Meridian Trust

Crosshall Infant School "Learning for Life"

13th November 2026

# Parent Newsletter



## Headteacher update

I would like to say how proud I am of the children for showing great respect during our 1 minute silence this week as we took time to remember those who have served and sacrificed for our country. Their behaviour reflected our school values. The children have also created some wonderful poppy displays which I hope you have had a chance to see on the windows.

We are looking forward to welcoming Peterborough Museum next week to work with our Year 1 and Year 2 children. This visit will focus on old toys and technology and will compliment the history learning that has been happening in school. We hope the children enjoy their session.

Mrs Sawford

# Key Dates

| | |
|---|---|
| **Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th November** | Peterborough Museum in working working with Year 1 and Year 2 children |
| **Monday 23rd November** | Joint Open Day with Croshall Junior School. You only need to attend this if you have a child starting in Reception or Year 3 in September 2027. |
| **Wednesday 25th November** | Flu vaccinations |
| **Friday 27th November** | School closed |
| **Friday 4th December** | Christmas Extravaganza<br>KS1 children will share some festive songs at this event |
| **Friday 11th December** | Reception and Nursery Christmas Nativity<br>More information will follow |
| **Monday 14th December** | Christingle Service at St Mary's Church, Eaton Socon for Year 1 and Year 2 children. Children will need collecting from the church at 3pm. |
| **Thursday 17th December** | Christmas lunch - no visitor bookings |
| **Friday 18th December** | Last day of school<br>Visiting Pantomime for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children |

# Flu vaccines




## Free NHS Flu Vaccination at School

This autumn, children at our school will be offered the free NHS flu vaccination through Vaccination UK.

Vaccinated at school, protected for winter – an easy and convenient way for your child to receive their free NHS flu vaccine during the school day.

The flu vaccine helps protect your child and reduce the spread of flu to family members and friends. Please complete the online consent form when you receive it. Even if you choose not to vaccinate your child, we ask that you complete the form so your decision can be recorded.

# Vacancy

We have a cleaner vacancy.  If you would like to join our team then please visit My New Term to gain further information.
**Hours of work:** 12.5 hours per week, Monday-Friday 2.5 hours per day. The hours can either be 2.5 hours every morning (6:00am-8:30am) or 2.5 hours after school (15:30pm-18:00pm).
39 weeks (term time plus 5 days)

# Pantomime visit to school

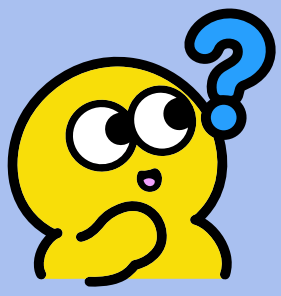
We are all looking forward to watching Aladdin on Friday 18th December with our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children. It promises to be a wonderful experience and a fantastic way to celebrate the festive season together.

To help fund the performance, we kindly ask for a contribution of **£5 per child**. The original payment deadline was before half term; however, this has now been extended to **Friday 20th November**. Unfortunately, if we do not receive contributions covering at least 90% of the cost, we will have to make the difficult decision to cancel the performance. Payment can be made via the MCAS APP. Thank you for your continued support.





# Keeping Families Informed



We have received a few questions from parents this week regarding educational visits and our decision not to hold a Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas production this year. As always, the children are at the heart of every decision we make and we wanted to take the opportunity to share a little more information with you.

**Christmas Performances**

We know that Christmas productions are a much-loved part of school life and are something many families look forward to. After careful consideration, we have decided not to stage a Year 1 and Year 2 production this year.

Preparing for a production requires a significant amount of rehearsal time and, with around 280 children in school, having all year groups perform at the same time of year can place considerable demands on children and staff alike. We want to ensure a healthy balance between learning, routines and wellbeing.

There will still be plenty of opportunities for children to perform throughout the year. Year 1 classes will share their learning through class assemblies in the Spring Term, and Year 2 children will perform in their Leavers' Concert during the Summer Term. Children will also take part in a Nativity production in Year 3, ensuring there is no overlap in major performances.

This Christmas, Key Stage 1 children will still be enjoying festive performance opportunities. They will be learning songs to share with families at our Christmas Extravaganza and will also take part in our annual Christingle Service at St Mary's Church.



