



**Christian Value - Our Christian Value this half term is Friendship**

**Dear Parents,**

What a busy, exciting last week it has been with all the fun of Christmas parties and our fabulous Talent Show. Well done to all our performers - you are so talented!

Thank you to everyone who purchased a Raffle ticket and congratulations to all of our winners, we raised £469.00. Our Santa Dash was also a great success this year, the children really enjoyed it and we raised an amazing £1327.30 So thank you to all our parents and families for the support. All monies raised will go towards activities and events for the children including the purchase of new lights for the production!

Thanks to the Friends of Cronton for your organisation of Breakfast with Santa. I know the children really enjoyed this.

Finally, I would like to thank all those Parents and families who have supported us this term. Your commitment to our partnership working ensures that your children flourish in our school. Thank you.

I hope everyone has a lovely Christmas and New Year, and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday 6th January 2024.

**Mrs Thomson**

**Headteacher**

**Science Week**

Our science week is back on the 6th January. We have some exciting visitors taking part. On Tuesday 7th we will have our Mad science Assembly. The children love the assembly and it is a great way to start our science after school club. They will be held each Wednesday from 3.20 to 4.20.

Wednesday 26th February

Wednesday 5th March

Wednesday 12th March

Wednesday 19th March

Wednesday 26th March

Wednesday 2nd April

Please see the following dates. There is a leaflet at the end of the newsletter with more information about how you can join in.



## Uniform for all children Rec - Year 6

White polo shirt; **(No tie)**

Grey trousers / shorts / skirt / pinafore,

Royal blue cardigan / V Neck sweatshirt or V Neck Knitted jumper with or without the school logo,

Grey socks or grey tights

Black shoes **(no trainers please)**

Blue gingham dress (with white socks)

Black/Navy sandals are acceptable in warmer weather but please make sure that your child's feet are adequately supported.

Please note, trainers and white sandals / shoes are not part of the school uniform.

Coat - children should wear a sensible and weather appropriate coat - there is no specified colour.

### PE Uniform

#### Indoor PE

White T-shirt

Royal blue shorts (Not black shorts)

Black pumps

**No trainers**

#### Outdoor PE

Royal blue sweatshirt or hoodie with or without the school logo. (Children can wear their school jumper or cardigan.)

Plain black or navy tracksuit bottoms

Black pump

**No trainers please**

### Jewellery

From September there will be a no jewellery policy. Children will be allowed to wear a wrist watch only. This should not be a smart watch - it should not be able to record or link to the internet.

If your child has their ears pierced, their earrings should be removed before school each day. This is for the safety of all children. If you are considering having your child's ears pierced, it would be beneficial to have this done at the start of the 6 weeks holidays in July. This will allow a full six weeks for them to heal and settle before the return to school in September.

Thank you for your co-operation with this.

## Could you be eligible for free school meals and extra support in the Christmas, February and Easter 2025 holidays?

If you receive certain benefits, your child or children may be eligible for free school meals. This provides nutritious lunch options to support your child's learning and well-being, and until Easter 2025, they also entitle you to vouchers worth £15 for each child, each week of the following school holidays: Christmas 2024, February half-term and Easter 2025\*.

### Who is eligible:

Your child may be eligible for free school meals if you receive any of the following benefits:

Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (wages below £616.67 a month)

Income Support

Income-based Jobseekers Allowance

An income-related Employment and Support Allowance

Child Tax Credit with an annual income of £16,190 or less (but not if you are in work and receive Working Tax Credit)

The guarantee element of State Pension Credit

Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

### How to apply

Check the list above and if you are eligible, visit the Council's website and use the Parent Portal to apply for free school meals.

[Apply here](#)

### Is your child in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2?

Children in these years receive 'Universal Free School Meals'. You do not need to apply for this, every child will automatically receive a free school lunch. However if you meet the criteria above for free school meals and apply, your child's school will also receive extra money (known as the Pupil Premium) which can help pay for extra resources and support for pupils.

### Extra support

Visit the benefits calculator on the Turn2Us webpage to check your benefit entitlement

Visit the Council's Household Support Fund page to find details of organisations who can help if you are struggling with the cost of food or essentials

Visit the Council's Benefits page to find details of benefits and entitlements you could receive including Council Tax Reduction

\*£15 per child per week supermarket vouchers are available to and including Easter 2025 for each child who is in receipt of free school meals.

## Bluebirds Autumn Term 2

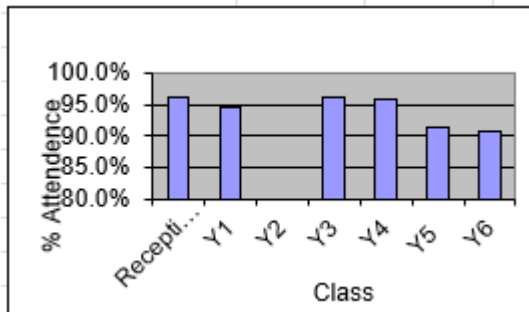
Just a few photographs from this half term...



