



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 #18

Friday 12th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week it was wonderful to join more than 2,000 pupils from across the diocese taking part in the SDBE primary school leavers' services at Salisbury Cathedral. Mrs Lawford and I were incredibly proud of our year 4s on Thursday as we celebrated and reflected on their years at first school and now prepare with them for their move to their middle schools.

As part of the service we enjoyed singing some favourite songs together; 'My Lighthouse', 'Shine Jesus Shine' and 'Be Still'. We were led in an interactive soundscape based on the parable of the wise and foolish builders and concluded by constructing a lighthouse containing each school's values from across the DSAT family. A very special moment of stillness followed with candlelight along the aisles as children 'passed the light' between them, representing Jesus, the light of the world, being carried with them always.

Thank you to Isaac and Annabel for being our banner bearers and Millie who was our wonderful candle bearer. It was so special to have Reverend Angus Mayhew and Mrs Lokier, our foundation governor with us also. We ended the day exploring the Cathedral together on a reflection trail. What a special day with our year 4s!

Life Education Visit



Thank you to our wonderful PFA for funding our annual Life Education Visit. The children always look forward to this time with Harold the Giraffe each year! Our lovely teacher, Jane spent time supporting the children learning about how we can build positive relationships with those around us and ways we can stay healthy, happy and safe.

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



Smartphones and Social Media Survey

All schools across our Trust have been reviewing our approach to smartphones and social media in light of growing national concern, emerging research and conversations with families. We would be really grateful if you could complete our parent/carer survey regarding smartphones and social media. Mrs Kellaway has sent a link through to families. Many thanks!

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

Crane Class P.E.

P.E. for Crane class will be on Wednesday 17th June with Mr Williams instead of Monday 15th June. Please ensure your child wears their school P.E. kit and trainers on this day. Thank you!

Check Arbor

Please ensure that the data we hold on Arbor is up to date, particularly email addresses and phone contact numbers so you always receive information from us and we can always contact you. If you need support using Arbor visit the Arbor Help button in the top right of the screen for lots of helpful notes and procedures. Mrs Kellaway would also be happy to support if you have any questions.

Free School Meals Information

Please be aware that you would have received a letter in your child's bookbag this week regarding some important changes to the Free School Meals system.

From 1st September 2026, all children with a parent or carer receiving Universal Credit will be eligible for Free School Meals. Therefore, it is crucial that all families currently receiving Free School Meals reapply to ensure continued support. If you do not reapply, your child may not continue to receive meals from September 2026. Additionally, if your circumstances have changed, you may no longer be eligible under the new rules.

Please take a moment to read through this important letter as it contains valuable information and please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Have your say on Childcare in Dorset

Dorset Council is inviting families to take part in a short Childcare Survey to help them understand local needs and improve services across the county. Your feedback will help shape future childcare provision and support for families. The survey closes 17th of June 2026. Mrs Kellaway has sent the link to families.

Amazon Wishlist

I wanted to express our heartfelt gratitude for your generous donations through the school's Amazon Wishlist. We have started to receive parcels over the last few days (which is SO exciting!) and we cannot thank you enough for your support. Your contributions will truly enhance our children's experiences and enrich their learning environment.

To keep you informed, we will update the Wishlist once a month, so please feel free to check back regularly for any new items that may benefit our school community.

Thank you once again for your kindness and support. It really does make a difference!

Fledgling & Wren Class - https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/33USU7LRLSC68?ref_=wl_share

Robin Class - https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3MG0GN23EXIZV?ref_=wl_share

Crane Class – https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/U9SEJM9UJ7A2?ref_=wl_share

Early Morning Club and After School Club -
https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/27TJAI3DSD48W?ref_=wl_share

School Uniform Reminders

Our school colours are blue, grey and white, and we request that children come to school wearing clothes of these colours only.

Our uniform consists of;

- grey trousers, grey shorts, grey skirts, grey pinafore dresses
- pale blue and white checked summer dresses/playsuits
- white shirts or white polo shirts
- royal blue cardigans, sweatshirts
- plain grey socks, plain white socks, plain grey tights
- hairclips and hairbands should be plain and non-decorative and blue or white in colour
- safe and sensible shoes, which must be black, no trainers, open-toed sandals or boots
- PE kit consists of a royal blue t-shirt and white shorts, tracksuit bottoms for the colder months (in navy or black), and a pair of trainers.

Please note that the royal blue school fleece jackets are considered to be for outside wear rather than in the classroom. Our Nursery children are invited to wear a navy blue polo shirt, navy blue cardigan or navy blue sweatshirt with our school logo alongside their own clothes.

Our School and Nursery uniform is available from Bartletts Schoolwear, 52 King Street, Wimborne, BH21 1EB. Our PFA also hold a range of good quality second hand uniform. Please enquire at the office if you wish to make a donation for any items.