**Educational Visits and Enrichment**

We would also like to reassure families that the school has **not** made any decision to stop educational visits. Providing rich and memorable experiences for children remains a key part of our curriculum and we are fully committed to enriching learning through first-hand experiences.

As a school, we are constantly looking for ways to enhance learning for all children. These decisions are made by the school and are driven by what will have the greatest impact on children's learning and development.

Whether an experience takes place in school or off-site, it is carefully chosen to be purposeful, meaningful and closely linked to the curriculum. Our staff invest a great deal of time researching and planning the best opportunities to ensure children gain the maximum benefit from every experience.

This year, our enrichment offer has a particular focus on bringing high-quality visitors, workshops and events into school. These experiences allow children to explore subjects in greater depth, often in ways that would not be possible through classroom learning alone.
Some of the enrichment opportunities already booked for this year include:

- A visiting pantomime (available to purchase on MCAS)
- An educational visit from Peterborough Museum (School funded)
- Our annual Christingle Service at St Mary's Church
- Visits to the local library
- Visitors from local churches
- An immersive Great Fire of London day in school
- Tennis sessions
- The Life Education Bus

As with previous years, some activities may require parental contributions, while others will be funded by the school. Whatever form they take, our aim remains the same: to provide children with engaging, memorable experiences that bring their learning to life and help them develop a deeper understanding of the world around them.

# Nursery

This week we have been looking at different kinds of weather. We have been making kites which the children have had great fun flying! Especially on Thursday when we finally got a little bit of wind. The children have painted some lovely rainy day pictures and we have talked about the weather we have had throughout this week. We were also very proud of all the children when we did our 1 minute silence for Remembrance day. All the children did exceptionally well. We have also been celebrating National Nursery Rhyme week by singing all our favourite nursery rhymes which we have all really enjoyed.
Thank you for all your donations for 'Children in Need'. The children all looked amazing in their cosy pyjamas.

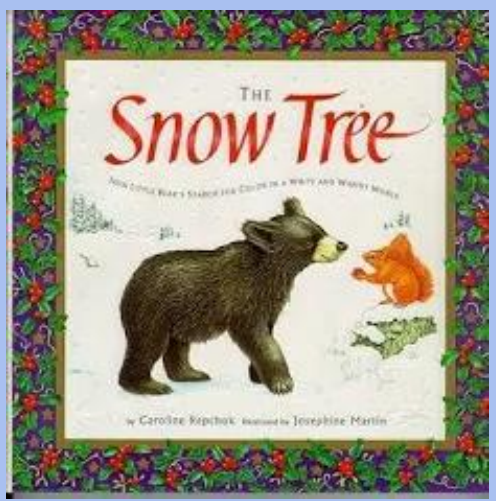







## Next week...

We will be turning into little elves making all our Christmas decorations to turn the nursey into our own Winter Wonderland in a few weeks time.
This is always a fun week which both the children and staff always thoroughly enjoy. Alongside the preparations for Christmas we will be focusing on the rhyme "Ba Ba black sheep", ordering and matching numbers 1-3 and focusing on the letter of the week which is 't'.
We will also be reading the book "The Snow Tree" by Caroline Repchuk.




Wow Moments - This can be anything your child has done that they are proud of or anything they would like to share with us. Please send in any wow moments to nursery@crosshallinfant.co.uk. We love sharing these activities during carpet time sessions.

# Nursery parents

If you would like a tour of the school please contact the school office to arrange a time.

# Apply now

Cambridgeshire County Council

## for a Reception school place for September 2027

If your child will be aged 4 by **31st August**

You need to apply NOW for a School place



SCAN ME

**Apply by 15th January 2027**

For further information please visit
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/admissions
or contact your local School

Contact the Admissions Team by telephone 0345 045 1370

School Admissions ALC2605, PO Box 761, Huntingdon, PE29 9 QR or email admissions@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk

# Reception

## Next week...

Next week, we will continue our learning about celebrations, with a particular focus on birthdays and the different ways people celebrate them.






## Writing

The children will have lots of opportunities to apply their phonics and early writing skills in meaningful contexts. They will independently write a caption for Kipper's Birthday, create their own birthday cards during independent writing , and write lists of items they might need for a birthday celebration.

