



Cranborne

Church of England
First School and Nursery

Love, Learn, Fly

Do Everything in Love 1 Corinthians 16:14

Headteacher: Mrs A Faithfull

Water Street, Cranborne, Dorset BH21 5QB

Email: office@cranbornefirst.dsat.org.uk

Website: www.cranbornefirst.dsat.org.uk

Tel: 01725 517439

Newsletter Issue #6

Friday 21st November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are sad that many of our children have been poorly with various viruses over the last week or so. Thank you for your support allowing children to fully recover before returning to school. Hopefully everyone will be feeling much better very soon!

There have been lots of exciting events happening in school over the last few weeks. Our Crane children were superstars being filmed for a Dorset Music Service teaching resource and are now very ready to share their Samba drumming skills with you on the 2nd of December! We hope you can join us. Early Morning Music Club with Cathy has started well and is getting us in the Christmas mood with their 'Dreaming of a White Christmas' theme! (sleigh bells at the ready!).

The whole school thoroughly enjoyed our STEPS Road Safety Day with Amanda and Karen from BCP last week. Thank you to the volunteers who gave their time to join the year 1 and year 4 roadside sessions in the village and our PFA for funding this important opportunity for the children to learn beyond the classroom.

It was lovely to welcome back some of our previous pupils when the Year 8 Sports Leaders from Cranborne Middle School joined us to lead a multi-skills PE lesson with Crane class on Wednesday. Mrs Cleeve and Mrs Churchill were incredibly proud of the positive and determined way our Crane children engaged in all the activities. Well done everyone!

Crane Class Samba Performance Tuesday 2nd December

9.30 – 9.50 am

Please join us at 9.30 am on the 2nd when Crane class will entertain the whole school with a Samba performance to mark the end of their ten-week teaching programme. Parents and carers are very welcome, we hope you can join us.



PFA Raffle Tickets have been sent home in book bags. Please let Mrs Kellaway know if you would like to buy more.

Fundraising

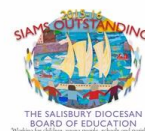
Together we raised £189.80 for Children in Need. Thank you so much for your generous donations! The Royal British Legion have also thanked us for supporting their poppy appeal. We raised £15.

School Tour Dates

Please contact Mrs Kellaway in the school office to book an appointment for children starting reception class in September 2026. We would be delighted to show you around our wonderful school!



Diocese of Salisbury
Academy Trust



The Circle Lunch Club

Crane class have been invited to perform at the Cranborne Garden Centre at The Circle Lunch Club's Christmas meal on the **9th of December**. Please could Crane class wear school uniform but also 'accessorise' with something Christmassy on the day (Santa hats, deely boppers, Christmas hair accessories, tinsel..!). Thank you!

Fledgling, Wren and Robin Nativity

Our children in Fledgling, Wren and Robin classes are now preparing for their Nativity which will be performed in our school hall on **Thursday 11th December at 2 pm** and **Friday 12th December at 9.15 am**. Tickets have been allocated and sent home in book bags (2 tickets per performance per family). If you have tickets that you do not need we are very happy for you to share or exchange these with other parents. Please arrange this amongst yourselves, I'm afraid we are not able to hold or redistribute tickets from the school office.

To meet Health & Safety regulations we are limited to the number of individuals in the hall at any one time. If, however, you need to bring babies and toddlers they will need to sit on your lap and we politely ask that if they become restless or noisy that you take them out to allow the children performing the opportunity to 'shine' without distractions. Thank you.

Christmas Disco

The PFA have booked a school disco with Liam from Outalimits on **Tuesday 16th December** as a special treat for the children which will involve all classes throughout the morning. We politely ask for a voluntary donation of £3 per child, which can be paid directly into the PFA account or cash is accepted (please include your child's surname for reference). When the PFA receive your donation, your child will receive a special Christmas Disco Ticket! Children are welcome to wear their own party clothes to school on this day.

