

CRAYKE

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Respect | Friendship | Forgiveness | Determination

"Follow your pathway and we grow together with confidence"

Issue: #1 Term: Spring Date: 9 January 2026

Crayke Chronicle



Message from the Headteacher

Happy New Year!

It was wonderful to welcome the children back into school on Tuesday and we've certainly hit the ground running with learning and behaviour expectations being made clear to all.

There's further details contained within this newsletter providing curriculum information for the term ahead. You, as parents and carers, can really help to support your child/ren's learning by talking with them about what they've been learning and discussing the vocabulary highlighted for each subject. Please do speak to your child's class teacher if you would like any further information or support with this.

2026 has been announced as a National Year of Reading, with the theme of "Go All In". As a school, we are absolutely embracing this initiative and there'll be plenty more information coming your way, starting with Mrs Dobson's latest wonderful plan – see slide 11!

Have a lovely weekend,

Judi Jackson

Headteacher

News from School – Curriculum Spring 2026

These are the areas of focus for learning for each class this term:

Class	Theme	Enquiry Question	Enrichment (<i>Stunning Start/Marvellous Middle/Fabulous Finish</i>)	Further curriculum information available on our website here:
Apple	Once Upon a Time	What important lessons can we learn from Fairy Tales?	Dress up as a fairy tale character	https://craykeschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Curriculum-Map-Apple-Class-for-the-year.pdf
Beech	Oh, I do like to be beside the seaside	What is it like beside the seaside?	Virtual tour of the Grace Darling museum	https://craykeschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Beech-Class-Curriculum-Tree-Year-B-Spring-2026.pdf
Holly	Tales from Dragon Mountain	Why do people live on volcanoes and mountains?	Volcano workshop – in school	https://craykeschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Holly-Class-Curriculum-Tree-Year-B-Spring-2026.pdf
Oak	Into the Darkness...	What was it like to live in the Dark Ages?	Jorvik visit	https://craykeschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Oak-Class-Curriculum-Tree-Year-B-Spring-Term-2026.pdf

Please see the attached document “Spring Term Standing Items” for spelling lists for this half term.

Staffing - Spring Term

Should you wish to contact a member of staff, please do so via Mrs Bacon on admin@crayke.n-yorks.sch.uk

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
APPLE	Mrs Helfferich	Mrs Helfferich	Mrs Helfferich	Mrs Helfferich (am) Mrs Gears (pm)	Mrs Helfferich
	Mrs Smith	Mrs Smith	Mrs Smith	Mrs Smith	Mrs Smith
BEECH	Miss Walker	Mrs Dobson	Mrs Dobson	Mrs Dobson	Mrs Dobson (am) Mrs Walsh (pm)
	Mrs Walsh	Mrs Walsh	Mrs Walsh	Mrs Walsh	Mrs Walsh
HOLLY	Miss Williams (am) Mr Brown (pm)	Miss Williams	Miss Williams (am) Mr Brown (pm)	Miss Williams	Miss Williams
	Miss Ford	Miss Ford	Miss Ford	Miss Ford	Miss Ford
OAK	Mrs Seligman	Mrs Seligman	Mrs Seligman	Miss Walker	Miss Walker
	Miss Clarke	Miss Clarke	Mrs Peacock	Mrs Peacock	Mrs Peacock

Shoebox Appeal –Thank You!

Thank you for all the generous shoebox donations, we have received a thank you from Children in Distress and some photos of the children in Romania receiving the boxes.

Miss Williams



Reindeer Rush Fundraiser – Thank You!



Reindeer Rush in aid of St Leonard's Hospice.

A huge thank you to everyone who donated to St Leonard's Hospice. We raised an incredible and record-breaking **£939.00**. A special mention to Harriet for her amazing persuasive techniques in getting so many people to sponsor her. It was an brilliant way to end the term.

Thank you
Mrs Helfferich (PE Lead)



Extra Curricular Clubs – Spring Term 2026

BEFORE SCHOOL: Running Club resumes on Monday from 8:30am and will continue every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday until Friday 20 March.

