



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 #2

Friday 25th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We may only be a few weeks into the new year but there were plenty of children to celebrate in Celebration worship this morning! Many children were awarded with a 'learner' or 'value' award from their class teacher and there were lots of names in the 'special mention' book for children being noticed for special acts of kindness. If your children achieve any 'out of school' certificates, badges or medals we would love to celebrate with them! They are welcome to bring these into school on a Friday to share with the whole school.

It has also been wonderful to welcome each of our year 4 children into a school council for 2026-2027. These councils include supporting collective worship and sport in school, getting involved in decision-making through our school council and helping to raise awareness of environmental issues and how we can be a more sustainable school through our eco-council. We are looking forward to seeing our Year 4s take a lead in these important areas this year! We are also pleased to be involved in the Archbishop Young Leaders' Award this year which will provide an opportunity to further build our Year 4 children's leadership skills. More information to follow!



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Ancient Technology Centre, Damerham Road Apple Weekend

26th – 27th September

10 am – 4 pm

Celebrating British apples, local wildlife, and traditional crafts, featuring juice pressing using a Roman apple press, displays, and music in the earhouse.

£11 for adults

£6 for children (under 5s are free) Service dogs only please.



Diocese of Salisbury
Academy Trust



Considerate Parking

A polite reminder to please park responsibly at all times and to be respectful towards the residents in Water Street in particular; not blocking their driveways or parking on road markings (zig zags, hatchings, etc), bends or corners. Do remember that the Cranborne Sports Club very kindly allow our families to use their car park in Penny's Lane at drop off and collection time each day.

Parent – Teacher Consultations 21st October and 11th November

We will be holding Parent-Teacher Consultations on 21st October and 11th November. These will be 10 minute appointments in the school hall between 3.20-6 pm with your child's class teacher. Do arrive ahead of your appointment to have a look at your child's books. Bookings will be available on your Arbor account from 9 am on Monday 28th September until 9 am on the day before the 21st October and the 11th November. Any questions please contact Mrs Kellaway our Administration Officer. We look forward to seeing you then. Many thanks.

Starting School at 4+ in September 2027

We have parent tour appointments available for school places in September 2027 and Nursery places in preparation for this intake. Please contact Mrs Kellaway, our Administration Officer (office@cranbornefirst.dsat.org.uk) to book an individual tour with the headteacher. Parents should visit the Dorset Council website <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/starting-school-for-the-first-time> to apply for Year R places. The deadline for Dorset applications is 15th January 2027, with allocations confirmed on 16th April 2027. If you live outside Dorset, please go to the local authority website for your home county.

Early Morning and After School Club

Please be aware that the booking time for After School Club has been extended. You can now book your place up until **12:00 pm on the same day** through your Arbor account. We hope this change makes it easier for you to plan your schedule. Please note that the deadline for Early Morning Club remains unchanged at 7 am. Please be aware in order to secure a refund, **we require 24 hours' notice of cancellations** to early morning club or after school club. Many thanks.

Anaphylaxis

Please remember that your child must not bring any food into school which contains nuts, whether this is a snack or for lunch. We appreciate your support to safeguard a number of our children who have serious food allergies. We are pleased to share that we now have a 'Kitt Medical' Anaphylaxis box installed in school providing emergency treatment for severe allergic reactions.



Harvest Service and Welcome to our new Wren and Fledgling children

We hope you will be able to join us on Thursday 1st October in Cranborne Church at 8.45 am for our Harvest Celebration. It would be wonderful if each child could bring a small offering of fresh fruit or vegetables, or an item of tinned or packet food to form the collection in the church. Our contributions will then be distributed to those less fortunate in our community. All our families are invited to this celebration service when we will be welcoming our new nursery and reception children into our Cranborne First family. We will be presenting each child with a small gift and praying for God's blessing upon them as they begin their school journey with us. Reverend Angus has kindly invited parents to arrive a little earlier from 8 am for tea and coffee, if you are able, it would be lovely to see you there after drop off.

Learning Conversations

For the benefit of new families who have joined our school this term I wanted to explain the 'Learning Conversations' that are included in our fortnightly newsletter. In addition to providing class topic information on our website, we want to encourage meaningful conversations that you can have with your child based on their learning in school. Children talking about their learning with their family, even for a short period of time each day, is a great way for them to consolidate and extend their understanding and this may even avoid your child's response of 'nothing' when you ask them 'What did you do today?'

Fledglings & Wrens

Well, what a lovely couple of weeks it has been with our Wrens and Fledglings. We have rekindled old friendships, made new ones and started to begin our school journey together. The children have already begun their new year so well, they have been kind and considerate to one another and also shared quite a few giggles together along the way too. This bunch are hiiiiiiigh energy and I think we are going to have lots of moments where Mrs Maple and I look at each other and smile with this bunch!

We have talked a lot about our families this week and who means the world to us. We have shared lots of books with different types of families in too – learning about the unique ways that families and homes can be. Learning that whether your family is of many, or just one special person that takes care of us... the real magic that makes a family is ... (can they tell you what it is?) it's a little thing called love. Something I think this crew demonstrate in bucket loads.

We also had our very first school photos taken this week, it always feels like a special moment to witness that - a moment in time, a rite of passage. I always look at their faces, full of earnest and little round cheeks. They will grow so quick and will be having their photos as a Year 4 before we know it, but how much I treasure knowing we have this whole year ahead of us. Happy first few weeks team, very glad to be sharing this year with you

Miss Hudson and Rufus

P.S We also wanted to wish everyone in our school family with South African ancestry a very Happy Heritage Day for the 24th including our very lovely Miss Owen, Happy Braai Day from all of us here!



