system and how we move and travel in space. We watched a real like astronaut brushing her teeth and how the toilets work in a rocket ship. We also watched how to make a space wrap and created our own ones in class. The Smeds who are red and the Smoos who are blue, helped us to rhyme words and explore colouring mixing using the primary colours Red, Blue and Yellow, We've looked at lots of different stories with themes of space or space travel in 'Whatever Next' by Jill Murphy; 'The Smeds and The Smoos' by Julia Donaldson and 'Aliens Love Underpants' by Claire Freedman. We've also talked about special occasions and how different families celebrate these, such as Mothers and Others, Eid and Easter.

Alpacas

We had an exciting visit from two very special guests – alpacas called Truffle and Arty. We loved meeting them, learning all about how they are cared for, and even had the chance to get up close. They were very gentle and curious, and it was a wonderful experience for everyone.



Pupil Parliament

On Tuesday 3rd March, Pupil Parliament all met at the Croydon council chambers for our 2nd meeting together. We sat down on fancy chairs and were given microphones; we discussed ways to make Greenshaw Schools a better place. Some of our ideas included competitions, such as diverse dancing and maybe adding culture days into schools. The most exciting bit of my day was meeting the Civic Mayor of Croydon as he talked about what his job was and how it works. This was the fanciest, fascinating and most exciting experience I'll be having for a while! – Maya & Finley, Year 6.



Year 1

Year 1 have had a fantastic and busy time in school! In class, we have been writing instructions to make sock puppets. We worked really hard to include clear steps and helpful details. After that, we used our instructions to make a sock puppet friend of our own, which was lots of fun!



Year 2

As part of our Wider Curriculum topic 'Live and Let Live', the children had a brilliant time designing and making their own bird feeders. They thought about the materials and equipment they were going to use and were excited to take them home to hang up in their gardens and local parks. In Maths, the children have been learning about different measurements this term and they have particularly enjoyed practical lessons involving weighing scales and learning about capacity and volume using water. In English, the children stepped into the roles of the Three Little Pigs and made houses out of straw, sticks and bricks before writing their own diary entries as the Brick Pig.



Year 3

Year 3 has been finding out all about 'How Humans Work' in their wider curriculum topic this term. We have been studying the different functions of the human body, including how we see, hear, digest, breathe and move. We have also investigated how to maintain a healthy lifestyle, and the effects of diet and exercise on the body. Perhaps the most memorable activity we undertook was an experiment to demonstrate the digestive system. This involved mashing together banana, bread and water (saliva) in a bag (the mouth), squeezing this into another bag (the oesophagus and stomach), adding orange juice (stomach acid), and carefully transferring the contents into one leg of a pair of tights. Holding the tight leg over a basin, squeezing the chyme (the digested food) down the tights makes us push all the liquid out. This mimicked the process in the intestines and finally the children cut a hole in the toe of the tight leg and squeezed the remains onto a plate (guess what this represented?) Despite all the mess,



Year 4

Year 4 from Crown Wood School recently visited St Paul's Church as part of the RE curriculum. During the visit, the children enjoyed the peaceful atmosphere, learned about the Easter story, and explored the history of the church. They were polite and respectful throughout and were fascinated by the plaques, crosses, and the communion table. The visit also gave them insight into the community services the church offers. They especially enjoyed singing together and asking questions, making it a wonderful learning experience that brought their classroom lessons to life and helped them understand more about Christianity.



everyone had a great time and learned so much about what goes on inside our bodies after we have eaten.

Year 5

On Monday 9th March, all of the Year 5 children visited St Paul's Church in Harmans Water. The visit was to support their learning within the RE work. The children helped to



tell the Easter story, sang a song, found out about different parts of the church and learnt about St Paul's as part of our local community. They asked a lot of very sensible questions, including the adults' favourite Bible stories. All of the children found it to be a worthwhile experience to see the church in their own community. They walked to

behaviour was perfect.

Year 6 Hockey

I'm proud to share how wonderfully our ten young players performed in the recent hockey competition. The team showed great teamwork and determination, successfully qualifying from a challenging group stage against strong opponents.

Their resilience shone in the quarter finals, where they held their nerve and secured a dramatic victory in a penalty shootout. It was an intense and exciting moment that highlighted their courage and composure under pressure.

In the semi finals, they gave another spirited performance but narrowly lost in a hard-fought match that ended 1-0. Though the result didn't go our way, their effort, sportsmanship, and unity were outstanding throughout the tournament.

We couldn't be prouder of their achievement and growth. Well done to every player!



