

CROSSHALL INFANT SCHOOL NEWS



27th February 2026

HEADTEACHERS AWARD

Congratulations to the following children who received a Headteacher's Award this week.

Year 1	Year 2
Harry	Ralph
Nellie	



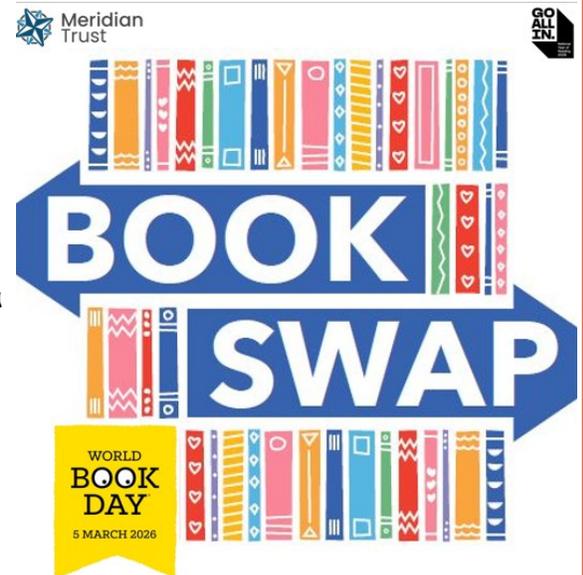
BOOK SWAP

To celebrate World Book Day this year we are going to hold a Book Swap. We would like the children to bring in a book (on Monday 2nd March) that they no longer want at home and in return they will bring home a new book. (on Thursday 5th March) This will all take place during the school day.

Every child will take a book home, even if they do not bring a book in school to swap.

#GoAllIn2026

#NationalYearOfReading2026



What: Bring in a book you want to swap

When: By Monday 2nd March 2026

Where: Give to your class teacher

GIVE A BOOK

What: Take home a book you'd like to read

When: Thursday 5th March 2026

Where: During the school day with your class

GET A BOOK

JOIN OUR TEAM

We have a vacancy in our Kids Club team. Please follow the link to look at the advert and job description.

[Job Adverts & Applicants](#)

PUPIL PREMIUM

Have your circumstances changed? Are you eligible for Pupil Premium? Even though your child receives Universal Infant Free School Meals with us applying for pupil Premium will continue beyond Year 2. The funding school will receive can support payments for school visits and also support in school for interventions. Please follow the [link](#) to see if you are eligible.



free school meals

could save you up to **£450** a year per child

To apply, visit www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL

Cambridgeshire County Council

The poster features a large white plate with a fork and knife to the right. Below the plate is a photograph of a young boy in a school uniform smiling while holding a plate of food. The background is orange.

EASTER EGG COLOURING COMPETITION



As Easter approaches we are keen to run our annual Easter Egg Colouring Competition.

Attached to this Weekly Letter is a blank Easter Egg. We would like your child to decorate this egg and return it to school to be displayed and entered into the competition.

They can paint it, collage it, create patterns, use glitter, it is entirely up to them, we simply want to see your child's creative flare!!!

This is not compulsory but we have found that many of the children really enjoy participating.

There will be 1 winner per class. Mrs Sawford will judge the competition and will announce the winners in assembly on Friday 27th March. The winner will receive an Easter egg that has been donated to the school.

If your child does wish to enter then please submit their masterpiece by **Monday 23rd March**.

[Good Luck!!](#)

The central text is enclosed in a light blue border. The border is decorated with a repeating pattern of colorful Easter eggs featuring various designs like stripes, polka dots, and zig-zags in colors such as purple, yellow, blue, and green.

7 TOP TIPS TO SUPPORT READING AT HOME

There is no denying that supporting your child to read at home can have many benefits for them both in and out of school.

The Education Endowment Foundation has produced the following 7 tips to help you in supporting your child with their reading.

1 Concentrate on reading quality (it isn't all about reading lots!)



Don't worry too much about the 'what' and 'how' of reading each day. Books are great—but leaflets, comics, recipes and instructions on a webpage can all be great too. Following a recipe to make some cupcakes is valuable reading. Be on the lookout for reading, wherever it is!

2 Ask your child lots of questions



All reading matters. Shared reading is about 'reading with', not just 'reading to' (even for older children). So, ask lots of 'Wh' questions, such as Who? What? When? Where? Why? Try them when talking about books: for example, 'what do you think Harry is feeling?'

3 Ask your child to make predictions about what they have read



If it is a book, look at the front cover—or the last chapter—and talk about what might happen next. Look for clues in the book and be a reading detective! For example, 'can you see the bear on the front cover? Where do you think he will go?'

4 Ask your child to summarise what they have read



When you've finished reading, talk about what happened. Acting out the things that happened in the story or describing the big idea of a chapter is really fun and maximises learning. For example, 'can you remember all the things that happened on the bear hunt?'

5 Ask your child to write about what they have read



Write, or draw pictures, from anything you've read! Big writing and pictures are even more fun. For example, use an old roll of wallpaper to make a treasure map with clues from the stories you've read together.