Robin

What a lovely start to the new term with our new class! In Robins we have been learning to read together, write and identify classic themes within a fairy tale. We have been consolidating basic grammar concepts capital letters and full stops and adding adjectives to create noun phrases.

You could enjoy a classic fairy tale with your child, watching or reading together. Check out [English - BBC Teach](#)

In Maths we have been understanding numbers to 20 and how to make 10

You could ask your child what is 1 more or 1 less than ...?

You could ask your child what do I add to 4 to make 10?

In Science we have been looking at the properties of different materials such as plastic, glass, paper and wood.

You could ask your child:

What makes these materials good for using in certain objects?

In history, we have been learning about the history of toys. You could ask your child:

What are the differences between toys in the 1950s to modern toys?

Hopefully they will talk about the fact that lots of toys are now made of plastic and used to be made of wood or metal.

Thank you for all your support with reading with your child at least three times a week. In their reading folder they will have a reading book to read to you and a 'love of reading' book which you may like to read to them.

Mrs Phillips and Mrs Cleeve

Crane

We have had a fantastic start back at school, settling into our new class and getting stuck into lots of exciting learning! We enjoyed a wonderful trip to the Ancient Technology Centre, where we explored life in Roman and Anglo-Saxon times and took part in woodwork and textiles-based activities. We also used shields to create a Roman formation, which was great fun.



In English, we have been writing setting descriptions inspired by the story 'Winter's Child', using similes, expanded noun phrases and prepositions to bring our descriptions to life. In maths, we have been developing our understanding of place value and challenging ourselves each lesson to compare numbers, explain our reasoning and use number lines to support our thinking.

We have been learning all about seed dispersal in science and the children showed great interest in examining a variety of seeds. Thank you to everyone who brought in seeds for our class to look at, we had a wonderful variety. Our Art lessons have been centred around creating still life pictures, the class are already proving to be budding artists and have created observation pictures of fruit bowls and flower vases.

This week, we enjoyed our first Samba session with Pete Whitmarsh from the Dorset Music Service. We got to try out a variety of instruments and played some fun games to test our rhythm and listening skills. This session was a great success and we can't wait to continue.



At home, you could ask your child:

What is an empire? (We have looked at this in History)

Can you name the different methods of seed dispersal?

Can you name two of the Samba instruments?

Miss Clarke

We are looking forward to Breakfast Church this Sunday between 9-10 am in our school hall. Everyone is very welcome. There will be a breakfast of fresh fruit and yogurt, toast and marmalade and bacon rolls with coffee, tea and orange juice and the time will include singing, prayer, a short talk and a craft activity for the children. Do join in this community time if you are able.

With kind regards,

Mrs Faithfull

Cranborne CE First School & Nursery – Autumn Term 2026		
Sunday 27 th September		Breakfast Church in the school hall
Tuesday 29 th September	3-3.45 pm	PFA Film Night for Nursery, Year R and Year 1 children 'The Tiger who Came for Tea'
Wednesday 30 th September	8-8.45 am	Early Morning Music Club begins for children with Mrs Hardy (4 weeks)
Thursday 1 st October	8.45 am	Harvest Service at Cranborne Church – with a special welcome to our Wrens and Fledglings.
Tuesday 6 th October	3-4.45 pm	PFA Film Night for Years 2, 3 and 4 children
Wednesday 7 th October	9 am – 3 pm	iSingPOP rehearsal for Year 4 children at Cranborne First and Wimborne St Giles' First – hosted at Cranborne
Friday 9 th October		Deadline for ordering Fraser Portraits individual photographs
Tuesday 13 th October		Play Leader Event at Ferndown Leisure Centre (Mrs Faithfull accompanying our Sport Council)
Wednesday 14 th October		House of Opportunity Christmas Box Assembly
Friday 16 th October		Flu Immunisations
Wednesday 21 st October		Year 4 attending iSingPOP event at Salisbury Cathedral

Wednesday 21 st October	3.20 – 6 pm	Parent-Teacher Consultation Meetings in the hall
Thursday 22 nd October	9-9.30 am	Music teacher Cathy Murray working with Crane class over 4 weeks
Sunday 25 th October	9-10 am	Breakfast Church in the school hall
26th October – 30th October		Half Term
Monday 2nd November		INSET day – school closed to children
Wednesday 11 th November	3.20 – 6 pm	Parent-Teacher Consultation Meetings in the hall
Friday 13 th November		Children in Need Fundraising Day – children invited to wear dotty, spotty, Pudsey-inspired clothing for a donation
Thursday 19 th November		Priory Hub Football Tournament at St James' First School (children invited from year 3 and year 4)
Sunday 22 nd November	9-10 am	Breakfast Church in the School Hall
Thursday 26 th November		Christmas Boxes collected today
Tuesday 1 st December		Christmas Post Box opens
Wednesday 2 nd December	2 – 2.30 pm	Crane Samba Performance for Parents in the hall
Monday 14 th December	2 pm	Fledgling, Wren and Robin Nativity in the school hall
Tuesday 15 th December	9 am	Fledgling, Wren and Robin Nativity in the school hall
Thursday 17 th December		PFA Class Discos – Liam from Outalimits
Thursday 17 th December	6 pm	Crane Carol Service at Cranborne Church
Thursday 17 th December		Christmas Post Box closes
Friday 18 th December		Last Day of Term Children invited to wear Christmas party clothes Christmas Lunch
21st December – 1st January		Christmas Holiday
Sunday 27 th December	9-10 am	Breakfast Church in the School Hall TBC
Monday 4th January		INSET Day – school closed to children
Tuesday 5 th January		Children return to school