



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

**Dear Parents,**

We are really looking forward to seeing our KS1 doing their Nativity on Sunday! The children have worked really hard to learn their lines and all the songs! The service will start at 10.30a.m. The children should be brought to school at 10.00am to allow us to get the children changed and settled.

Please ensure the children are wearing clothes that are easy for them to change in and out of themselves as much as possible.

Parents should go straight to the hall as staff will be on hand to help change the children into their costumes. Please do not arrive before 10am as school will not be open until 10am.

Next Wednesday 11th we will be attending the Tree Lighting and Ecumenical Service at Holy Family Church. Children from both schools in the village take part by leading the service and forming part of the congregational choir.

This morning children from Y2 & Y5 took part in a festive concert. They have been working really hard all term with Mr Holland from Liverpool Cathedral to learn all the songs. I am sure everyone who attended will agree they were magnificent. A lovely start to our festive part of the year.

Last night our Choir sang at The Dandelion Tavern, they sang a medley of Carols and raised £150 for the School. Thank you to all that attended or supported. The children were amazing ambassadors for the school and we are really proud of them.

Have a lovely weekend

**Mrs Thomson**  
**Headteacher**

**Christmas Lunch**

We will be having our Christmas Dinner on Thursday 12th December. There will be no alternative to the Christmas Dinner so if your child does not wish to have this you will need to provide them with a packed lunch.

**Santa Dash**

If your child is taking part in the Santa Dash on Tuesday 10th December, they need to bring their sponsor form into school on Tuesday morning. **It is 1 sponsor form per family.**

Their sponsor form will be stamped to show they have completed the run and returned to the child.

They will then bring home the stamped sponsor form for you to collect the sponsor money.

**Please return all sponsor money to school by Friday 13th December.**

### Christmas Services

On Thursday 12th December we are having a service for **Reception** and **Year 5** children and would like to invite the parents to attend. The service will begin at 2:30pm.

There will also be a KS2 Carol Service on Friday 13th December at 2pm and we are welcoming parents to attend. Due to this being the whole of KS2, **we can only accommodate 1 Parent per family to attend.**

### Non Uniform Days

We are planning to hold non uniform dates as detailed below.

- 10/12/24 - Santa Dash - The children can come dressed in Christmas outfits, hats, jumpers etc on the day, but please remember they will need appropriate footwear for the event.
- 16/12/24 - Nursery Christmas Party. The Nursery children come into school ready in their party clothes.
- 17/12/24 - Reception, Y1 and Y2 Christmas Party. The Rec / Y1 / Y2 children come into school ready in their party clothes.
- 18/12/24 - KS2 Christmas Party. The KS2 children come into school ready in their party clothes.
- 19/12/24 - Whole School Disco. The children come into school ready in their party clothes.

### Stamp Collection - RNIB

As we are coming up to one of the busiest times for post, please don't throw away any envelopes with stamps on. We are collecting used / new/ foreign postage stamps for the Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB), who can turn them into funds to support blind and partially sighted people.

Blindness can strike anyone at any age and for lots of reasons, including Glaucoma.

So many stamps sadly end up in the rubbish heap, but we can collect them and help those with sight loss.

Once we have collected 1 kilogramme, we will send them to the RNIB, who receive £20 for every kilogramme.

Please carefully cut the stamp off the envelope leaving a 1cm gap around the stamp and send them into the school office. Please do not send any large gold Post Office labels or pre-printed marks as these have no value for the RNIB.

## PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION

Following the resignation of Chris Davey as parent governor, we now have a vacancy on the local governing body. Can I take this opportunity to thank Chris for his work and support in this school over the past 5 years.

### PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION

We are inviting you to stand for election as a parent governor, or nominate another parent to do so. In our school we have provision for 2 parent governors and there is currently 1 vacancy.

The governing body, with the headteacher, has overall responsibility for the running of the school. Governing bodies have three core strategic functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

No special qualifications are needed and the most important thing is to have a keen interest in the school and be prepared to play an active part in the governing body's work.

However, we would particularly welcome nominations from parents with experience in safeguarding. Training is available for all governors and this governing body has an expectation that those new to being a governor, attend free induction training.

Parents/carers who have paid employment in the school for 500 or more hours per academic year or who are elected members of the Local Authority, are not eligible to stand in these elections. Nominations must be from parents or carers with children at the school on the day that nominations close.

If you would like to stand for election please request a nomination form from School and return it no later than 13th December.

Self-nominations will be accepted but if you are nominating another parent, please seek their prior consent.

