



Cranford C E Primary School

Working together for all children to prosper, be full of hope and be excited about their future.

Life in school

Apologies for being unable to attend the meeting, we are very busy this week preparing not only for the end of term but also for Her Majesty's Jubilee celebrations. We are very grateful that the village reached out and included us in your festivities. Before COVID, I was delighted with how rapidly we had reintegrated ourselves within the community. This is still very much the approach and we hope to be able to invite you on site in the not too distant future.

As always, things in school move at tremendous pace. Obviously, the past two years have seen a great deal of disruption but back in October we were once again inspected by OFSTED. We remain an 'Outstanding' school and I must credit the wonderful pupils and staff we have here in school. The inspectors spoke with a cross-section of the school community and received brilliant feedback from all involved. I hope that this makes you, as residents of our beautiful village, as proud as it does our staff.

Also during the Autumn term, much needed work was done on the original school building's roof and I'm happy to report that we have no more leakages. This was the first of several substantial pieces of improvement work being completed in school and arranged by our multi-academy Trust, PDET (Peterborough Diocese Education Trust). This summer should see refurbishments of our pupil and staff toilets and hopefully some cosmetic improvements around the school.

Our community has come together once again to support those in need – collecting a great variety of donations for the Kettering foodbank as part of our 'reverse advent', and then much needed hygiene and sanitary products for those in need in Ukraine. The generosity of our community is again, something to be very proud of indeed.

We have recently completed the end of Key Stage arrangements (commonly known as the SATS) in both Year 6 and Year 2. These returned for the first time since 2019 and the pandemic. We very much down play these with the children but even so, I am expecting some good results.

Speeding/Parking

Along with Stephen, I have met with staff from the local council, as I remain concerned at the speed of vehicles moving through and around the village. We have a particular worry about the speed down Church Lane where I have witnessed delivery vans, farm vehicles and cars travelling at speed far in excess of what is sensible. The vehicles I have witnessed doing this are not those belonging to the school community. With Stephen's support, the local council fitted speed 'awareness' signs and I was pleased when the 'speed camera' was fitted on the High Street.

Parking is an issue at the two 'crunch-points' of the day (drop-off and collection times) but this is the same at all schools and clearly a drawback of living near to one. The work the school did on removing the traffic from the S-bend on the High Street continues to be successful, however, and for that, I remain grateful as this caused me sleepless nights!

School and the Village

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Peterborough Diocese
Education Trust


ACHIEVING MORE TOGETHER

In terms of our contributions to 'village life' this year, I hope you were able to attend our outdoor Christmas concert at Orchard Field. At a time when indoor performance were 'frowned' upon, it was lovely to spread a little joy to local residents and to give our children the opportunity to have an audience. We enjoyed taking part in the Easter Egg hunt as organised by Lizzy Stirzaker and her FOCS' (Friends of Cranford School) team and yet again, this was another opportunity to show-off the wider village to our parent body.

As I say, we are pleased to be involved in your Jubilee activities and we will continue to promote these to our parents. You may have noticed we have had some new signage fitted this year and remind you that we are happy to dedicate a section to promote village events and news. On the 19th June and 3rd July, our children will be joining in and helping to deliver the Sunday family services in St John's Church. We hope to see you there as part of the congregation.

Further to this, we also planning to 'put on' an end of year, whole-school performance. We will definitely need rehearsals so please be on the look out for VIP invites.

Kind Regards



Mr Richard Albert
Headteacher