LUNCHTIMES: We continue to offer choir to all children on a Wednesday lunchtime on a drop in basis. This is run by Miss Leggatt and there is no charge for attending. We're excited to announce that Elliott in Year 5 is working alongside Mrs Gears to plan and implement two more lunchtime clubs on a Monday and Friday which, this term, will be open to children in Years 3-5. Further details to follow.

AFTER SCHOOL: Tuesday – Multi Sports Mr Cromack; Wednesday – Choir Miss Leggatt; Friday Football John Dutton. Please enquire on admin@crayke.n-yorks.sch.uk for further details.

Please note - Jigsaws continues to be available every day from 7:30am – 6:00pm. It is getting busier so we are grateful for prompt bookings and cancellations to help the smooth running of the club.

After School Club - Choir

Miss Leggatt is offering children from Year 2 – Year 6 the opportunity to join after school choir! Starting next **Wednesday 14 January** and running for 9 weeks until **Wednesday 18 March**, the club is open to all abilities and is payable via ParentPay as a block payment of £36.

The children know Miss Leggatt well as she teaches music throughout school, leads a lunchtime club and led our after school choir club last term.

Please email Mrs Bacon to book your child/ren's place(s) on this club. We will need a minimum of 6 children for the club to be viable.

admin@crayke.n-yorks.sch.uk



News from School

– Reception 2026 admissions

A reminder that next **Thursday 15 January 2026** is the deadline for applying for a Reception place for September 2026. Applications need to be made via North Yorkshire Council:

<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-admissions/starting-primary-school-and-junior-school>



School Council- Crayke's Got Talent

This half term, we will welcome the return of Crayke's Got Talent. It's a chance to showcase the huge variety of wonderful talent at Crayke. Children can enter the show with any act. In the past we have had comedians, dancers, singers and musicians. This can be as a solo act or as part of a group.

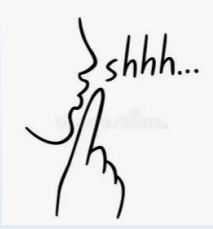
There will be opportunity for all those who want to enter to audition within their classes and two acts from each class will be democratically selected via a blind vote. Those acts will then perform in the show during the last week of the half term.

We can't wait to see what you can do! If you have any questions about the show please contact School Council or Miss Walker.

More details to follow soon!

Miss Walker





World Book Day 2026 – Thursday 5th March



Secret Storyteller

As part of our 'Year of Festivals' this year's World Book Day will be known as 'ReadingFest'. More details will follow to explain our theme and dress up ideas 😊

However, one of the ideas we can share with you now is 'Secret Storytellers' throughout the day. This could be a parent/carer or grandparent who would like to bring a book into school to read to their child and classmates for them to enjoy too! It could even just be a chapter if the book is longer. There will be various slots throughout the day to be decided on, depending on people's availability. If you would like to take part, please email me ldobson@crayke.n-yorks.sch.uk to state your child's name, class, your availability on the day and the book you would like to read.

Depending on the response it is likely you will only be able to visit one class in school and adults will be chosen on a first come, first served basis.

Remember it is a secret so please do not tell the children in advance as we want to create excitement!

I look forward to hearing from you 😊

Mrs Dobson

National Year of Reading

<https://goallin.org.uk/get-involved/families/>

SUPPORTING FAMILIES

A national push to get every child reading

In 2026, a national spotlight is being put on reading and on the simplest way to help children enjoy it: connecting it to what they already love. From dinosaurs to dancing, from comics to cooking, passions make stories feel natural and fun.

For families, the National Year of Reading also means more support, more ideas and more opportunities to weave reading into busy routines, whatever age your child is.



National Year of
Reading 2026

GET INVOLVED ^

WHAT'S ON

NEWS

ABOUT v

FAMILIES

Turn what they love into a love of reading

Children come alive when they're exploring the things they're passionate about. From superheroes and football to cooking, dancing and dinosaurs – every word counts.