## Maths

This week, the children will begin to explore composition by focusing on the preliminary skills: the concept of 'wholes' and 'parts'. By investigating their own bodies and familiar toys they will begin to understand that whole things are often made up of smaller parts and that a whole is, therefore, bigger than its parts.




## Phonics

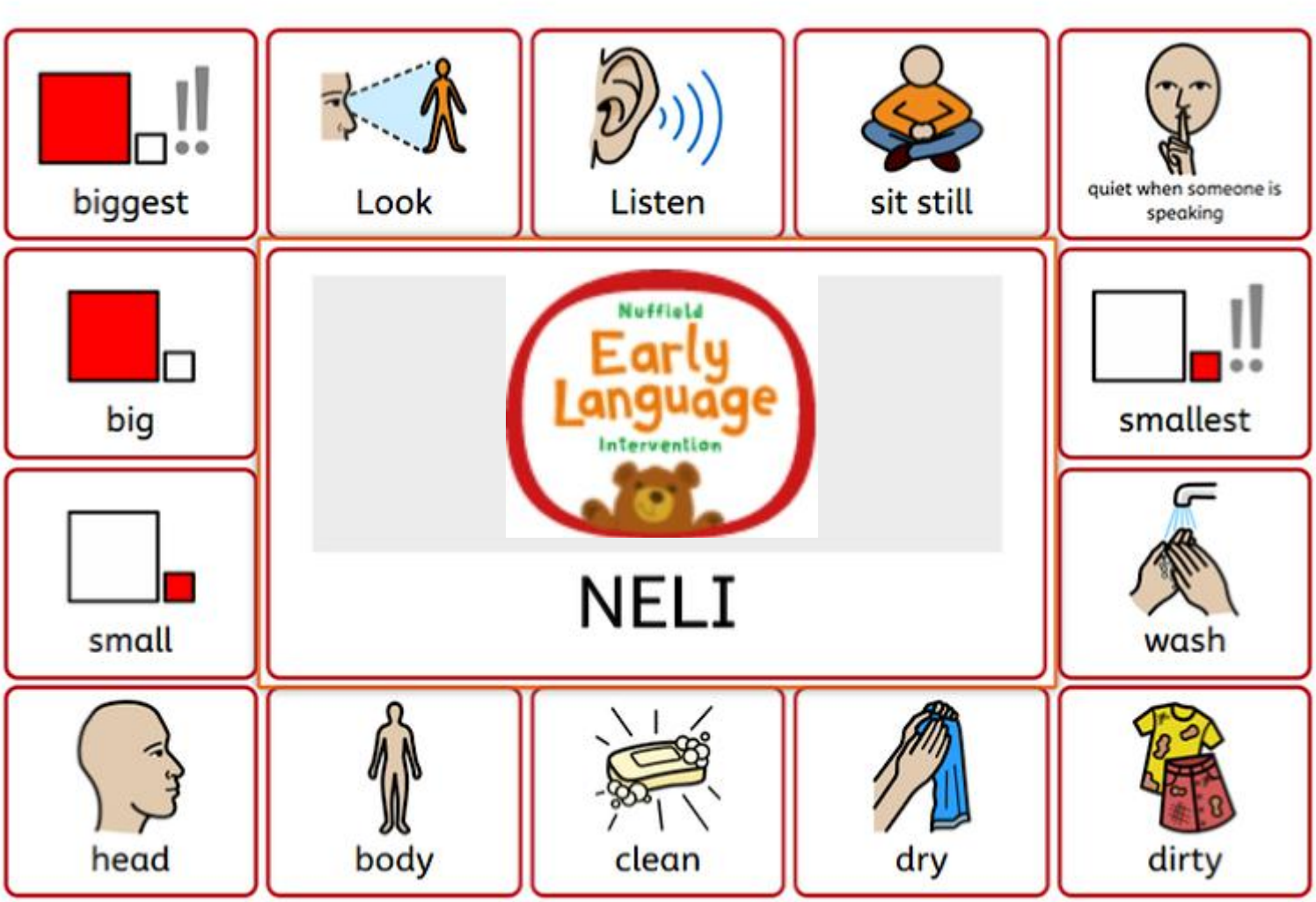
In phonics, we will be learning the sounds: v, w, x, y,
Our tricky words for this week are: and, has, his, her,

Please ensure reading books are returned to school to be collected in on Wednesday.

