

CRAYKE

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Respect | Friendship | Forgiveness | Determination

"Follow your pathway and we grow together with confidence"

Issue: #13 Term: Autumn Date: 12 December 2025

Crayke Chronicle



Message from the Headteacher

The highlight of this week was undoubtedly the wonderful nativity performances on Wednesday – see more on the next slide!

The school site has been a hive of activity as the welly stores have arrived, alongside a replacement wooden gate on the car park and new mesh fencing at the main entrance. We are, once again, immensely grateful to the Di Walker Foundation for funding these premises upgrades.

We are looking to start making use of the welly stores as soon as possible after Christmas. A pair of Wellington Boots would be a brilliant addition to Christmas lists and we welcome donations of any that no longer fit to be given to another child. Thank you!

Have a lovely weekend,

Judi Jackson
Headteacher

News from School – Nativity Performances

I wanted to take this opportunity to share a heartfelt thank you to everyone who made our nativity, *Everyone Loves a Baby*, such a wonderful and memorable event this week. The children were absolutely amazing—learning their lines with confidence, singing beautifully and bringing the story to life with such enthusiasm and joy. Their hard work and dedication shone through every moment.

A huge thank you to all the parents and carers for your unwavering support at home and for helping the children prepare. Your encouragement and involvement make such a difference and we are truly grateful.

I would like to give special recognition to our incredible staff team who worked tirelessly behind the scenes and on the stage to support the children. A big thank you to Mrs Dobson and Mrs Helfferich for their outstanding leadership in bringing the nativity together with such care, creativity and commitment. Their passion and dedication were key to the production's success.

I am also deeply grateful to Mrs Walsh, Mrs Smith and Mrs Gears who contributed in a variety of important ways - through rehearsals, costume preparation, set design and supporting children individually. Their teamwork and commitment are what make events like this possible and so special for our school community. Thanks also to Mrs Bacon for ensuring that all ticket requests were accommodated and for all the uber-efficient behind the scenes admin.

I feel incredibly lucky to have such a dedicated and caring staff team at Crayke. Together, they have created a joyful and inspiring experience that will be remembered fondly by children, families and staff alike.

Thank you all once again for your hard work and support in making this nativity truly magical!

News from School – Jigsaws Update

- We are delighted to announce that due to the increasing popularity of the club, we will be advertising for an additional member of staff to support with our after school club to start in the Spring Term. If you know anyone who may be interested, please ask them to get in touch with me via headteacher@crayke.n-yorks.sch.uk
- To improve communications during session times, the telephone system has been amended to give an option to phone Jigsaws **during session times only** (7:30am – 8:50am and 3:30pm – 6:00pm) Simply call the usual school number 01347 821767 and select Option 2.
- As the clubs are now busier and in more demand, it would be really helpful if parents/carers can ensure that bookings are made for the correct sessions and that they are cancelled if no longer required to ensure that the space is then opened for another child. Places need to be booked via your child's Parent Pay account, NOT via phone or email.

Safeguarding Update - Photography

Thank you to all the parents and carers who adhered to our updated policy regarding photography and videos during the performances this week. It was lovely to receive some positive feedback around this.

As part of our commitment to maintaining a respectful and focused environment during our church services, we kindly remind all families that **photography and video recording are not permitted before, during or after the Carol service next week.** This helps us preserve the sanctity of the occasion and ensures all children and attendees can fully engage without distraction.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in supporting our school's values and the special nature of these moments.

Thank you for helping us maintain a respectful atmosphere for everyone.

News from School – Thank a member of the Crayke Community

Thank you to all the parents, carers and children who are enjoying spreading some festive cheer with this initiative! I've been able to pass on 25 gorgeous messages of thanks over the last week. A special mention to Apple class who have absolutely embraced this opportunity to thank their peers, Year 6 buddies and various staff members – their ICT skills are highly impressive!

<https://forms.office.com/e/CNhQ0zPNzv>

Thank a member of the Crayke School community!

Would you like to pass on a word of thanks to someone from Crayke School? It could be a member of staff, a governor, a CHASA representative, a parent or a pupil! Please take a moment to do so - it would be very gratefully appreciated!

1. Which person would you like to thank? *

Enter your answer

2. What would you like to thank them for? *

Enter your answer

3. Your name (optional)

Enter your answer

News from School – Supporting our Community this Festive Season

Unchanged from
last week.

As we approach the festive period, we are mindful that some families within our wider local community may be facing challenges. In the spirit of compassion and kindness, we are inviting donations to support the local foodbank, which is run by the Easingwold District Community Care Association (EDCCA) and provides vital assistance to those in need.

