

ISSUE 11/12 –16<sup>th</sup> January 2026

## From the Headteacher



Dear Parents,

It is such a pleasure to be back in the school building. There is nothing like the joy of seeing the smiles of children (and parents of course) returning back to school after a holiday! The children certainly are happy to be back into the routine of school life.

Many of you may know, that two sporting heroes visited us last term. We were privileged to be the chosen school whereby The Under 18s players, came to offer advice and demonstrate key skills to our Afterschool Football Club.

The children really enjoyed meeting them.

**Remember – school starts at 8.55am!**

## Cold Weather– please dress appropriately

As the weather gets colder and the wet spell is due to intensify, please do ensure that your child is wrapped up well! We want the children to enjoy the fresh air and outdoors play, but they will only do this when they are warm and dressed for the cold/wet.

## Parents Evening Appointments

Parents Evening for this term has been confirmed for **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February** from 2.00pm to 7.00pm. Please note, that on this day, **school will close at 1.45pm for children** (except the ACE Zone). The meetings will be face to face in the school hall but to book the appointments you will need to use Scopay. It is essential that you have an account to allow you to do this. *(Please contact the Office if you are unsure about anything.)* Playgroup and Nursery will have their parent meetings on the morning of Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February when both settings will be closed to children. Aftercare children will be catered for on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2025. *There will also be some meetings that can be booked on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February for Reception – Year 6. (3.30pm – 4.40pm.)*

## Children's Mental Health Week 2026

Children's Mental Health Week 2026 will take place from 9-15 February. Place2Be launched the mental health awareness week in 2015 to empower, equip and give a voice to every child in the UK. We will be celebrating this on **13<sup>th</sup> February** with a **Mufti Day – Dress to Express!** (Remembering it may be cold.) This year's theme is 'This is my place.' During Children's Mental Health Week, we want all children and young people, whoever they are, and wherever they are in the world, to have a strong sense of belonging.

Here is a link to the Place2be website, which always has great ideas and fun activities. <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>



## Our School Day – Being on time! School starts at 8.55am.

Please remember that being on time is essential. Children need to be in the playground by 8:50am at the latest so they can get to their lessons on time – 8.55am. If your child is 5 or 10mins late everyday they are missing nearly an hour of learning every week! Over a term this is nearly 2 full days of learning. The gates open at 8.45. There is plenty of time to get to class. (Any time after 8.55am is recorded by the Office as a late.) Thank you for your support with this.

## Bug Club – KS2

We are so lucky at Crane Park to have access to Bug Club, which gives children a huge range of exciting reading material, tailored to their ability. Bug Club also provides questions to help practice their comprehension skills. Please ensure they log on every week to benefit from the amazing books on offer!



If you have any problems logging on, please speak to your child's class teacher. Thank you.

## School dinner provider - Stir - Full of Flavour and Fun

At Crane Park, we are using a food provider called **Stir**. They are delighted to be the chosen caterer that provides lunchtime meals to the children at Crane Park Primary School and are serving them delicious, home-cooked food.

They pride themselves on serving food to the children that they love to eat. They involve them in designing menus and take feedback into account to make sure that every single dish is just right for the pupils.

We will be having a taster session on 12<sup>th</sup> February at Parents Evening – so that you can also enjoy what is being offered.

## Nursery class (Moon) places for September 2026

If your child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 23, you can apply for a Nursery Class place. Hounslow residents can apply using the application form online, using the link below, or by visiting the School Office to collect an application pack.

[https://www.hounslow.gov.uk/info/20028/primary\\_admissions/74/nursery\\_admissions](https://www.hounslow.gov.uk/info/20028/primary_admissions/74/nursery_admissions)

The closing date for applications is **8<sup>th</sup> March 2026**. You must apply for a School Nursery place even if your child is currently in our Playgroup Class.

