

Cranmore Integrated Primary and Nursery School Newsletter- December 2024

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[Check out our school website](#)



Attendance Matters



1 - Attendance

Whole school attendance for November was 93.6%, below our target of 96%!

Classes of the month were P3 and P6 both with 96.3%

Message from the Principal and Board of Governors on Attendance

We recently received a letter from the Department of Education which was reminding all schools of the importance of regular pupil attendance. Since Covid there has been poorer levels of attendance in many schools right across Northern Ireland.

As you know we are very proactive in encouraging good levels of attendance and each month in our newsletter we publish our rates of attendance and identify a Class of the Month and we also give attendance awards at various periods throughout the year.

You will know that research suggests that children who are regular attenders make greater progress and are happy and more sociable in school. As a school we greatly value the support of all of our parents who work with us to maintain good levels of attendance and we are able to work together when children are struggling with different aspects of school life and this is impacting on their attendance.

In the letter from the Department it noted that the average attendance rates for all primary schools had risen in September 2024 to 96.1%. This is good news but what is even better is that the Cranmore attendance rate for September 2024 was 96.9%. I think this is an amazing achievement and demonstrates that our children are happy, making progress and coming to school as often as they can. Thank you for your support in helping us to achieve this.

We recognise that there are periods of time due to illness or family circumstances when children are unable to attend school and that is beyond the control of all of us. However, I wanted to remind you once again that if your child is experiencing difficulties and refusing to come to school you should in the first instance speak to the class teacher. After which you can speak with myself and we can look at wider support for example from the School Counsellor, Community Family Hub or the Education Welfare Service.

Kind Regards

W Doherty

Principal

Christmas Message from the Principal

As 2024 draws to a close I want to take the opportunity to thank you for all your commitment and support throughout the year. December is a busy and hectic period for all our families and the school is no different. Christmas is an important festival for many of us and represents a message of love and hope in a world that is often dark. Our integrated school has one community which is made up of all different faiths and traditions and so I hope that however you choose to spend your Christmas that it is a time for family, friends and fun for all.

Just a reminder that the school will close for all pupils at 12 noon on Friday 20 December 2024 and will reopen on Monday 6 January 2025.

On behalf of the Board of Governors and staff I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a peaceful new year!!

Regards

Mr W Doherty

Christmas Jumper Day – Thursday 12 December 2024

*Children can wear a Christmas Jumper, hair band, Christmas hat or other festive accessories to mark the day. We are asking parents for a donation of £2 for the charity 'Save the Children'.
Donations can be made using the following link*

https://www.justgiving.com/page/cranmore-ips-primary-school-1728984924037?utm_term=x5gRq6vPB



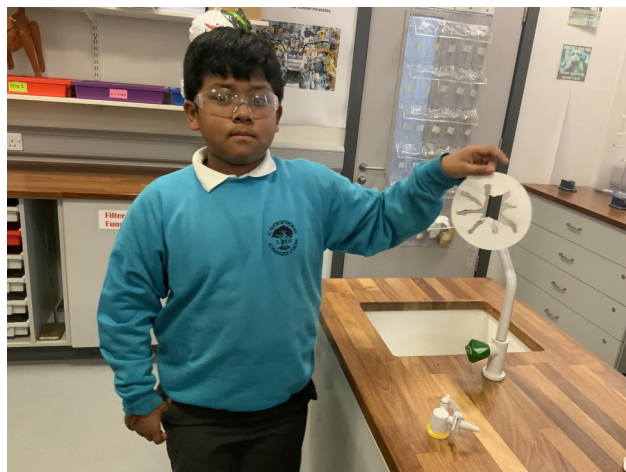
Lord Mayor's Christmas Card

Well done to Callum from P7 who was chosen as the designer for the Lord Mayors Christmas card this year! We are very proud of him! Well done also to the runners up who also submitted amazing entries!



P5 visit Lagan College

*A fun and exciting science morning was enjoyed by P5 at Lagan College on Monday 2 December .
The children experienced experiments and demonstrations related to the theme of Christmas
Chemistry and even got to do a science experiment of their own using the bunsen burners to
make a Christmas decoration.*







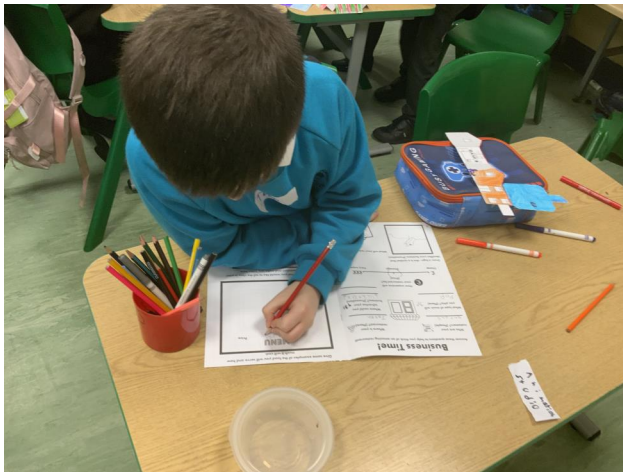


P5 Young Enterprise

P5 had a brilliant morning with Rebecca from Young Enterprise recently. They had the chance to develop and practice skills that they will need in the world of work, such as communication, team work and financial management.