Crane Carol Service

Preparations will soon be underway for our beautiful evening Carol Service at Cranborne Church. This will be held on **Wednesday 17th December at 6 pm**. Our children in Crane class will be leading this special time of worship with readings, carols and prayers, alongside Reverend Angus Mayhew and with the support of Cathy Murray. This evening is open to all and it would be lovely to welcome all our Cranborne First School families to this occasion. Crane class will need to arrive by 5.45 pm on the evening and will need to wear their school uniform or nativity costume as provided by school. Thank you!

Christmas Party Day

On **Friday 19th December**, the last day of term the children will enjoy a workshop and performance of 'Dr Dolittle' with the amazing Image Music Theatre Company. Thank you to our PFA for funding this wonderful experience for the children. As Friday 19th December is the last day of term the children are invited to come to school dressed in their own clothes. We're looking forward to seeing lots of festive Christmas jumpers on that day, but please ensure your child is warm enough, has a coat and wearing clothes and footwear that are suitable for running and playing in.

Christmas Cards and the Christmas Post Box

Our Christmas Post Box will be in operation again this year for children who would like to send individual cards to their friends, however you may also want to consider alternative options for sending Christmas greetings this year. I know that many of our children are passionate about reducing waste and caring for our environment so you may want to consider your child writing one card for their class that can be displayed rather than sending individual cards. In addition, you may decide to donate the money you would have spent on individual Christmas cards to a charity that is special to your family. It would be lovely if your child could talk about their chosen charity with their class. Whatever you decide, thank you for considering these ideas with your children.

Learning Conversations

Fledglings & Wrens

Over the last two weeks in our little unit of Wrens and Fledglings we have been learning all about Diwali! We have learnt all about this special festival of light and how important it is to remember that light will always triumph over darkness. We have decorated our classroom with lights and diya candles, dressing up in flower garlands and saris! We even became movers and shakers and learnt how to do some moves to Bhangra music! We really enjoyed making a special Diwali card for the Patel family from Cranborne stores and (as the Wren and Fledgling parents already know) our little crew all came out to deliver the card in the shop too! The children all did a marvellous job, they dressed up in colourful garlands, some held little battery candles too and we were so pleased to be able to wish Vic's dad a Happy Diwali in person and give him our card for the family. We are so grateful to have such a lovely family running our local store.

Last week we also enjoyed our visit from the Road Safety team, it was brilliant! We turned our hall into a little street with a road, a zebra crossing and we even had a working traffic light! Maya was in charge of the zebra crossing, Riley-Joe was the Police Officer in charge of keeping us safe, Dixie Dot looked after the traffic lights and the rest of us were either different kinds of vehicles or pedestrians! We learnt to stop, look and listen before crossing the road and lots of other helpful hints and tips too on how to be safe by the roadside, on the road and even on our wheels (our bikes, scooters and roller skates). Can a Wren or Fledgling give you some top tips on how to keep safe on your next journey? Talking of which, the next journey we are going to be focused on is one to a little place called Bethlehem... I wonder what that means?!



Miss Hudson and Rufus



Robins

In Robin class, we have been continuing to choral and echo read 'The Magic Paintbrush.' The children have created list poems to describe Shen, her appearance and to describe the objects that she has painted.

In science, we are looking at seasonal changes and have been observing the changes in weather and the leaves from a variety of deciduous trees. In maths, as part of our place value learning, the children have been finding one more or one less and using base ten to flexibly partition two-digit numbers.

The children really enjoyed their visit from the 'Road Safety Team' and were able to answer lots of questions about crossing the road safely. In history, the children have started to learn about William Caxton and why he was such an important person in British history.

Please continue to read at least 3 times a week with our child. We have started to give a sticker (on their book marks) for the children who have read with an adult three times a week. Thank you for your support at home with daily reading it has been lovely to see the children being so pleased to receive a sticker and put it on her book mark for their reading. Well done Robins!

