



Cranborne

Church of England
First School and Nursery

Love, Learn, Fly

Do Everything in Love 1 Corinthians 16:14

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Newsletter Issue #16

Friday 8th May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you so much for supporting our annual Cranborne First Duck Race on the 25th of April. A huge thank you to our wonderful PFA and the wider community for giving their time, enthusiasm and energy so generously. Together we raised an incredible £2, 300! We are working hard to raise money for a beautiful new gazebo for our playground that can be used for playtimes and outdoor learning. Thank you for your support!

A reminder that next Tuesday is school photo day! Please ensure your children are looking suitably smart in their school uniform ready for these special class photographs. Our year 4 children will also have a separate photo as a year group and individual photos which are always a lovely keepsake. On Tuesday Coach Matt will be teaching an extra P.E. lesson for Crane class (in addition to Monday), please could Crane class bring their P.E. kit into school to change into after class photos in the morning. Thank you!

Cranborne Fete Saturday 23rd May 2-4 pm

The fete is back in the wonderful Cranborne Manor Gardens, by kind permission of Lord and Lady Cranborne, on Saturday 23rd May 2-4 pm. The fete offers an afternoon of fun for all the family, as well as being an important fund raiser for our village church. If you can offer any help with setting up, clearing away, donating a raffle prize or running a stall or game, please get in touch with Anna at annancelwaine@aol.com.

We are delighted that our Crane children have been asked to provide a maypole dancing performance at this event. Thank you for responding, we now have our team in place and will begin practising next week!



INSET Days 2026-2027

We have now set our five INSET days for the next academic year. A copy of our term dates is also available on our school website.

1st September 2026

2nd September 2026

2nd November 2026

4th January 2027

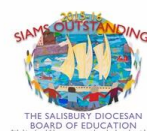
12th April 2027

Sunhats and Water Bottles

Please ensure your child has a filled water bottle in school each day and as the weather is warming up a named sun hat too. Many thanks.



Diocese of Salisbury
Academy Trust



Car Park

We would like to remind everyone to park considerately when using the school car park, especially during the busy drop-off and pick-up periods. Please ensure that vehicles are parked within the marked bays and that disabled parking spaces are used only by those displaying a valid Blue Badge.

It is also important that cars are not blocking other vehicles and that access to Water Street and the surrounding houses remains clear at all times. Your cooperation helps us keep the area safe, accessible, and respectful for our school community and our neighbours. Thank you for your continued support.

Head Lice

A couple of cases of head lice have been identified across the school this week, please could you check your child's hair so that any head lice can be dealt with quickly.

Here is some simple advice you may wish to follow to keep head lice outbreaks to a minimum.

- Please check your family's hair regularly
- To break the cycle of head lice the recommended detection and treatment method is to wet comb hair with plenty of conditioner regularly (a detection comb with teeth no more than 0.3mm apart is ideal, this comb is usually white in colour so that lice can be easily detected)
- If you find any lice, you should increase the frequency to every two to three days for two weeks to break the life cycle of the lice

Further advice on the treatment of head lice can be found on the NHS website. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

Learning Conversations

Fledgling & Wren

Over the last two weeks we have had a really keen focus on Phonics with both the Fledglings and the Wrenbirds! The Wrenbirds have been building words like soft, grin, wilt and bump and the Fledglings have been building words such as map, pin and dog – blending words with some of the sounds they have learnt so far. We have been so proud and impressed with the children's 'can do' attitude and all their efforts! Especially when reading words that are real tricksters. Thank you so much to all of the families that have been supporting the children at home – there has been reading happening with big sisters, grandpas and family friends. All of whom are just as proud as we are!

In Maths we have all been learning about 'taking away'. The Fledglings have been taking away with practical items in the garden and in the water tray. In fact, the Fledglings even made their very own bus, taking passengers on and off at the classroom bus stop to make their own sums. Mrs Maple was exceptional as the bus driver - I'm told her driving was very smooth indeed, which doesn't surprise me at all!

The Wrenbirds have been taking away using ten frames and recording their findings, using a take away symbol and an equals sign for the very first time. Wowzers. It has been so lovely to see the May sunshine in the Secret Garden and we are very excited to be outside as much as possible, as is a certain Irish Terrier! Roll on the Secret Garden adventures.

Miss Hudson and Rufus

Robin

In English, the children have been writing descriptive list poems to describe what they can see and hear in the rainforest. Such a super effort Robin class!

In science, the children have been identifying different every day materials and their properties and thinking about all the different materials that can be recycled at home and in school.