Families

Volunteers

Libraries

Early Years Settings

Schools

Community Organisations

Workplaces

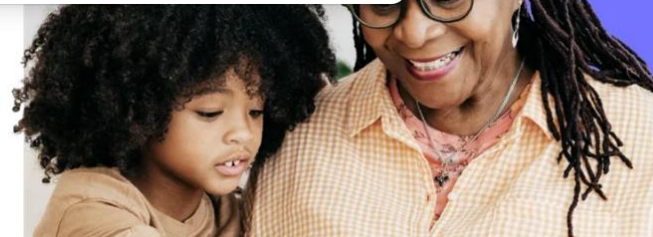
Literacy Sector

Book Sector

Criminal Justice Sector

REGISTER FOR UPDATES

PLEDGE YOUR SUPPORT



Online Safety

– Managing children's digital lives



<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/resource/what-i-wish-my-parents-or-carers-knew-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers-on-managing-childrens-digital-lives/>

The Children's Commissioner Dame Rachel de Souza has shared the above communication with schools this week. The full suite of resources is available via the weblink and a PDF version of the parent/carers guide is attached as a separate document with this week's newsletter. Please take some time to read this. Online safety is an ever increasingly important part of our lives and this guide will help you navigate this with your children.

Safeguarding

– books linked to dubious website

Public Statement

We became aware that the website www.funwithhumphrey.com which is advertised on the back of various titles in the 'Humphrey' series by Faber author Betty G. Birney now leads to a malicious website. This website is not in any way associated with Faber or the author Betty Birney. We are taking this matter extremely seriously, and acting, as a matter of urgency. All affected stock is now frozen. We have immediately paused on the sale and distribution of those books. We have reported the site to the National Cyber Security Centre.

We are asking people not to visit the website and to ensure that children do not visit it either. We are asking anyone who has copies of these titles to remove these books from their shelves and return them to us, until such time as they can be replaced.

Ebook editions of these books have already been amended.

Customers may return copies of the affected titles, listed below, for a refund.

978-0571282500 - Secrets According to Humphrey

978-0571328338 - Holidays According to Humphrey

978-0571248186 - Friendship According to Humphrey

978-0571328352 - Mysteries According to Humphrey

978-0571284191 - Spring According to Humphrey

978-0571328383 - Imagination According to Humphrey

978-0571328390 - World According to Humphrey

978-0571328369 - Christmas According to Humphrey

978-0571255429 - School According to Humphrey

We sincerely apologise for all inconvenience and distress that this will have caused and to all Humphrey fans.

Class News- APPLE

This week, we have been out on the running track everyday, even though it has been very chilly. The amazing speaker, which has been kindly gifted by the Davies family, has helped motivate us all.

We have been focussing on Goldilocks and the three bears, we have looked at the different characters and the setting. We have written a letter to the three bears, from Goldilocks, apologising for all the breakages, eating of the porridge and for sleeping in the bears beds. We talked about the safety aspects; should we go into houses of people that we don't know?!

The children had a go at writing their own letters and making masks.

