

# CRAYKE

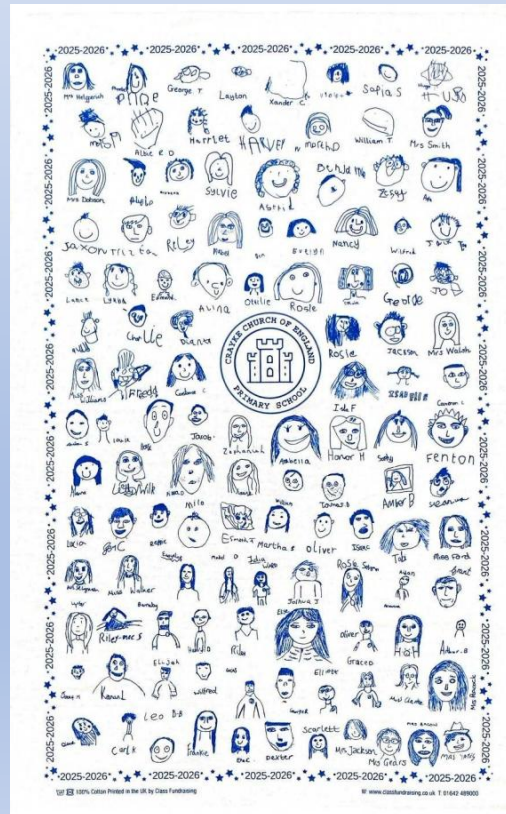
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Respect | Friendship | Forgiveness | Determination

"Follow your pathway and we grow together with confidence"

Issue: #12 Term: Autumn Date: 5 December 2025

# Crayke Chronicle



# Message from the Headteacher

The week the bugs came to Crayke! We know that many children and families have been feeling under the weather this week with a variety of symptoms. We are delighted to report that we seem to be largely through the worst of it and we're hopefully on the up. Thank you for your support, vigilance and understanding during a tricky week. We hope that everyone has a restful weekend and comes back ready and raring to go for the last two weeks of term!

Please remember that next week is the last week of running club and don't forget that we close for Christmas on Friday 19 December at 2:30pm!

Have a lovely weekend,

**Judi Jackson**

Headteacher

# News from School – Christmas Tree

On Monday afternoon, the whole school gathered in the hall for the annual tree decorating ceremony. Carols were sung as each class proudly put their handmade decoration onto the tree. Thank you to Mrs Helfferich for leading on this special event.

Thank you Newburgh Priory for, once again, providing us with such a fabulous tree.

There's some more photos on the following slide.







# News from School – The Christmas Book Box

This week we have been very excited by the introduction of the new 'Christmas Book Box'. All through December children will be able to choose a book from the box for their whole class story session after lunch. I have to say a huge thank you to my colleagues who have searched at home to bring a wide range of books in that they have enjoyed, to share with the children; this even included Mrs Bacon up in her loft! That is dedication! We also used our weekly Wandle to find recommendations of newer books to add to the box too. A special mention must go to Mrs Peacock who has ensured our box is beautifully decorated and full of sparkle! We hope the children will be enthusiastic to share these reads with you at home.



*Mrs Dobson, English Lead*





# News from School – Nativity Performances

## **Ticket Arrangements for the Reception and KS1 Nativity**

Thank you for completing the online form with your ticket requests. Mrs Bacon is working through them today and tickets will be sent out either today or Monday. Your initial 2 ticket requests will be accommodated and any additional ticket requests will be advised by Monday.

If you haven't yet requested tickets, please contact Mrs Bacon as soon as possible.

**Please note that photography and filming during this event is prohibited.**





Thank you CHASA, we all really enjoyed the pantomime.



# News from School – Thank a member of the Crayke Community

We ran this initiative in the summer as we approached the end of the academic year and it was such a success that we thought it was worth repeating! If you would like to thank any member of the Crayke community – staff, governor, CHASA member, or even a pupil, please fill in this survey. Your appreciation will be shared directly with the recipient and I absolutely know that it will make their day. Thank you!

**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

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



# News from School – Supporting our Community this Festive Season

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.

# News from School – Support for Families

This week's focus is on bedtime routines. We know that this can be particularly challenging at this time of year!

<https://compass-uk.org/help-and-support/parents-carers/parents-carers-health/bedtime/>





# News from School – Open the Book

This week was sadly the last 'Open the book' for the Strensall team. They have visited school fortnightly for several years, bringing collective worship to life. Thank you for investing so much time and energy into Crayke. We look forward to welcoming the Easingwold team in the New Year.



# Class News- APPLE

The 1<sup>st</sup> of December meant that we could really start celebrating Christmas! We made Christmas lanterns whilst listening to Christmas songs. Christmas pyramid trees were constructed using the magnetic tiles, the children then attached bells to the magnets. We have worked really hard on our tricky words, we played a special tricky word search using a magnifying glass.