EDCCA have shared that they are particularly short of the following items:

- Cartons of UHT milk (semi-skimmed and whole)
- Tins of meat dishes (such as mince in gravy, curry, chilli, chicken in sauce)
- Granulated sugar
- Tins of corned beef and “spam” type products
- Tins of frankfurters or sausages
- Jars of jam, marmalade, or honey
- Tins of fruit
- Packets of dried spaghetti/pasta
- Mayonnaise or ketchup
- Christmas selection packs or boxes



If you are able to contribute, please bring your donations to the school office **by the end of the school day on Thursday 18th December**. All donations will be distributed to families in need over the festive period. Thank you for helping us to show care and support for others.

Class News- APPLE

The children in Apple and Beech put on a spectacular Nativity performance. You were all amazing, well done.

This week, we have been learning about squares and rectangles. They created some fabulous creations making 2D shapes into 3D models. They also enjoyed playing the monkey game, using their maths skills.

We are in the process of designing Christmas cards, ready to deliver them to our friends in our community next week.



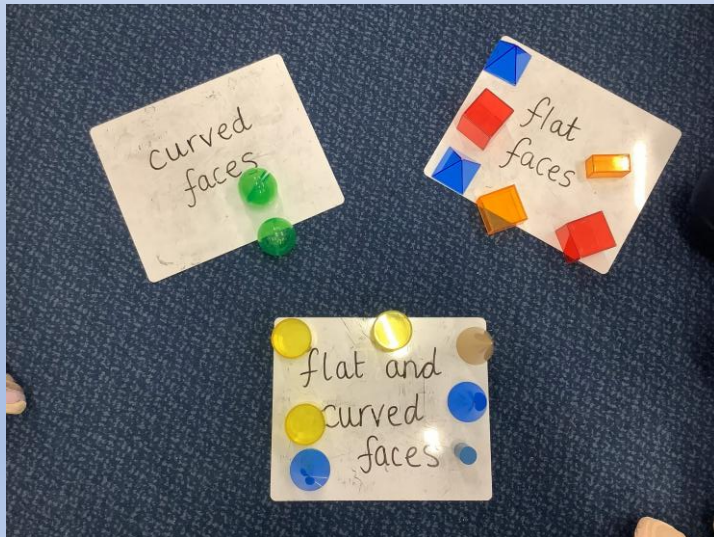
Mrs Helfferich

Class News - BEECH

What a busy week we have had in Beech class! I couldn't be prouder of all the members of Beech class for their hard work and dedication to our wonderful nativity! Thanks so much to all the parents for helping with costumes and learning lines. 😊

In maths this week we have been looking at 2D and 3D shapes. The year 1 children have focused on naming and sorting them. It would be fantastic if anybody wanted to complete a shape hunt at home and bring it in for me. Year 2 children have been working hard on lines of symmetry and drawing shapes using their line of symmetry – it has been quite tricky!

Mrs Dobson



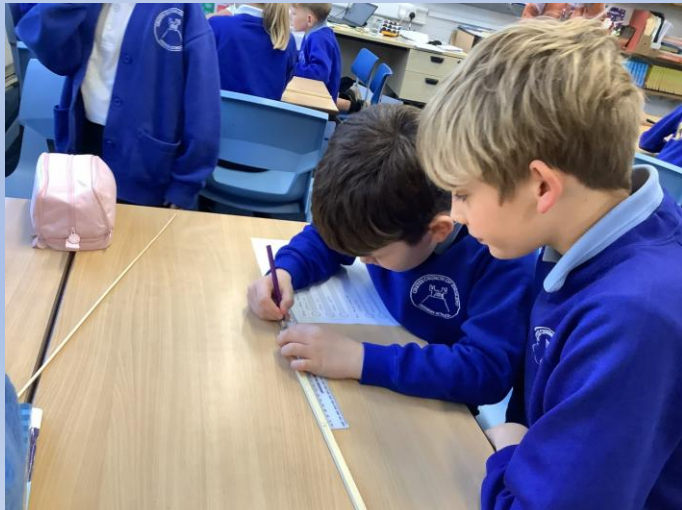
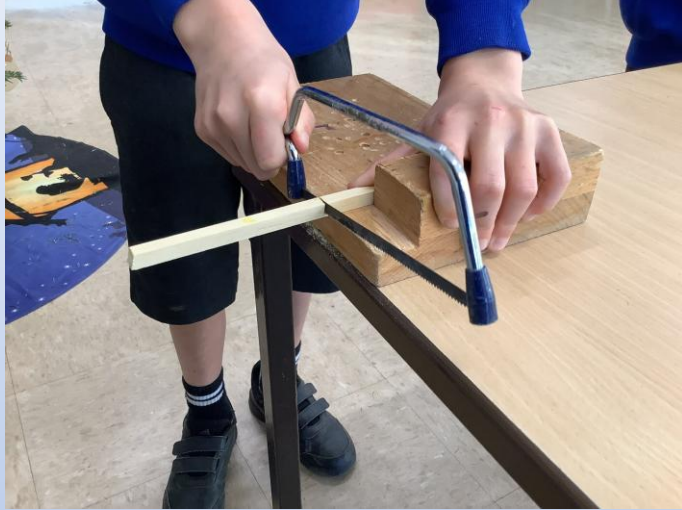
Class News – HOLLY