Mrs Phillips

Crane

In English, we have been sharing Oscar Wilde's 'The Happy Prince', which fits in so well with our spiritual theme this half-term of generosity. I have been so proud of the beautiful writing and ideas that the children have had over the last two weeks! Additionally, the children created beautiful Remembrance pebbles to commemorate November 11th, these have been placed on the war memorial in the village.

Times Tables

We are passionate in school about the children learning their times tables to 12 in Key Stage 2! Securing these gives our children the tools to feel confident, work faster, and enjoy maths more. This week you will have received a reminder of your child's login for Times Table Rock Stars in their reading journal.

Please could your child log in and practise their times tables, by hitting the 'play' button next to their avatar and selecting single-player and choosing from the games to play, Garage and Soundcheck are particularly useful. In Multiplayer, at least once a week, try out the 'Rockslam' game. I have set the children a challenge in multiplayer games, 'Rock Slam' and would love it if your child could beat my score!

Art

We've been observing carefully to find light and shade in our drawings. Can your child have a go at sketching a bottle, tin or can from home this week? I would love to add some drawings from home into the children's fantastic sketchbooks.

Phonics/Spelling

In so many plurals for root words ending with y, the y is removed and replaced with -ies. We have been practicing our **plural spellings ending in -ies**.

Berry->berries, fly->flies, raspberry->raspberries, blackberry->blackberries, strawberry->strawberries, baby → babies, city → cities, party → parties, lady → ladies, story → stories, family → families, library → libraries, country → countries

We have also started learning about **pre-fixes and suffixes**.

Suffixes are letters that go at the end of a word to change the meaning of the word.

This week we used words ending -less in our writing, such as hopeless, helpless, homeless, penniless and worthless. Can your child write these words on a scrap of paper independently?

Mrs Lawford

Wow, we already have twenty beautiful Christmas Boxes ready to be collected by The House of Opportunity and we still have another few days if you wanted to contribute too. Our gifts will be collected on Thursday 27th November. Thank you so much for your generosity!

This Sunday we will again be hosting Breakfast Church in our school hall between 9-10 am. Please join us for a special time of prayer and worship with members of our community (and of course a delicious breakfast).

With kind regards,

Mrs Faithfull

Cranborne CE First School & Nursery – Autumn 2025

Sunday 23 rd November	9-10 am	Breakfast Church in the School Hall
Monday 24 th November		Priory Hub Year 3 and 4 Football Tournament at St James' First School (12 children will be representing our school at this event)
Thursday 27 th November		House of Opportunity Christmas Boxes collected today
Monday 1 st December		Christmas Post Box opens
Tuesday 2 nd December	9.30-9.50 am	Crane Samba Drumming performance for parents and carers (doors open at 9.25 am)
Tuesday 9 th December	12.30-1 pm	Crane class have been invited to perform Christmas songs at The Circle Lunch Club at the Cranborne Garden Centre. Alongside their school uniform children can wear a Christmas 'accessory' to bring some Christmas cheer to our audience!
Thursday 11 th December	2 pm	Fledgling, Wren and Robin Nativity in the school hall
Friday 12 th December	9.15 am	Fledgling, Wren and Robin Nativity in the school hall
Tuesday 16 th December		Class Discos in the school hall during the morning. Voluntary donation to PFA £3. Children invited to wear party clothes today.
Wednesday 17 th December	6 pm	Crane Carol Service at Cranborne Church
Thursday 18 th December		Christmas Post Box Closes
Friday 19 th December		Last Day of Term Children invited to wear Christmas party clothes Image Music Theatre performance of Dr Dolittle Christmas Lunch
22nd December – 2nd January		Christmas Holiday
Sunday 28 th December	9-10 am	Breakfast Church in the School Hall
Monday 5 th January		INSET Day – school closed to children
Tuesday 6 th January		Children return