If you would like further information, please contact the school to discuss your interest with Mrs Thomson or Debbie Doyle (Chair of Governors).

If there are more nominations than vacancies, the election will be by secret ballot. If that is necessary, voting papers will be sent to all parents together with details of the ballot procedure.

## Church News

This Sunday, the service at CRONTON MISSION at 10.30 will be led by our school infant children, when they will tell the Nativity story in their own special way.

Also this Sunday at St Lukes church, JAM CLUB will meet 3 -4 pm. This is family friendly worship with crafts and refreshments.

All welcome.

## 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.

## Christmas Fundraising.

We are very excited that this year we will be having different approach to our Christmas fundraising in place of the usual Christmas Fair. This year we will be having a few days with different events for the children that we hope our families will support us in. Please see below for our planned timetable :

**Movie Nights** - We will be holding 2 movie nights, KS1 (Y1 + Y2) Tuesday 3rd December 3:30pm - 5:15pm and KS2 (Y3,Y4, Y5 + Y6) Wednesday 4th December 3:30pm—5:15pm. This will be charged at £5.00 per ticket payable via ParentPay.

**EYFS Stay & Play** - On Thursday 5th December Nursery & Reception parents are invited to stay and play making Christmas crafts with their child/ren. Nursery will be from 9:15 to 10:00 and Reception from 2:15 - 3:15pm. The cost will be £3 per family, payable via ParentPay. we will notify parents when this goes 'live' on the system.

**Raffle** - from Monday 25th until Friday 6th December we will be selling raffle tickets before and after school at both the front and back doors. These will be £1 for the strip. (please bring the correct money as we don't keep change in school) . The raffle will be drawn in front of the children as part of our morning worship on Monday 9th December.

**Non-Uniform day will be Thursday 28th November, the 'FINE' will be Bottles and Chocolates to go towards hampers for the raffle.**

**Santa Dash** - on the morning of Tuesday 10th December we will be holding a Sponsored Santa dash around the playground. We will be sending our sponsor forms one per family via the eldest child in school unless parents specifically request a sponsor form for each of their children. Please email school if you wish us to issue 1 form to each of your children. The children can come dressed on Christmas outfits, hats, jumpers etc on the day, but please remember they will need appropriate footwear for the event.

**Ecumenical Service** - This will be held at 7:00pm on Wednesday 11th December at Holy Family Church in Hall Lane. We will send more information out to parents, especially those children who will be taking part in the service.

**Christmas Lunch** - we will be having our delicious Christmas Lunch on Thursday 12th December and all the children are invited to join us for it. The lunch will be sliced Turkey or Quorn fillet roast dinner with ice cream for pudding. Parents need to order and pay for this the Sunday before via their ParentPay account.

**Parties** - Our parties will be held in the afternoon on the following days:

16th December - Nursery

17th December - Reception, Years 1 & 2

18th December - KS2.

On the day of their party, the children can come into school ready in their party clothes, but please ensure they wear appropriate footwear.

**School Disco** - We will be having a School Disco as a Christmas treat for the Children on Thursday 19th December. This is **free of charge** and the children can come to school in their party clothes.

Nursery, Y1 & Y2 - 1pm - 2pm

Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6 - 2pm - 3pm

**Talent Show** - On Thursday 19th December we will be holding our very popular Cronton's Got Talent Show. The children are invited to get up on stage and show their singing, gymnastic, joke telling, dancing, musical instrument playing abilities, so get practicing children!

**Breakfast with Santa** - we have it on good authority that despite being a very busy time for him, Santa has heard how good our children are so he will be calling into our school to join our EYFS and KS1 children for breakfast. We believe he will also be paying a visit to our Nursery children.

**School Closing** - Our school will close for the Christmas holiday at **2:00pm on Friday 20th December.** There will be no Little Bluebirds or any after school clubs that day.

## Dates for your Diary / Upcoming Events

Please note these are subject to change or may be added to so please check these dates every week!

### December

- Sunday 8th - KS1 Nativity (Y1 + Y2) @ 10:30am start
- Monday 9th - Raffle Draw in school worship  
- Last Ju-Jitsu session before Christmas
- Tuesday 10th - AM Santa Dash  
- Last Choir session before Christmas
- Wednesday 11th - EYFS Christmas Production @ 10am and 2pm  
- Ecumenical Service @ Holy Family - 7:30pm  
Tree Lighting at 7pm.
- Thursday 12th - Christmas Dinner - £2.00 charge per child  
- Reception + Y5 Service - Parents welcome @ 2:30pm
- Friday 13th - KS2 Carol Service @ 2pm Parents welcome ( **1 parent per family**)  
- Last Football session before Christmas
- Monday 16th - Nursery Christmas Party (PM)
- Tuesday 17th - Rec + KS1 Christmas Party (PM)
- Wednesday 18th - KS2 Christmas Party (PM)
- Thursday 19th - Talent Show  
- School Disco (PM) More details to follow.
- Friday 20th - Breakfast with Santa  
- **Finish for Christmas @ 2pm - NO Bluebirds Afterschool Club**