Year 6

This term, Year 6 have been channelling their creativity into a fantastic writing unit all about hotel design. They imagined and planned their own unique hotels, then wrote reviews from the perspective of hotel guests. To round things off, the children stepped into the role of hotel management, crafting formal letters in response to customer feedback.



The project has been a brilliant way for pupils to develop their descriptive, persuasive and formal writing skills, and we've been so impressed by the maturity and imagination they've shown throughout.

Maths challenge

On Tuesday 10th March, four pupils attended the Year 5 Maths Challenge at Holme Grange School along with seven other schools. Firstly, participants used isometric paper to draw some 3D shapes. Katrina was one of the only participants to successfully draw the challenge shape and had her work shown to the whole room.

The second activity was about Tangrams and participants worked in pairs to make various animal shapes using the tangram pieces.



After a short break with some delicious home-baked treats, the Maths relay began. Working in pairs, participants had to solve various maths reasoning problems to earn points. Although neither of our Crown Wood pairings won a prize, all four pupils worked hard solving problems including having a go at some skills which they have not yet been taught in maths lessons.



After an afternoon of mathematical fun and the presentation of certificates to all participants, it was time to go home. Well done to Adam B, Adam K, Jessica and Katrina for representing Crown Wood at the event, and for showing determination, respect, aspiration and working together. You dared to dream!

World Book Day

For World Book Day, our school was inspired by the wonderful story *The Day the Crayons Quit*. Each class was given a different colour to



focus on, bringing the vibrant characters from the book to life across the school. Throughout the day, children took part in activities linked to their colour and explored letters and words through a variety of creative tasks. Classrooms were filled with colour, imagination and a shared love of reading. It was fantastic to see the pupils embracing the theme and celebrating books in such a fun and engaging way.

House Maths Competition

This term, the whole school took part in our annual House Maths Competition, and the enthusiasm was fantastic. In round one, every child from Years 1–6 tackled a



times-table challenge, earning valuable points for their house. The top mathematicians from each house then formed teams of eight for round two: a fast-paced problem-solving relay which had everyone cheering.

Ash triumphed in the relay, showing brilliant teamwork and quick thinking. But when all the points from both rounds were combined, it was Oak who emerged as our overall champions, with Beech in second place, Ash in third and Elm in fourth.

A huge well done to every child who took part — your determination, focus and love of maths shone through.

Catering Team

The Crown Wood Catering Team are always willing to embrace any special occasion in their menus. On February 25th the school celebrated Chinese New Year with a special menu including spring rolls, sweet & sour chicken and special dragon biscuits.



Communication with Teachers

It was lovely to see so many of you last week, at the Face to Face Parents Meetings and Online. We are grateful for the time you give us to talk about the children's progress. There are often other times when you want to discuss things with your class teacher or other adults in the school. There is always an adult on the door to pass brief messages to but sometimes you may need a longer discussion. In this case, please send an email via Mrs Porter to secretary@crowwoodprimary.co.uk and she will make sure the message gets to them. Please do not attempt to contact the class teacher directly via email. The adult will aim to respond within 48 hours.

Before and after school

Children are not allowed to play on any playground equipment before or after school. This also includes playing football and other ball games. The children must be supervised by a member of staff when completing these activities, which is not possible at these times. Children and adults must also walk their scooters and bikes into school. We have had numerous complaints about this and we thank you for your cooperation.

Warmer Weather Reminders

Please apply sunscreen to the children before they come to school. They should also come with a sun hat and water bottle. Please do not send children into school with water bottles that have a spray facility attached to them. We thank you for your support with this.



Dates for Your Diary:

27 MAR 26	Last Day of Spring Term (3.15pm)
13 APR 26	School Re-opens for Summer 1
13 APR 26	Reception Truck visit
23 APR 26	St. George's Day*
4 MAY 26	Bank Holiday (School Closed)
11 MAY 26	KS2 SATs Week
18 MAY 26	Yr 2 trip to Wisley
19 MAY 26	Yr 1 trip to Wisley
20 MAY 26	Yr 6 leavers and class photos
22 MAY 26	Inset Day
25-29 MAY 26	May half-term break
1 JUN 26	School re-opens for Summer 2
1-12 JUN 26	Year 4 Multiplication check
4 JUN 26	SEN Coffee Afternoon
8-12 JUN 26	KS1 Phonics Screening Week
16 JUN 26	Year 3 trip to Butser Farm
18-19 JUN 26	Reception trip to Studley Grange
23 JUN 26	Year 4 trip to Butser Farm
30 JUN 26	Sports Day

**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 – **R**esponsibility – **E**veryone Together – **A**spiration &
Achievement – **M**utual Respect



See next page for more Easter photos