In maths, the children have been counting using coins and notes and problem solving calculating the correct change. They are now focusing on fractions finding halve and quarters within a whole shape or amount.

In R.E., we have been reflecting upon The Lord's Prayer and thinking about why it is such an important prayer for Christians. In our class reflection journal the children have been sharing their thoughts on the importance of having wisdom, making good choices in everything they do in school and at home.

In our phonics lessons, the year 1 children have been continuing to practise their phonics every day including the alien words which they will read within the phonics screening test in June to prove they can decode and blend different sounds using phonics knowledge. If you wish to practise with your child at home, you can access different games and sound checks which will enable your child to practise these words on the following website. You can sign up and access these freely. www.phonicsplay.co.uk. Please continue to read at least 3 times a week with your child. Thank you for your support with this.

Mrs Phillips

Crane

English

We have been building our toolkit of skills to write a super-hero narrative.

What is a simile?

A simile is when we use like or as to compare two things, e.g. It was as quiet as snow settling on a sleeping street. He landed **as lightly as dust in a beam of light**.

History

The children were enraptured by the contents of King Tutankhamun's tomb this week!

What objects were found in King Tutankhamun's tomb and why were they important for the afterlife?

Who discovered Tutankhamun's tomb and when?

Grammar

This week, we have been learning how to use apostrophes to show possession. The children explored the difference between singular possession (e.g. *the dog's tail* – one dog) and plural possession (e.g. *the dogs' tails* – more than one dog).

We practised spotting where the apostrophe goes and discussed how it changes depending on whether the noun is singular or plural. The class showed great progress in explaining their choices and applying the rules in their writing.

You can support your child at home by encouraging them to notice apostrophes in books and by practising simple examples together!

Mrs Lawford

It has been great to see the children's enthusiasm for Creative club this half term. So far, they have enjoyed badge making, rock painting, friendship bracelets and slime making! As this after school club is proving popular, we will be planning more after school club opportunities in the autumn to complement the sports activities already offered.

We hope you enjoy a lovely weekend with your families.

Kind regards,

Mrs Faithfull

Cranborne CE First School & Nursery – Summer Term 2026

Monday 11 th May	3-4 pm	Tennis Club with Coach Williams 3 of 4
Tuesday 12 th May		Fraser Portraits – class photographs and individual Year 4 photographs
Monday 18 th May	3-4 pm	Tennis Club with Coach Williams 4 of 4
Tuesday 19 th May	3-4 pm	Creative Club 6 of 6
Saturday 23 rd May	2-4 pm	Cranborne Fete at The Cranborne Manor Our Year 3 and 4 maypole dancers have been invited to open this special event at 2 pm .
Sunday 24 th May	9-10 am	Breakfast Church in our school hall
Monday 25 th – Friday 29 th May		Half Term
Monday 1 st June		Children return to school
Monday 1 st June		Year 4 Multiplication Timestable Check Week
Tuesday 2 nd June	3-4 pm	Creative Club 1 of 6
Monday 8 th June		Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Week
Tuesday 9 th June	3-4 pm	Creative Club 2 of 6
Wednesday 10 th June		Life Education Visit
Thursday 11 th June		Year 4 Leavers' Service at Salisbury Cathedral
Tuesday 16 th June	3-4 pm	Creative Club 3 of 6
Thursday 18 th June		Priory Hub Athletics Tournament at Wimborne St Giles' First School (a group of children from Crane class will be invited)
Tuesday 23 rd June	3-4 pm	Creative Club 4 of 6
Friday 26 th June		Moving Up Day for all children Year 4 children need to be dropped off and collected from their new middle school on the day.
Sunday 28 th June	9-10 am	Breakfast Church in our school hall
Tuesday 30 th June	3-4 pm	Creative Club 5 of 6

Thursday 9 th July	9-10.30 am	Sports Day at Cranborne Sports Club
Monday 13 th July		Children's Annual Reports sent home
Thursday 16 th July		Waterwise Lesson for Crane class Parent-Teacher Consultations from 3.30 pm if needed following annual reports
Tuesday 21 st July		Class Discos with Liam from Outalimits
Wednesday 22 nd July	8.45 am	Year 4 Leavers' Service at Cranborne Church
Wednesday 22 nd July		Last day of term. Finish at usual time of 3 pm.
Thursday 23 rd July – Monday 31 st August		Summer Holiday
Sunday 26 th July	9-10 am	Breakfast Church in our school hall
Sunday 23 rd August	9-10 am	Breakfast Church in our school hall
Tuesday 1 st September		INSET day – school closed to children
Wednesday 2 nd September		INSET day – school closed to children
Thursday 3 rd September		Autumn Term begins