### Lunch Time Leaders

This weeks Lunch-time leaders are:

Reception - William

Year 1 - Parker

Year 2 - Isabelle

Year 3 - Ethan

Year 4 - Adalyn

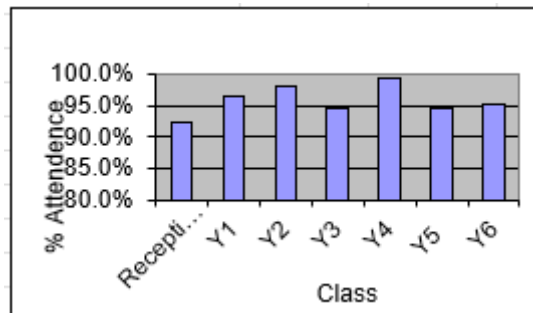
Year 5 - Rosa

Year 6 - Jessica

Each of the above children have been chosen by the Mid-day supervisors based on behaviour and manners in the lunch hall and get to be in the front of the dinner queue for next week.

## 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 25.11.2024 were: 1st place - **Year 4** with **99.3%**, 2nd place - **Y2 + Y3** with **98%**, 3rd place - **Year 1** with **96.6%**.



As you can see from the graph above, last weeks school attendance (excluding Nursery) was **95.8%**.

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 is 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>



# Cronton CE Primary Academy

Smithy Lane, Widnes, Cheshire, WA8 5DF

Headteacher: Mrs Sylvia Thomson

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X: @crontonceschool

Facebook: [Cronton CE Primary](https://www.facebook.com/Cronton-CE-Primary)



Dear parent/carers,



I am very excited to announce that Cronton CE Primary School is taking part in the Knowsley Healthy School Awards.



The Healthy School Awards provides a whole school approach which will enable pupils to access nutritious food to fuel learning and promote opportunities for children to be physically active throughout the school day. All children and young people have the right to be healthy. Over recent years this has become increasingly challenging for Knowsley children and families due to a range of factors. We recognise that school is an important place for children to eat healthily, be active to develop healthy habits for life.



As we work towards the award, I would like to draw your attention to just some of the exciting and positive changes that will be made to achieve the Healthy Schools bronze level, and request parents support and involvement throughout.



Healthier school menus- To support healthy children and healthy teeth our menu will offer milk and water only and provide fruit and yoghurt as dessert three days per week.



Healthy packed lunches- On going support/advice for healthy packed lunches, with potential provision of a healthy swap station.



Staff training- Staff will take part in training that will support them to have health promoting conversations with children and parents and increase knowledge of local services to signpost families.

Healthy school events- We will be working towards providing healthier options at our schools PTA events, fairs/galas.

Healthy School Champions- Our team of chosen staff and pupils will help drive these exciting changes and support our school in being as healthy as possible!



Thank you for your support. Both the pupils and staff will be working hard to ensure that school continues to have a healthy focus and help us to achieve our Healthy Schools status.

Kind regards

*S. Thomson*



Mrs S Thomson  
Headteacher



# Online Safety Newsletter

Dec 2024

## Talkie AI App

This app is rated as 17+ by the App store and 12+ by Google Play.

Talkie is an AI chatbot app. Users can use the app to create and interact with AI characters.

You should also be aware that this app includes in app purchases ranging from £4.99 - £49.99.

Talkie does offer a Teenager Mode; however, the content still may not be appropriate for your child. Bark reviews this app here, and recommend that your child **should not be using this app**:

<https://www.bark.us/app-reviews/apps/talkie-app-review>

## Tips to help you talk about cyberbullying

Internet Matters have collated their tips to help you talk about cyberbullying with your child based on different age categories. The information is divided into four sections:

1. Before you start the conversation
2. Things to talk to them about such as how to deal with cyberbullying
3. What to do next
4. Where to get further help

<https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/cyberbullying/cyberbullying-conversation-starter-guide>

## New Technology

With Christmas nearly here and with some children receiving new technology or related games, here is a quick reminder of the importance of setting up appropriate parental controls.