6 Read and discuss reading with friends or family



Make books a part of the family. Encourage your child to share them with a relative or friend, over a video call. Laugh about them when you are making meals together. For example, 'I hope the tiger doesn't come to tea today!'

7 Maintain the motivation to read



Talk about the joy of reading whenever you can. Your child is on an amazing journey to becoming a reader. Put them in the driving seat and have fun on the way! For example, 'choose your favourite story for bedtime tonight.'

ONLINE SAFETY

The NSPCC has partnered with Vodafone to develop an **online safety guide** for parents and carers of **children under 5**. The guide contains useful information about **common risks** this age group face, some guidance around **screen time limits** and lots of **practical tips** for families:

Click here: [A parent's guide to online safety for children under five | NSPCC](#)

PARENT TEACHER CONSULTATIONS - NURSERY AND INFANT SCHOOL

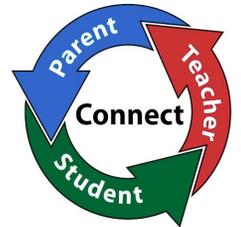
This terms Parent Teacher Consultations will take place on the following dates for Nursery

Tuesday 10th March

and School

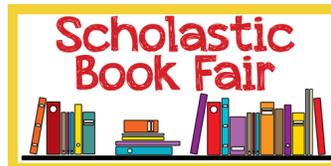
Tuesday 10th March and Thursday 12th March

Please see the attached letter detailing information about how to book your appointment.



BOOK FAIR

Thank you to everyone who has supported our Book Fair. If you have not already made a visit, this will remain open, after school each day, in the main school hall until 4th March. Please pop along and take a look at the extensive range of books available for children of all ages.



MRS ORMSTON'S BENCH

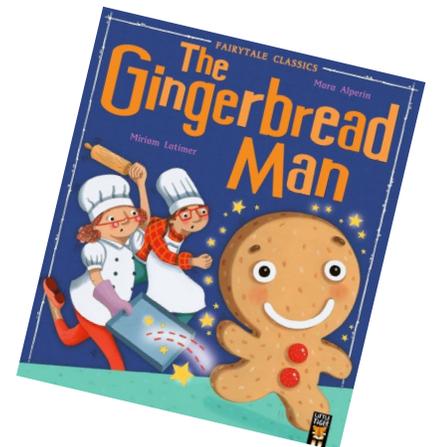
During half term Mr Lauria has placed Mrs Ormston's bench in the playground. This space was chosen by Mr Ormston, who thought it would be a lovely spot for children to read books and to 'have a chat'. Thank you so much for all the kind donations that we received so we could purchase this. We are going to use the money we have left to purchase items for the Rainbow Room, which was a place Mrs Ormston spent a lot of time in. Mr Ormston said she would have wanted the money to be spent on the children at our school. Thank you once again, and enjoy 'having a chat'.

This space was chosen by Mr



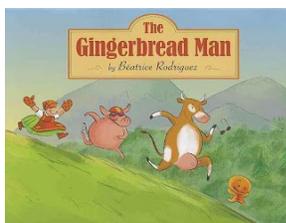
Book Week

We have had so much fun during our Book Week, this week! We enjoyed dance workshops from West End in Schools, class swaps to share our favourite books with each other and lots of exciting activities including a puppet workshop, bringing stories to life in Key Stage 1. We have loved sharing the story shoe boxes that the children have been bringing in. Thank you for your support at home in making them. Please keep sharing your photos of your child reading in an unusual place as we are displaying them all around school.



Crosshall Nursery

Wow! What a wonderful week we have had exploring the stories of Julia Donaldson. The children have really enjoyed sharing their photos that you have emailed in with them reading their favourite books. They have been busy painting lots of different characters from the Gruffalo story, producing some amazing artwork to display around the nursery. The children enjoyed their Welly Wednesday in the magic garden looking for the Stick Man and looking for the snail from the book Snail on the Whale. We also had a very special treat with a visit from West End in Schools with an interactive performance of the Gingerbread Man.



Next week

The topic will be space and following on from the lovely week of reading Julia Donaldson books we are going to focus on 'The Smeds and Smoos'. We will also be creating our own aliens and practising our scissor skills by cutting out shapes to make our own rockets.

The letter of the week will be the letter U and we will be learning and blending the sound of different words beginning with U. On Wednesday we are lucky to have a tennis coach visiting us. He will teach the children basic techniques of tennis which we know the children will all enjoy.

Thank you to everyone that sends photos that we ask for and the 'wow' moments. We really enjoy sharing these in group time. Just a little reminder to send them directly to the email below and not the school office.

Thank you for your continued support. Please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff if you have any questions or concerns.

If you would like to share your child's WOW moments from home, please email us:

nursery@crosshallinfant.co.uk

Please remember this email address is only for WOW moments.