5 December 2024

Admissions Criteria published

10 January 2025

Applications open at 12 noon

24 January 2025

Applications close at 12 noon





Christmas Fair

Our annual Christmas Fair was a huge success this year and was bigger and better than ever! We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who came along on the evening to support us and a huge thank you to the parents and staff who worked so hard make the night happen. We raised an amazing £2400!









Christmas Fair Donations

A huge thank you to all our families who donated many items for the Christmas Fair. We also want to acknowledge other outside companies who gave generously to support the event including:

The Jharna Indian restaurant

Streamvale Open Farm

Laganvale Soft Play

Stendhal Music Festival

Jem Swim School

Roar and Explore

Hotel Chocolate

W5 Family

Carol Singing

The choir have been invited to sing for the residents of Glenowen Court on Monday 16 December.

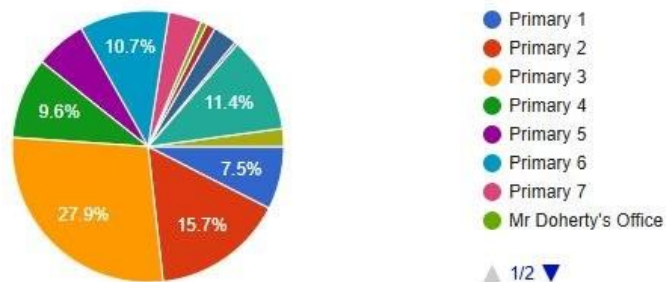
We are delighted to have this opportunity to promote our school in the local community and share the joy of Christmas. The children will make cards for the residents and have time to chat before we leave. They are looking forward to singing Jingle Bells and Rudolph as well as some traditional carols.

Christmas Door Competition

Well done to Primary 3 who won our Christmas door competition with their Grinch themed entry. Their prize will be a class trip in the new year!

Which Christmas door is your favourite?

280 responses





School Development Plan 2024-2027

This week you will receive a paper copy of the School Development Plan for 2024-2027. This is a three-year strategic plan to guide our school improvement work over the next few years. All schools are required to publish a plan which takes account of the individual context of the school and which sets out priorities which are identified by everyone within the wider school community including staff, governors, parents and pupils. The plan has been approved by the Board of Governors and will continue to be reviewed over the course of the next few years.

Parents Council

In January we are going to make a big effort to get our Parents Council up and running. Please don't be put off by the name or what you think it might involve as it is simply a way of parents coming together to plan fundraising events or think of ways of supporting the work of the school. We want this to be as informal as it can be and there is no regular time commitment needed. If you have an interest in Cranmore and think you have ideas that would make the school even

better, then we want to hear from you. Further details will be sent out in January for a get together over a cup of tea or coffee.

Annual Report of the Board of Governors

Earlier this month you will have received a copy of the Annual Report for 2023-2024 a copy is also available on the school website. Please take a few minutes to read through the report which is a summary of all that took place in school during the year.

Maths Support for Parents

How often as a parent have you struggled with your child's maths homework? This is quite common for many parents with different methods being used today from when we were at school. We have been approached By Stanmillis College about a new support programme called Multiply.

Courses will be delivered during the day, in the school, by qualified tutors over a 3-week period, each workshop lasting 2 hours, once a week. Tutors will facilitate a relaxed and informal learning environment, through discussions, teaching, and active learning. By improving your own numeracy skills, parents will also be more confident about helping their children at home. This is a fully funded programme with no cost to you and all participants will receive a welcome pack and a numeracy goodie bag to keep!

If you are interest in taking part in February please contact the school office to register your interest.



10 December - Whole School Flu vaccination

12 December - Christmas Jumper Day

13 December - P1 - P3 Christmas Show - 10.00am

16 December - Choir carol singing at Glenowen Court

17 December - P4-7 Pantomime

20 December - Finish for Christmas 12 Noon (Only 1 bus)

6 January 2025 - School reopens



This month's joke comes from Shauna in P6

Q. What did the triangle say to the circle?

A. You're pointless!