### Games/Consoles

- Check age ratings: look at the PEGI rating of any new games.
- Remember, PEGI rates the gameplay so whilst it is important to review age ratings, you must also check to see if it has any communication elements.
- If a game does allow your child to communicate with others, then adjust or disable the settings as appropriate to your child.
- On the device itself, set up applicable controls such as restricting spending limits and managing who they can communicate with. Follow the links below to find out how to set up Parental Controls for some devices here:

**Xbox:** <https://www.xbox.com/en-GB/family-hub>

**PSS:** <https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/support/account/ps5-parental-controls-spending-limits/>

**Nintendo Switch:** <https://www.nintendo.co.uk/Hardware/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls-1183145.html>



### Tablets/Smart phones

Set up parental controls on the device to prevent purchases, restrict content viewed and adjust privacy settings. Furthermore, remember to check any apps your child requests to check that they are suitable for their age. Follow the links below to find out more:

**iPhones/iPad:** <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/105121>

**Android Device:** <https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/1075738>

### Why is it important?

Parental controls are important to help provide a safer experience for your child by reducing/preventing access to inappropriate content, cyberbullying, communication with strangers and restricting purchases.

### Further information

You can find out more about parental controls here:  
<https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/parental-controls/>

# Roblox

You may have seen the recent investigation about Roblox by Hindenburg, which highlights very worrying concerns about the content that can be seen on Roblox, even when users have listed their age as under 13. You can read the full report here: <https://hindenburgresearch.com/roblox/>

## What is Roblox?

Roblox is a platform consisting of a collection of games. Players can either create games or play games that other users have created. It is free to download (however subscription options and in game/app purchases are available) and can be played across numerous devices. **A lot of the content is user generated, which may mean not all games will be suitable for your child to view/play.** If your child is playing Roblox, it is important to monitor what your child is accessing and set up appropriate parental controls.

**PEGI rate Roblox with a Parental Guidance label, this is because it is difficult to rate due to the huge level of user generated content.**

## What should I be aware of?

**Game content** – as mentioned, users create games so the content/themes may not be appropriate for your child.

**Chat Facility** - Players can chat to each other. You can turn communication off completely or add restrictions, such as only communicate with friends.

**Virtual Currency** - Players can buy Robux (their virtual currency) to buy in-game upgrades or accessories.

## Age Categories

This article discusses the difference in accounts based on age (under age 13 and aged 13 – 17):

<https://en.help.roblox.com/hc/en-us/articles/30428367965460-What-happens-as-I-get-older-on-Roblox>

## Roblox accounts with Parental privileges - NEW

Roblox have just launched a new system to manage your child's experience on Roblox through 'Roblox accounts with parent privileges.' The new format allows you to view and update parental controls from your own device. Controls include setting content restrictions, managing screen time and setting a spending limit. You can find out more here:

<https://en.help.roblox.com/hc/en-us/articles/30428248050068-Parental-Controls-FAQ>

## Content Labels - NEW

Roblox have begun labeling experiences based on the type of content rather than by age. You can set limits on which content labels are accessible in parental controls. The labels are Minimal, Mild, Moderate and Restricted. You can find descriptions of each here:

<https://en.help.roblox.com/hc/en-us/articles/30428310121620-Parental-Controls-Overview>

## How do I report abuse and block users?

This article outlines the different reporting facilities:

<https://en.help.roblox.com/hc/en-us/articles/203312410-How-to-Report-Rule-Violations>

## What else can I do?

Chat to your child regularly about what they are doing online and as always, remind your child that if anything is worrying them then they should talk to you or another trusted adult.

## Positively online

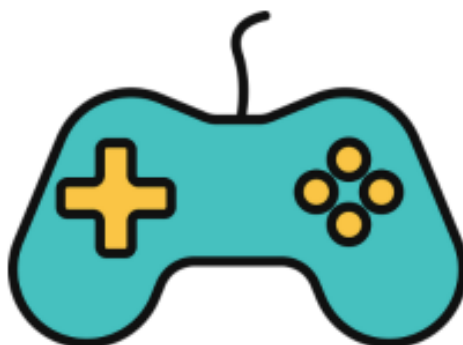
The NSPCC have published six tips to help you improve your family's online wellbeing. They also provide you with a guide on how to talk to your child about what they are doing online as well as a quiz that you can play together. You can find our more here:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-wellbeing/positively-online/>

## The 'Add Everyone' Explicit WhatsApp Group

The INEQE Safeguarding group have issued an alert regarding a WhatsApp group known as 'Add Everyone.' Find out more here:

<https://ineqe.com/2024/10/31/safeguarding-alert-add-everyone-whatsapp-group/>



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