Mrs Helfferich



# Class News - BEECH

*This week, Beech class have enjoyed exploring tapestries and the work of Shelia Hicks. We looked at how we carefully need to weave under and over to create a pattern. We practised the technique before making our own tapestries adding images that we thought may be seen in a castle. I was really impressed with how independently the children worked on this task! Well done Beech class!*

*Mrs Dobson*



# Class News – HOLLY

In our new English topic, we have been making predictions about the book *The Greenling*. The children developed their predictions by thinking about emotive language in the text, plotting the main characters' emotions on a graph during different events in the book and then focussing on writing just one sentence predictions that are high quality, adding in adjectives and joining sentences with conjunctions.

In science, children sorted different invertebrates into categories by using a classification key. They did a great job at following the steps to identify the invertebrates.

*Miss Williams*





# Class News – OAK & SCHOOL COUNCIL

We were very lucky to welcome Sir Alec Shelbrooke, our local MP, into school on Friday. Over the past few weeks, School Council have been exploring the role of MPs. We compiled questions to ask Sir Alec including: what made you become an MP? What is your favourite part of the job? What was the hardest issue you had to vote on?

Oak Class have also spent time researching Sir Alec and his role as a Member of Parliament, looking into his background and the key issues that interest him. Of course, we also had to get his take on The Elgin Marbles debate.

The children were fantastic at asking their well-considered questions in a very respectful way. Particular mention goes to Arabella and Martha who asked so many insightful questions. Well done everyone involved- you made me hugely proud.



# Class News - OAK

Dear Sir Alec,

Thank you so much for coming to Crayke Primary School to speak to us. We learnt so much- it was so interesting.

We hugely enjoyed your visit today. We loved all your wonderful answers, your positive attitude and friendly personality. It was so good to hear about your daily life, we found this fascinating especially that you sometimes get to go in a helicopter!

It surprised us to know that you could become an MP at just 18! We also didn't realise just how big the House of Commons was until we learnt more about it. As well as that, we really enjoyed learning more about you as a person including what kinds of sports you like and how much you love dogs. A particular highlight for us was hearing about your views on the recent Budget and Rishi Sunak!

Thank you for considering our question on the Elgin Marbles. We enjoyed hearing what you thought. For us, it is evenly split between whether we should give them back, keep them or loan them to Greece.

We really appreciate that you spent your valuable time with us. It was a joy to see you. A huge thank you to Yulia as well for arranging this and our amazing certificates.

Kind Regards,

Oak Class and School Council

Crayke Primary School

Following his visit, we worked together to write a Thank You letter to Sir Alec showing off our English skills including complex sentences and higher level punctuation. We really enjoyed having him in school; he surprised us in lots of ways including his friendliness! Sir Alec's chief of staff replied to our letter:

*'Thank you very much for your kind email, and a huge thank you to the children for their letter – it has made our day!'*

*'Alec really enjoys visiting schools and answering children's questions. He is glad to have been able to visit Crayke Primary School and inspire children to learn more about politics and democracy.'*

*'Should you wish to arrange another visit in the future, please feel free to get in touch.'*

*'Enjoy the rest of the term and have a lovely Christmas!'*





# Extra Curricular Clubs

What another busy week!

The children have had fun with dancing and obstacle courses! They have enjoyed making Christmas decorations and baking and decorating Christmas biscuits. Kinetic sand, Jenga and table tennis have proved to be popular too.

Here is just a snap shot of their games.



# **\*Recommended Bedtime Reads\***

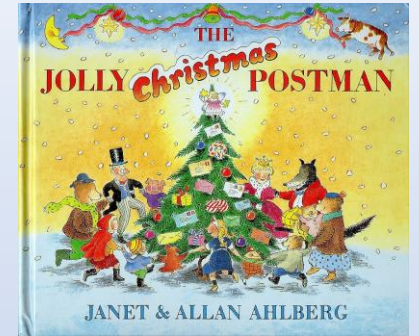
## **Mrs Bacon recommends 'The Jolly Christmas Postman' By Janet & Allan Ahlberg**

When my children were younger, The Jolly Christmas Postman was a firm favourite at Christmas and when the book was uncovered, it signalled the start of the festive season!

In this much-loved rhyming tale, the cheerful postman delivers letters to the residents of a fairytale town. Lucy & Rob loved this book's irresistible interactivity and were always delighted by the treasures tucked inside the pages; like the tiny recipe card, the jigsaw puzzle pieces and the letters and surprises from familiar fairy-tale characters.