More fun to come in 2025!

## Attendance and Punctuality

Every week we will publish a chart of individual class attendance. The class with the highest attendance over the half term receives a reward. The winners for week ending 09.12.2024 were: 1st place - **Reception** with **96.3%**, 2nd place - **Year 3** with **96%**, 3rd place - **Year 4** with **95.9%**.



As you can see from the graph above, last weeks school attendance (excluding Nursery) was **90.9%**.

Please try to ensure your child is in school as much as is possible, unless of course they are ill. A reminder that if your child is going to be absent from school you must ring school (using Option 1) as early as possible on the first morning they are absent, and this must be followed up with an absence form available from our website explaining the absence on their return to school.

Holidays in term time will not be authorised.

## Changes to the Law on School Attendance -

### Please read carefully if you are planning to book term time holidays in 2024/25

The Government have introduced new laws regarding attendance from August 19th 2024.

The main changes are:

ALL term time holidays will be unauthorised, including holidays which involve a circumstance such as a wedding abroad, trip to see family etc.

In a 10 school week period, pupils who have more than 10 sessions unauthorised (a session is a morning or afternoon) may be fined, whether the absences are 5 days together or single days taken over a ten week period.

An increase in the amount of the penalty notice (fine) from £60 to £80 (if paid within 21 days) and £120 to £160 (if paid within 28 days) for the first penalty notice issued. This fine is per parent per child. It is not per day but per period of absence (10 sessions+)

Any second penalty notice issued to the same parent for the same child within 3 years of the date the first penalty notice, will be £160 to be paid within 28 days. No discount is offered.

Any further absences will result in prosecution in the Magistrate Court for the same parent in respect of the same child within 3 years of the date of the first penalty was issued.

Further information can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance>



**After School Programme at  
Cronton CE Primary School (WA8 5DF)**

**Wednesday at 03:20 PM - 04:20 PM  
Dates: 26/02/2025 - 02/04/2025**

**6 weeks, £63.00 per child  
Split the cost options!**

**Your deadline date to register is: 14/01/2025**

**Max 23 per club, first come, first served! Thank you!**

**Fun-damental Forces**

Find out about your favourite forces using gyroscopes, bike wheels and even a simple chair! Are you up to the gravity-defying challenges?

**Che-Mystery**

See Styrofoam reduced to a puddle of goo, water turned to wine and a whole load of chemical magic! Apply your chemistry knowledge to create a polymer bouncing ball!

**"Current" Events**

Explore the use of electricity by building your own circuits and see how electricity can pop a balloon! Electrifying!

**Under Pressure**

Who will win the blow dryer race? Join in the fun with this interactive exploration of air and its effects! Vortex generators and fountains will show how powerful air can be!

**Science of Magic**

A magician never reveals their secrets... but a scientist does! How does the rabbit really disappear? Explore real magic tricks to discover the science behind them!

**Wacky Waves**

Eggbert and Megg, our hard-boiled friends, assist in our investigation of water! How hard is it to clean up an oil spill? Find out in this introduction to the wacky world of water!

**(SYSTEM 3)**

**Content is subject to change**

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**SIGN UP TODAY!**

**Go to [northengland.madscience.org](http://northengland.madscience.org)**

**The BOOK HERE button is on our homepage!**

**If you want to spread the cost, choose PAYMENT PLAN (pay half now and half when the programme starts) at the Checkout!**

**First come first served!**

**MISSED THE DEADLINE? Go online! There may still be spaces!**

**Problem? - call 01772 628844 or email [office@madsciencenw.com](mailto:office@madsciencenw.com)**

Parents of pre school children  
**It's time to apply for a school reception class place**  
**September 2025 Intake**

Knowsley residents - Apply online by visiting [www.knowsley.gov.uk](http://www.knowsley.gov.uk)

**CLOSING DATE 15TH JANUARY 2025**

- If your child's date of birth falls on or between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021, now is the time to apply for a reception class place in school for September 2025.
- There is no automatic transfer from nursery – everyone must apply between 12 September 2024 and 15 January 2025 by completing the application form of the Local Authority in which you live.
- Knowsley residents should apply by accessing the online application portal via the Knowsley website [www.knowsley.gov.uk](http://www.knowsley.gov.uk).
- It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to ensure they have read the admission policy of each school they are considering applying for and provided all the information required to support their application – this may include completing a supplementary information form with some individual schools where requested.
- For full information about the application and allocation process and admission policies for individual schools, visit the school admission pages at [www.knowsley.gov.uk](http://www.knowsley.gov.uk) and access the 'Knowsley Primary Admission Composite Prospectus'.

For further advice, contact Knowsley School Admissions Team

**Email: [schooladmissions@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissions@knowsley.gov.uk)**

**Tel: (0151) 443 5143 / 5142 / 3372**



Knowsley Council