## Handwriting – Letter-join

At Crane Park we use a handwriting scheme called 'Letter-join' to teach children to write using a cursive (joined up) style. Any of our pupils wishing to practise their handwriting at home can log in to the Letter-join website to use the same, easy-to-use handwriting resources as we use at school. If you have any questions, please ask your child's class teacher.

### How to log in to Letter-join

#### DESKTOP AND LAPTOP LOG-IN

Simply go to [www.letterjoin.co.uk](http://www.letterjoin.co.uk) and log in, using the Desktop log-in boxes, with these details:

User name: **vt8822**  
Password: **home**

**Letter-join** will work on the following browsers on PCs:

- Google Chrome
- Firefox
- Safari
- Opera

We cannot recommend using Internet Explorer for Letter-join.

#### IPAD AND TABLET LOG-IN

Go to [www.letter-join.co.uk](http://www.letter-join.co.uk), select the Tablet Login button and log in using these details:

User name: **vt8822**  
Swipe code (starting at top left):



**Letter-join** will run on the following tablets:

- iPads running at least iOS7 through the Safari browser.
- Windows 8 tablets (8 inch and bigger) using the built-in browser.
- Android tablets (8 inch and bigger) using Google Chrome, Firefox or Opera.

Diary Dates: January /February		March/April	
23rd January	Y5/6 Basketball Tournament	5th March	World Book Day – (More information to follow.)
23rd January	Y5/6 Girls Cricket	6th March	Year 3/4 Girls festival of sport
2nd February	KS1 Sports hall Athletics	9th March	SEND Panathon
5th February	SEND New Age Curling	17th March	Year 5/6 Tag Rugby
10th February	Y3/4 Bee Netball Festival	19th March	Year 3/4 Multi Skills Festival
24th February	Y5/6 Bee Netball Competition		
13th February	<b>Mental Health Day – Mufti Day-Dress to Express</b>	30th March	Easter Holiday Begins

11th – 12th February	<b>Parents Evening – school closes at 1.45pm on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2026</b>	13th April	Staff Inset – School closed to Children
13 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>Nurse and playgroup are closed for parents' meetings.</b>	14th April	<b>Children return to school at 8.45am</b>
16th February	<b>Half term Holiday</b>		
23rd February	<b>Everyone returns to school at 8.45am</b>		

## Free School Meals /Have Your Financial Circumstances Changed?

Even though your child is receiving their free school meals automatically, it is still vitally important – if you have not already done so – to complete the borough's registration form in case your child is eligible for extra funding for the school, worth over £1,300 per year, plus any wider benefits for your family.

This also applies if your financial circumstances have changed and you believe you might be entitled to free school meal vouchers during the school holidays for your child/children, please make an online application at:

[https://www.hounslow.gov.uk/info/20025/schools\\_and\\_colleges/61/free\\_school\\_meals](https://www.hounslow.gov.uk/info/20025/schools_and_colleges/61/free_school_meals)

You will be notified of the result.

## PANTS: Keeping Children Safe

As part of our ongoing commitment towards the safety of all of our children, this term every class will be holding a PANTS session where staff will share materials with the children to remind them that:

- Privates are private.
- Always remember your body belongs to you.
- No means no.
- Talk about secrets that upset you.
- Speak up, someone can help.

For general information about PANTS and the Pantosaurus video visit [www.nspcc.org.uk/pants](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/pants).

For advice about how to talk to your child about keeping safe visit:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/globalassets/documents/advice-and-info/talk-pants-how.pdf>

## Valuables

Please do not allow your child to bring or wear any items of value to school such as expensive jewellery. It can cause great upset if the item is lost, broken or mislaid. A small pair of stud earrings are acceptable for pierced ears, although these will need to be removed or covered for PE lessons. The only other items of jewellery permitted will be those worn for religious reasons. On another note, umbrellas are not allowed in school. Should your child need one on their journey to school, please take it back with you once you have dropped them off.

Our cricket team, ready for action, last week!