# NELI

In Reception, we have recently started the NELI (Nuffield Early Language Intervention) programme. This programme is designed to support children's early language and communication skills through engaging activities and discussions. This half term, our focus is the body and each week we will introduce and explore a range of new vocabulary linked to this topic.

Next week we will be covering the following vocabulary during our NELI sessions. The children will learn what these words mean and have  of opportunities to use them in different contexts throughout the week.



# Key Stage 1

## English

## Next Week...




We will be exploring the poetry book *Zim, Zam, Zoom* with a particular focus on the poem *Pirate Pete.* The children will be looking at rhyming patterns and language and using it to help them create their own pirate character.
Year 2 children will also think about how they can improve their writing by using synonyms.

## Phonics

Year 1 Phonics focus: The children will be learning the graphemes that represent the following sounds:
/ur/ - ir bird /igh/ - ie pie /oo/ /yoo/ - ue blue rescue /yoo/ u unicorn
**Spellings: bird, pie, blue, human, girl, tried, true, unit, their, people, your**

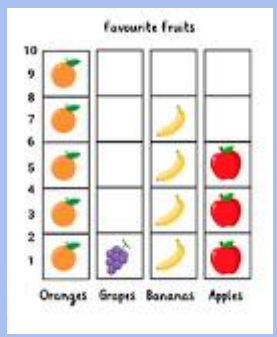
Year 2 Phonics focus: We are reviewing the following graphemes:
/ie/ (shriek/fried) /y/ (fly/happy/mystery) /ea/ (please/bread/great)
/a/ (apple/acorn/water)
**Spellings: cities, sorry, reply, please, water, bread, basic, action, friend.**

## Year 2 Fluency Books

Some Year 2 children are ready to move onto Little Wandle fluency books. These are longer, chapter texts which we read in school over two weeks. The children reading these will not take home a new book unti next week, when we have completed it in school.

## Maths

Year 1: The children will continue learning about addition and subtraction and will look for fact families using the numbers that they are working with.
For example:
3 + 5 = 8, 5 + 3 = 8, 8 - 3 = 5 and 8 - 5 = 3



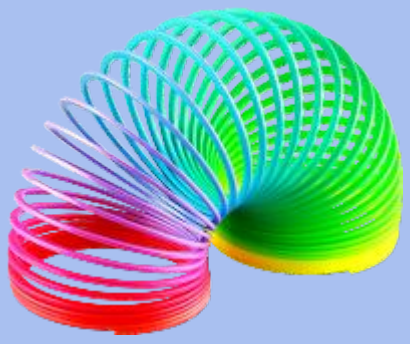

Year 2: The children will continue to explore and interpret data that is presented in bar charts, tally charts and pictograms. We will also look at data where one image represents more than one and how scales may be in 2, 5 or even 10.

# History

As part of our unit of work this half term, the school has funded a visit from Peterborough Museum on Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th November. During the visit, the children will have the opportunity to explore a range of toys from the past and discover how computers and mobile phones have changed over time. They will learn about the important role these technologies now play in our everyday lives, helping to bring their learning about the past and present to life.







# Year 2 parents

# Apply now

Cambridgeshire County Council

## for a Junior school place for September 2027

If your child is currently in **Year 2** at an Infant School

You need to apply NOW for a School place



SCAN ME

**Apply by 15th January 2027**

For further information please visit
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/admissions
or contact your child's current school

Contact the Admissions Team by telephone 0345 045 1370

School Admissions ALC2605, PO Box 761, Huntingdon, PE29 9 QR or email admissions@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk

# School lunch – week 3

## Crosshall Infant School- Menus

| Monday - Week 1 | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fish Fingers<br>Chicken curry<br>Vegetarian fingers<br>~Pasta<br>Boiled rice<br>Homemade bread<br>~<br>Garden Peas<br>Fresh sliced carrots<br>Fresh salad<br>~<br>Chocolate chip cookie<br>Fresh fruit | Hot Dog<br>Macaroni cheese<br>~<br>Diced potatoes<br>Homemade bread<br>~<br>Steamed broccoli<br>Sweetcorn<br>Fresh salad<br>~<br>Chocolate brownie cake<br>Fresh fruit | Homemade cheese and tomato pizza<br>Jacket potatoes-cheese or ham topping<br>~<br>Homemade bread<br>~<br>Baked beans<br>Sweetcorn<br>Fresh salad<br>~<br>Crispy cake<br>Fresh fruit | Tomato pasta bake<br>Pasta with cheese/ham<br>~<br>Homemade bread<br>~<br>Baked beans<br>Steamed cauliflower<br>Fresh salad<br>~<br>Shortbread<br>Fresh fruit | Roast chicken<br>Filled wraps-cheese, tuna, ham<br>~<br>Roast potatoes<br>Fresh salad<br>~<br>Steamed broccoli<br>Fresh sliced carrots<br>Fresh salad<br>~<br>Biscuit<br>Jelly<br>Flavoured yoghurt |
| **Monday -Week 2** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
| Fish Fingers<br>Chicken curry<br>Vegetarian fingers<br>~Pasta<br>Boiled rice<br>Homemade bread<br>~<br>Garden peas<br>Steamed cauliflower<br>Fresh salad<br>~<br>Chocolate chip cookies<br>Fresh fruit | Homemade cheese and tomato pizza<br>Cheese whirls<br>~<br>Homemade bread<br>~<br>Baked beans<br>Steamed carrots<br>Fresh salad<br>~<br>Chocolate brownie cake<br>Fresh fruit | Fishcakes<br>Meatballs<br>Vegetarian balls<br>~<br>Pasta<br>Homemade bread<br>~<br>Steamed broccoli<br>Sweetcorn<br>Fresh salad<br>~<br>Crispy cake<br>Fresh fruit | Pork Sausages<br>Egg and cheese<br>~<br>Chips<br>Homemade bread<br>~<br>Baked beans<br>Sweetcorn<br>Fresh salad<br>~<br>Shortbread<br>Fresh fruit | Roast chicken<br>Filled wraps-cheese, tuna, ham<br>~<br>Roast potatoes<br>Fresh salad<br>~<br>Steamed broccoli<br>Fresh sliced carrots<br>Fresh salad<br>~<br>Biscuit<br>Jelly<br>Flavoured yoghurt |

## Crosshall Infant School- Menus

| Monday - Week 3 | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fish Fingers<br>Lasagne<br>~<br>Vegetarian fingers<br>~<br>Pasta<br>Homemade bread<br>~<br>Garden peas<br>Sliced carrots<br>Fresh salad<br>~<br>Chocolate chip cookie<br>Fresh fruit | Hot Dog<br>Macaroni cheese<br>~<br>Potato wedges<br>Homemade bread<br>~<br>Steamed broccoli<br>Baked beans<br>Fresh salad<br>~<br>Chocolate brownie cake<br>Fresh fruit | Homemade cheese and tomato pizza<br>Jacket potatoes-cheese or ham toppings<br>~<br>Homemade bread<br>~<br>Baked beans<br>Sweetcorn<br>Fresh salad<br>~<br>Crispy cake<br>Fresh fruit | Fish Cakes<br>Spaghetti Bolognese<br>Vegetarian Spaghetti Bolognese<br>~<br>Homemade bread<br>Chips<br>~<br>Garden peas<br>Steamed cauliflower<br>Fresh salad<br>~<br>Shortbread<br>Fresh fruit | Roast chicken<br>Filled wraps-cheese, tuna, ham<br>~<br>Roast potatoes<br>Fresh salad<br>~<br>Steamed broccoli<br>Fresh sliced carrots<br>Fresh salad<br>~<br>Biscuit<br>Jelly<br>Flavoured yoghurt |

**Daily fresh salad station**

Spinach
Mixed peppers
Cucumber
Tomato
Grated carrot/sweetcorn (on some days)

Jacket potatoes will be available every day.

T.&S.THOMAS Family Butchers

All our food is made is made in our kitchen daily including our bread and all our desserts.

We are proud to be a nut free school. All individual diets/intolerances are catered for.