All other email communications should go to office@crosshallinfant.co.uk

This term the children will be learning about People in their Community. The children will learn about people such as the police, firefighters, teachers, doctors, vets, postal workers and bin men. We will also be sharing a series of traditional tales with the children over the Spring Term.



Change to PE days

From next week all of Reception will have PE on Fridays.

Bumblebees will also have PE on Monday.

Dragonflies will also have PE on Wednesday.

Ladybirds will also have PE on Thursday.

Reading

Please ensure your child's reading book is kept in their reading folder. All books must be collected in before new books can be sent home. Failure to return books means we have incomplete packs of books that can not be used across school.

Phonics

Next week in phonics we will be moving on to phase 3. The children will learn to read and write words with the ear, air and er digraphs and trigraphs. The children will also learn to read longer words with double consonants.

The children will read with an adult 3 times per week.



ear
get near to hear



air
chair in the air



er
a bigger digger

Maths

Next week the children will be comparing quantities using the terms "more than" and "less than." The children will begin to develop their own 'mental number line', as well as the ability to understand which number is more than or less than another.

Writing

We will be sharing 2 core texts with the children next week: Ruby's Worry and Busy People: Police. The children will write a decodable sentence about the text.

Police Visit

We are very excited to be welcoming the Police into school. The children will learn about how the police keep them safe in the community and the jobs they do. They will also have the opportunity to sit in a Police car.

Art

The children have been busily preparing mothers day gifts. Next week they will add the finishing touches.

Tennis workshop

On Wednesday and Thursday next week the children will be participating in a tennis workshop with Tennis coach: Nick Peck.

Bumblebees and Ladybirds will be on Wednesday

Dragonflies on Thursday

Homework

YEAR 1 AND YEAR 2

Year 1 spelling homework for this week:

fruit, happy, fizzy, follow, group, secret, visit, groan, water, want, could, people.

Please continue to read regularly at home and record this in your child's reading diary.

Year 2 spelling homework for this week:

verge, badge, large, giant, whinge, dodge, fudge, range, once, two, any, many

You could practise these words in sentences so that your child knows how to use them in their writing.

Please continue to read regularly at home and record this in your child's reading diary.

Year 1 PE Days

The children will need to come to school wearing their PE kits on their PE days.

Barn Owls- Tuesday

Red Kites- Monday

Robins- Thursday

All Year 1 children - Wednesday.

Year 2 PE Days

Please note a change to the days

All Year 2 children - Tuesday

Otters - Wednesday

Hedgehogs - Friday

Foxes - Friday

This half term's big question has a history focus.

'What made Ibn Battuta an explorer?'

The children will learn about what makes an explorer and the challenges that he and other explorers have faced.



Next week...

English

The children are going to be using the text *Islandborn* as their inspiration for writing. We will begin by making predictions about the story and move to using it as a prompt to write descriptive sentences about our own locality before then describing the setting of the story.

Year 2 children will be encouraged to add detail and extend their sentences using all the skills they have been taught so far this year including: Expanded noun phrases, a variety of conjunctions and different sentence starters.



Phonics

Year 1 children will be rehearsing the following alternative graphemes:

/oo/ - u (pull), ew (chew), u_e (June), ui (fruit) ou (soup)

/ee/ - ea (neat), e (be), e_e (evening), ie (field), ey (key), y (happy), ee (sleep)

/s/ - c (ice), se (mouse), ce (fence), ss (mess)

/z/ - se (cheese), s (bees), zz (buzz)

/oa/ - ow (snow), oe (toe), ou (though), o_e (bone), o (go), oa (goat)

Year 2 children will be revising the alternative spellings for:

/j/ - dge (fridge), ge (age), g (magic)

We will also be learning about simple homophones such as *wear* and *where*.

Maths

In **Year 1**, the children will continue to practise their measuring skills. They will be measuring the volumes of different vessels and using the vocabulary *full*, *empty*, *half full* etc to compare them. The children will be learning how to answer word problems based on measurement.

In **Year 2**, we will be moving on to learn about simple fractions of shapes and quantities. We will be learning how to find $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$. We will also learn that $\frac{2}{4}$ is the same as $\frac{1}{2}$.



Year 2 parents and carers please be aware that over the coming weeks, your child will begin to look at practise SATs papers. We will be using them to familiarise the children with the layout and style of them ahead of the summer term.

SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS 1-3

Next Week we are on Menu Week 2

During the lunch period staff are available to promote table manners, support with cutting up food and they are there to encourage children to try new foods or to eat a little more.

Crosshall Infant School- Autumn Term Menus

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

Daily fresh salad station
Spinach
Mixed peppers
Cucumber
Tomato
Grated carrot/sweetcorn (on some days)

Jacket potatoes will be available every day.

T.&STHOMAS
TRADESMEN
Family Butchers



All our food 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.

Crosshall Infant School- Autumn Term Menus

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

We had another visit from the Environmental Health Team during February half term. This time for our Kids Club. I am pleased to share they also retained their 5 stars! Well done to the Kinds Club team.






FOLLOW US