



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 #7

Friday 5th December 2025

Dear Parents & Carers,

With Christmas just around the corner there is plenty of school information to share as we move into our last two weeks of term. The children are busy practising their readings, songs and carols and are looking forward to sharing their performances with you all, we hope you can join us! Well done to Crane class for an amazing Samba performance on Tuesday and on Monday we are looking forward to the Cranborne Middle School Choir joining us to share some Christmas songs! It is always especially lovely to see past pupils at this event!

This week we have spent time reflecting with the children on the meaning of Advent – a significant time of preparation and waiting. In collective worship on Monday, we explored the significance of our advent wreath when we lit our first candle which we learned represents hope. Over the coming weeks we will consider the meaning of peace, joy and love as we light the three remaining candles before reflecting on the importance of the Christ candle at the centre. Can your child tell you about this?

Starting School at 4+ in September 2026

The application period for children starting school at 4+ is open until 15th January 2026 for first round place allocations. Parents should apply online at <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/starting-school-for-the-first-time>. If you live outside Dorset you should apply to the local authority for where you live.

Christmas Trees

Cranborne Estate Forestry have again very generously donated a beautiful 7-foot Christmas tree to decorate our school hall. This makes a wonderful backdrop for our festive celebrations! We are also pleased to have bought three smaller trees for the children to decorate and enjoy in their classrooms.



Christmas Post Box

Our Christmas post box is open for the children to post Christmas cards to their friends if they would like to.

To help the delivery team please ensure the recipient's name is written clearly on the envelope and please include the class name:

Nursery class – Fledgling

Reception class – Wren

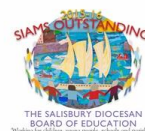
Year 1 & 2 class – Robin

Year 3 & 4 class - Crane

Our last posting day is Thursday 18th December. Many thanks!



Diocese of Salisbury
Academy Trust



Use of Photography at School Events

We are very proud of the children in our school and especially so when they take part in school events such as Church services and performances. Our Christmas events are fast approaching and we understand how important it is to take a photo as a special memory of your child and to share with your friends and family.

Please be aware we do have a number of families that have requested that their child does not appear on the school website or any other form of the Internet including public Facebook pages. We ask you to be respectful of this when taking photographs of your children during school events. Thank you for your understanding.

Fraser Portraits

There's still time to order your child's school photos for Christmas delivery from Fraser Portraits. Please contact sales@fraserportraits.com if you have misplaced your proof card and the team will be happy to help.

Christmas Fayre at Aurora Boveridge College

Aurora Boveridge College will be hosting a Christmas Fayre on Saturday 6th December, with over 30 stalls, licensed bar and festive food available. Everyone welcome.

Learning Conversations

Fledglings & Wrens

Well things have certainly started to look very Christmassy over here! We have been so excited to start our learning about this very special time of year. Over the last two weeks we have been learning all about the very first Christmas Story. Having been such a long time since the children last heard the story we went right back to the beginning and really concentrated on each part of the story. We made it really special, put the twinkly lights on and submerged ourselves into all parts of the tale – from the surprise of Mary seeing the Angel Gabriel, the worry of Joseph not being able to find a place to stay and finishing up with the joy and excitement of the special baby being placed in the manger.

The children have impressed us so much with Nativity rehearsals – singing away and getting fully into the thick of the action! This time of year is always so lovely and it is a true privilege to be with the children as they learn to work together to tell the story of the first Christmas. It is always particularly special for me to get to spend some of day alongside children that have been Wrenbirds and are now so big and grown up! I always miss them so jolly much.

It always gets me, every year. There will always be a moment in rehearsals where I look at their little faces and truly feel so glad we all get to be together. It is a privilege to get to share this nativity experience with you too – some of you for your last one of many, some for your first one ever. Thank you for being a lovely team to be alongside. Right best go... we're up to our armpits in costumes. Now what did we do with donkey's ears?! And most importantly... has anyone seen Jesus?!

Miss Hudson and Rufus

Robins

I am so proud of all the children in Robin class who have completed their independent booklets for Reading, Spelling and Grammar and Maths. They showed resilience and a positive attitude in trying their best! We have also been busy practising for our Nativity performance learning all the narrating and songs with lots of actions. I hope that you will be able to join us on either the 11th or 12th of December.

In history we have been learning about Alexander Bell and why he is considered an important person in history. In English the children have been writing their character descriptions about Shen from 'The Magic Paintbrush' they have thought carefully about her appearance and her personality. All the children now have access to Spelling Shed and have logged in at school to practise the assessment set. All the assessments are set for your child to access at home. Log in to Edshed login. The log in details for your child are in the front of their reading diaries.

Please continue to read at least three times a week with your child. We have begun awarding stickers (on their book marks) for the children who have read with an adult at least three times a week. Thank you for your support at home with reading it has been lovely to see the children so pleased to receive a sticker and add it to their book mark. We hope to begin awarding prizes in a few weeks' time! Well done Robins!

Mrs Phillips

Crane

Well done Crane class for your lovely attitudes to learning! Your samba performance on Tuesday was sublime and we are very proud of you all. We're starting to get ready for Christmas in school and beginning to practise our Carol Service songs for our service on the 17th at Cranborne Church. We will be delighted for you to come along and join us, everyone is welcome!

Spelling and phonics

Revision from previous learning: We've been practising our spellings of **could, should, would** remembering the phrase 'oh you lucky duck.'

We're continuing to learn suffixes, can your child practise words ending in -ful. Helpful, hopeful, grateful, wonderful and beautiful.

Finally, can your child practise spelling adverbs. All of these have the suffix -ly, and the root word ends in -le (gentle becomes gently.) gently, simply, humbly, nobly, horribly, terribly, possibly, incredibly, comfortably and probably.

English

I am so pleased with the children's writing inspired by the story of 'The Happy Prince.'
Can your child summarise this beautiful story of loyalty and generosity with you?

Science

We have just completed our unit on forces and magnets. What can your child tell you about the poles on a magnet?

Art

Last week, we tried 'gestural drawing' with 3 different felt pens to quickly sketch the shape of a 3D object, then swap colours to draw corrections and shade/tone. Could your child try one of these at home?

Mrs Lawford



Don't forget to buy a ticket for our school disco on Tuesday 16th December and thank you to our PFA for organising this treat for the children! Wishing you all a lovely weekend with your families.
With kind regards,

Mrs Faithfull

Cranborne CE First School & Nursery – Autumn 2025

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| Monday 8 th December | | Cranborne Middle School Christmas Choir performing for the children and staff in school |
| 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. Doors open at 1.30 pm. |
| Friday 12 th December | 9.15 am | Fledgling, Wren and Robin Nativity in the school hall. Doors open at 8.45 am. |
| Tuesday 16 th December | | Class Discos in the school hall during the morning. Voluntary donation to PFA £3. Children are 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 |