Learning Conversations

Fledgling & Wren

Over the last two weeks we have been learning all about growing! Not ourselves, although if I am honest the children seem to be growing at the rate of knots at the moment! But growing seeds and bulbs. We have been watching some scientific clips of seeds germinating in slow motion and the children have been fascinated! We have thought all about the conditions that plants need to grow and have been exploring some of the plants we love in the secret garden and in the classroom. In the classroom we have also talked about different climates, as we have been looking after plants through the winter that originate from sunnier places. We have made our own growing booklets in Wrens and the Fledglings have been drawing pictures of the things plants need - even labelling their pictures with words!!!! To see the Fledglings write 'sun' or even 'The sun' in a few cases was magical! How much have they grown in the last few months?! A lot of the children have spoken about the plants that you are all growing at home – from sunflowers to cucumbers we appear to have lots of little Monty Dons on our hands! Please could you send in any photos of your Fledgling or Wren with anything you are growing at home or in your allotments? We would love our proud patch to be resplendent with all things green...and orange, and pink, and yellow...

Miss Hudson and Rufus

Robin

Well done to all the children in Robin class who have completed their phonics screening check this week. What a super effort Robins!

In English, the children have been writing descriptive sentences to describe what they can see when they visit places such as Egypt and the Arctic, linked to 'The Green Ship,' by Quentin Blake.

In history, the children have begun to learn about Mary Anning and her amazing fossil discoveries on the Jurassic coast in Dorset. I have asked the children to bring into school any examples of fossils which they may have at home, so that we can look at them under the visualiser.

In Maths, the children have been telling the time using an analogue clock. It would be wonderful if they could continue to practise this at home so that they become more confident in using an analogue clock.

Please continue to read at least 3 times a week with our child. We have continued to give a sticker (on their book marks) for the children who have read with an adult three times a week. Many of the children have been awarded with a new book for this achievement.

Mrs Phillips

Crane

In R.E., we have been exploring the question of how to live a happy and meaningful life through our unit on Witness and Worship. We have focused on the three important paths that many Hindu Sanatanis follow.

Ask your child: Can you explain the three paths to living well?

- **Path of Duty (Dharma):**

Doing the right thing, helping others, being honest and responsible, and keeping promises.
Can your child give examples of how they can follow Dharma in everyday life, such as saying sorry or putting things right?

- **Path of Knowledge (Jnana):**

Learning, thinking deeply, and making thoughtful choices.

Can your child explain how thinking before acting or understanding how others feel shows Jnana?

- **Path of Devotion (Bhakti):**

Showing love for God and kindness towards others through prayer, celebration and gratitude.

How might your child show devotion through kindness, forgiveness or compassion?

Maths

We have been learning how fractions link to decimals.

Ask your child: How do we write these fractions as decimals?

- one quarter = **0.25**
- one half = **0.5**
- three quarters = **0.75**

We have also been working with tenths.

Ask your child:

- How do we write tenths as decimals? (e.g. one tenth = 0.1, two tenths = 0.2)
- Can you count forwards from **0.9 to 1 whole (1.0)**?

Science

We have been doing fantastic learning about food chains and habitats, thinking carefully about how we can protect living things in our environment.

Ask your child: How could we help protect habitats in these places?

- our school grounds (including the secret garden)
- your garden or lawn at home
- a local river

We have discussed some practical ways to help, including:

- leaving areas of grass to grow longer so insects can live and lay eggs
- ensuring trees and bushes are left to provide habitat for birds, animals and insects
- creating bug hotels using sticks, stones and plant pots
- making sure rubbish is disposed of carefully and never left near rivers or natural spaces

Mrs Lawford

We are so proud of our year one children for completing their phonics screening checks this week, it has been wonderful to see the progress the children have made this year! Well done also to our year fours for focus and perseverance learning their times tables and completing their multiplication times table checks so well. Thank you to our staff team and also to you our families for supporting the children learning these key skills. We wish you a lovely weekend with your families.

Kind regards,
Mrs Faithfull

Cranborne CE First School & Nursery – Summer Term 2026

Monday 15 th June	3-4 pm	Cricket/Rounders club with Coach Williams 3 of 7
Tuesday 16 th June	3-4 pm	Creative Club 3 of 6
Wednesday 17 th June		Crane Class P.E. Day (swapped from Monday)
Thursday 18 th June		Priory Hub Athletics Tournament at Wimborne St Giles' First School (a group of children from Crane class will be invited)
Monday 22 nd June	3-4 pm	Cricket/Rounders club with Coach Williams 4 of 7
Tuesday 23 rd June	3-4 pm	Creative Club 4 of 6
Friday 26 th June		Moving Up Day for all children Children will spend time in their new classes today. 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
Monday 29 th June	3-4 pm	Cricket/Rounders club with Coach Williams 5 of 7
Tuesday 30 th June	3-4 pm	Creative Club 5 of 6
Monday 6 th July	3-4 pm	Cricket/Rounders club with Coach Williams 6 of 7
Thursday 9 th July	9-10.30 am	Sports Day at Cranborne Sports Club
Monday 13 th July		Children's Annual Reports sent home
Monday 13 th July	3-4 pm	Cricket/Rounders club with Coach Williams 7 of 7
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