This week in RE we have been thinking about what the Bible Parable The Prodigal Son teaches Christians. The children considered the feelings of the son, the father and the older brother and then considered the message to take away from the story. The children came up with some great ideas, such as the father teaches us to be forgiving, to love others, to appreciate our family and be happy. The children created freeze frames of when the Prodigal Son returned home, can you tell which character each child is?

Miss Williams



Class News - OAK



This week we have been working hard on our second DT unit of the half term- creating wooden automatas!

We've followed a design brief to make a Greek myth themed toy in time for Christmas. After creating our initial idea, we started to build our automata.

We particularly enjoyed using the saws although found it trickier than expected to cut straight. Over the next few lessons, we will assemble our toys using a glue gun and experiment with CAMs designs to make our characters move.



Extra Curricular Clubs



The children have had fun with several games such as Velcro darts, chess, dominoes, dancing, musical statues and reindeer hoopla! They have enjoyed making Christmas decorations too. Here are just a snap shot of their games.



Recommended Bedtime Reads

Mrs Walsh recommends

'Babbit'

By Lydia Monks

I asked my daughters which their favourite stories were from when they were younger and 'Babbit' came out as a firm favourite! It's about a very chatty toy bunny that goes on a picnic with The Big One and The Little One. Babbit ends up on a startling adventure that it didn't expect but can't stop rabbitting on about! The book helps with teaching you to play nicely and to look after your toys in a fun hide and seek tale with beautiful illustrations. I hope you enjoy it as much as my girls!

Mrs Walsh

A super choice Mrs Walsh; I'm sure Mrs Walsh would love to hear if you enjoy it too! Mrs Dobson 😊





Upcoming Events – Christmas@Crayke 2025

Date	Time	Event	What we need from you as parents
Tuesday 16 December	From 12pm	Christmas Lunch	If your child normally has a packed lunch and would like Christmas Lunch please contact Mrs Bacon on admin@ In the event of dietary requirements, a form will require completion prior to the event.
Tuesday 16 December	pm	Christmas Party afternoon	Come to school wearing party outfits.
Wednesday 17 December	1:30pm	Christmas Carol Service at St Cuthbert's Church	Parents and carers are welcome to join us at church for the service.
Friday 19 December		Christmas Jumper Day	Children are welcome to wear non-uniform and Christmas jumpers.
		Reindeer Rush afternoon End of term -2:30pm	Please ensure appropriate footwear for running outside. Sponsorship information sent separately.

Please remember: There is no Running Club w/c 15 December OR w/c 5 Jan.

****Running Club resumes Monday 12 January 2026.****

Upcoming Events – Reindeer Rush in aid of St Leonard's Hospice

It's one of our favourite sporting events in the school calendar! Next Friday afternoon, we will be taking part in our annual fundraising event for St Leonards Hospice.

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/craykereindeerrush>

We would appreciate any donations for such a worthwhile charity. Children will be given headgear and a present.

Thank you

Mrs Helfferich (PE Lead)



Upcoming Events – Oak Visit to Jorvik

Information is being shared directly with parents and carers of children in Oak Class ahead of the planned visit on 12 January 2026. We appreciate that it's a very busy time of year but would be very grateful for a swift response to the consent form, to avoid us having to chase at the beginning of the new term. Thank you!



Awards in School This Week



	Apple	Beech	Holly	Oak
Stars of the Week	Harvey	Beech	Reggie	Arianna
		Lyuba	Pippa	Carl
Gold Awards for Sport	William	Ben	Isaac	Barnaby
Headteacher Awards	Apple and Beech			
School Council Kindness Award	George B			
Cloakroom Ninja Award	Oak			

Team Points

Team	Points
Corrie ten Boom	242
Martin Luther King Jr	183
Mahatma Gandhi	218
Queen Elizabeth II	189

Want to know more
about our House Teams?