*Mrs Bacon*

*A great choice and what a great way to start December! I love this book from my childhood too! Mrs Dobson ☺*





# Upcoming Events – Christmas@Crayke 2025

Date	Time	Event	What we need from you as parents
Monday 8 December		<b>Christmas cards</b> can be brought in from today	Please ensure that Christmas cards are clearly labelled with first name, surname and class to ensure safe delivery to the correct recipient.
Tuesday 9 December	9:30am	<b>Nativity</b> Dress Rehearsal	All children involved need their costumes ready before today.
Wednesday 10 December	9:30am	<b>Nativity Performance 1</b>	Book your tickets! Information to follow.
	2:15pm	<b>Nativity Performance 2</b>	
Tuesday 16 December	From 12pm	<b>Christmas Lunch</b>	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	<b>Christmas Party</b> afternoon	Come to school wearing party outfits.
Wednesday 17 December	1:30pm	<b>Christmas Carol Service</b> at St Cuthbert's Church	Parents and carers are welcome to join us at church for the service.
Friday 19 December		<b>Christmas Jumper Day</b>	Children are welcome to wear non-uniform and Christmas jumpers.
		<b>Reindeer Rush</b> afternoon	Please ensure appropriate footwear for running outside. Sponsorship information sent separately.
		<b>End of term</b> -2:30pm	

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

**The last Running Club of 2025 is Friday 12 Dec; it then resumes Monday 12 January 2026.**





# PE EVENTS NOVEMBER/DECEMBER



- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Reindeer Rush/Elf Run for St Leonards Hospice



# Awards in School This Week



	Apple	Beech	Holly	Oak
Stars of the Week	Xander	Ava	Henry	Dexter
		Elsbeth	Sophy	Mabel
Gold Awards for Sport	Albie	Astrid	Oliver	Lucas
Headteacher Awards	George B and Martha S			
School Council Kindness Award	Milo			
Cloakroom Ninja Award	Oak			

# Team Points

Team	Points
Corrie ten Boom	331
Martin Luther King Jr	231
Mahatma Gandhi	151
Queen Elizabeth II	234

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 8 December 2025

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Apple					X
Beech				X	X
Holly	X				X
Oak		X			X

**Please ensure that on PE days, the children come to school wearing their hoodies, school jumpers or cardigans alongside white or blue t-shirts and black or navy shorts or jogging bottoms.**

**On all other days, full uniform should be worn.**

# Attendance and Punctuality

Last week's attendance figures (w/c 24 November 2025): **91.4%** School Target: **96%**

	Attendance	Punctuality
Apple	98.5%	2 lates (2 children)
Beech	93.3%	0 lates
Holly	87.7%	1 late
Oak	90.3%	2 lates (2 children)

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

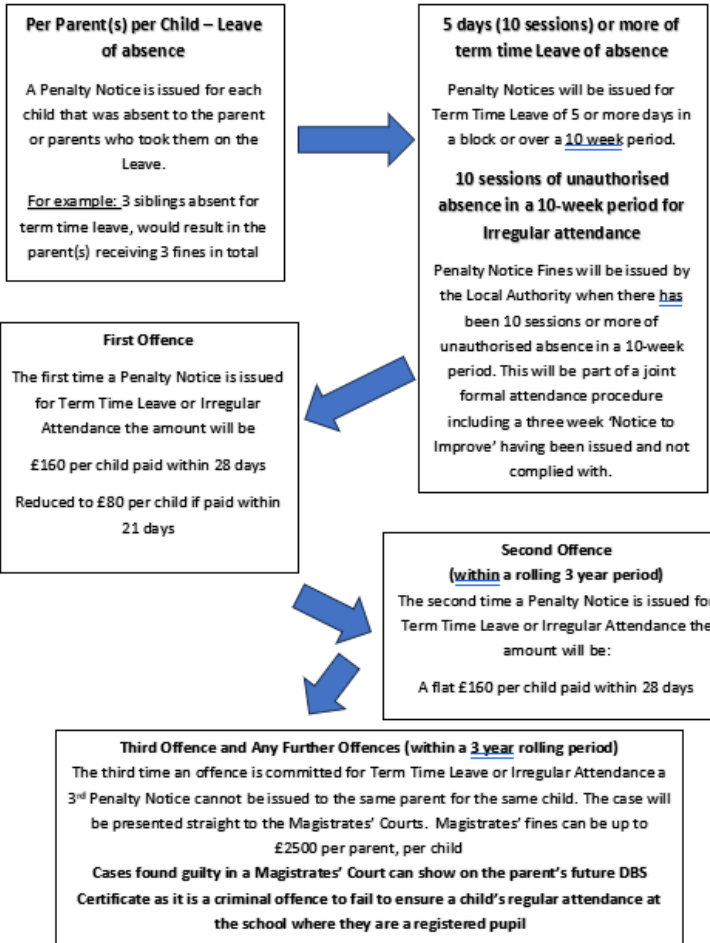


# Attendance and Punctuality

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 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024







The fabulous Crayke school tea towels have arrived!

If you have ordered tea towels, then please collect them either:

TODAY Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 3.30pm in school pick up area OR

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 3.30pm in school pick up area

For children who go to Jigsaws these days or are on the school bus or taxi – we will pass them to the children to bring home.

To arrange alternative pickup contact: [jbunker@crayke.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:jbunker@crayke.n-yorks.sch.uk)