See:

<https://craykeschool.org/house-teams/>

Well done **Corrie ten Boom** team!



Queen Elizabeth II



Mahatma Gandhi



Corrie ten Boom



Martin Luther King Jr

PE Kits w/c 15 December 2025

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Apple		CHRISTMAS PARTY DAY – COME TO SCHOOL WEARING PARTY OUTFITS	FULL UNIFORM AND COATS FOR ALL PLEASE – CAROL SERVICE IN CHURCH		CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY X
Beech				X	X
Holly	X				X
Oak					X

Attendance and Punctuality

Last week's attendance figures (w/c 1 December 2025): **81.6%**

School Target: **96%**

	Attendance	Punctuality
Apple	83.9%	2 lates (1 child)
Beech	82%	0 lates
Holly	85.5%	0 lates
Oak	76.6%	0 lates

If you are unsure
whether or not to send
your child to school, have
a look at this website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Please note we are now
reporting attendance
data one week behind

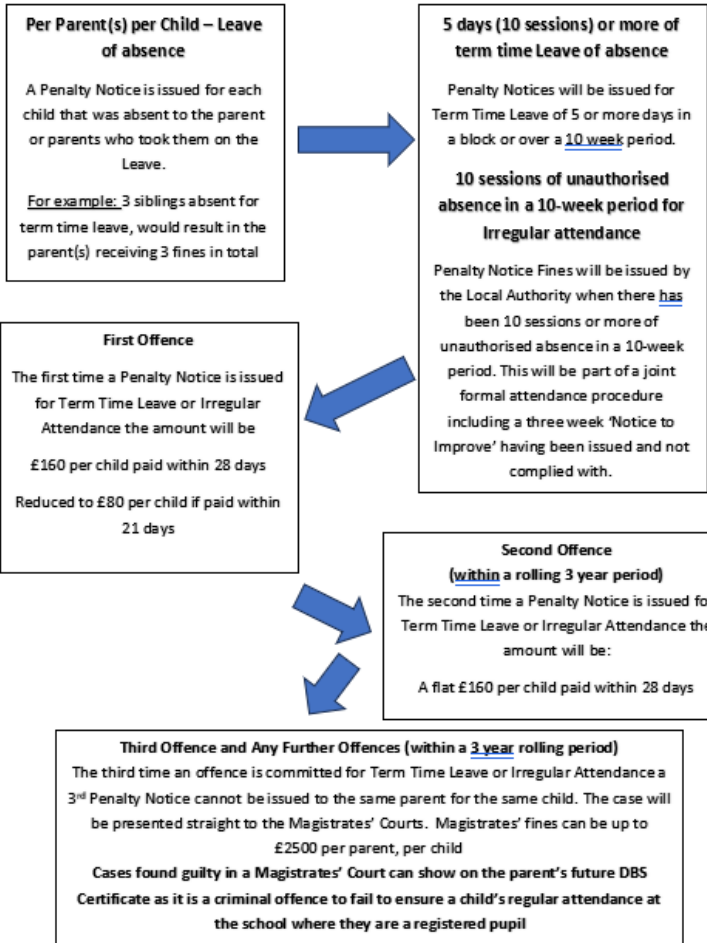


Attendance and Punctuality

New rules around attendance are now in force. Further details are outlined here.

Attendance is Changing

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notices issued after the 19th August 2024





A huge thank you to everyone who purchased tea towels, it not only created a wonderful keepsake but raised a fantastic amount of £660.85 for school.

Thank you for your support.

If anyone still needs to collect their tea towels, please contact: jbunker@crayke.n-yorks.sch.uk





Another big thank you to both those who donated to the raffle and those who supported it at the Nativity performances, it raised £179 for school. The draw was videoed and the lucky winners are below, please collect your prizes from the shed in the school pickup area:

Christmas wreath - 808 - Katie Hunsdale	Bath bombs - 798 - Jess Brown
6 Beers – 770 – Cheetham	Quality Streets - 788 – Tom Ferreday
Hot choc selection – 6 – Coral Canning	Rituals candle - 826 – Gillian Gill
Curious Coffee Voucher – 823 – Gillian Gill	Mulled winter spices bathing foam - 833 – Maria Ward
Hotel Chocolat liqueurs – 860 – Joy Davies	Floral cup - 750 – Toby Hobson
Neom candle – 875 - Donna Sykes	Prosecco - 846 – Jack Colman
Fika Room voucher – 754 - Charles Hobson	Catch 22 fish & chip voucher – Jane (Nancy’s Auntie)
Homemade soap - 865 - Yvonne Bird	Catch 22 fish & chip voucher – Beth Leggott