Mrs Helfferich



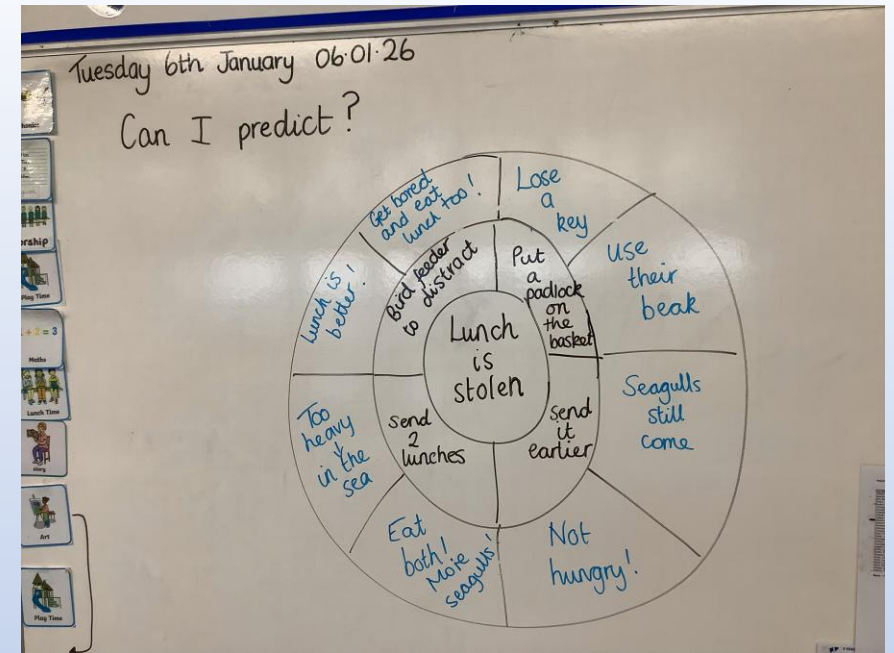
Class News - BEECH

Welcome back to 2026 Beech Class. We have started our new theme 'Oh I do like to beside the seaside' and are already excited for our projects ahead!

In English this week we started reading 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch' and I was really impressed with the work we did on predicting. We read the first part of the story and created a decision wheel together to show how Mr Grinling might deal with the seagulls stealing his lunch. Super ideas Beech class!

On Thursday we used our acting skills to retell the story in small groups. I was very impressed with how much the children could remember.

Mrs Dobson



Class News – HOLLY

We have had a wonderful start to the term in Holly Class, the children have really embraced our new topic, Tales of Dragon Mountain. We spent Tuesday afternoon looking at clues about our topic and making predictions about what we would learn based on the clues. In English, we have explored our book *The Street Beneath Our Feet* and have written a short poem inspired by the book.

Miss Williams



on a picture?
Cave.
Creepy and Scary.
Creeping, Scaring and Watering.
A big, Watery cave.
Watering, lighting and raining.
Smelly and stingy.
Selver.

Can I write a poem
on a picture? Thursday.
Fossils
darkening grey
Shiny yellow amber
glistening greyish animals
little Skinny bugs
dark fossils
city.

City
loud, messy
bustling, boring, freezing
polluted noisy - can't love
beautiful, cute, peaceful!!
no pollution, quite
Coountry



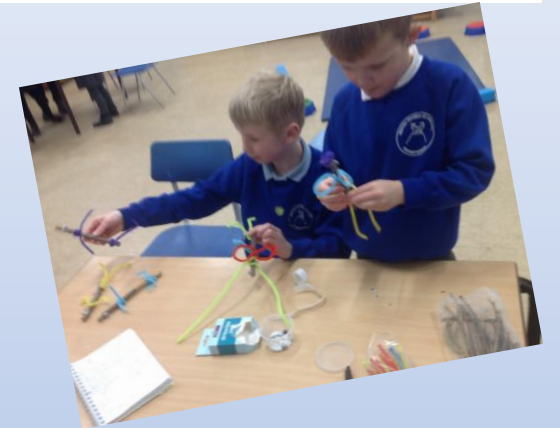
Class News - OAK

In PE, Oak have been exploring HIIT workouts. Each station had a different exercise/ challenge and we moved round them working different parts of our bodies and muscle groups.

Special mention to Mrs Jackson and Riley-Mae who had a plank-off competition! They both showed off their competitive edge and determination



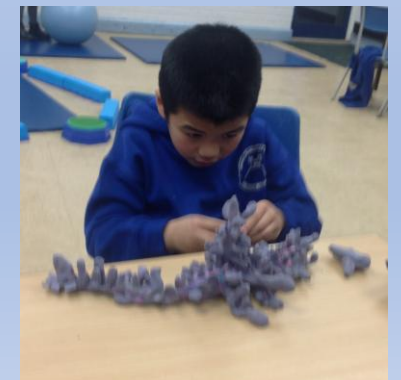
Extra Curricular Clubs



Welcome Back, we hope you had a lovely break.

Jigsaws have had a busy week with lots of different activities including a science experiment to make snowmen melt. The children really enjoyed experimenting with putty and made wonderful models. They made stickmen too! There was lots of chatter and relaxation after being creative with making cosy dens.

Here are just a snap shot of their games.



Upcoming Events

OAK CLASS Sing and Serve – this will take place next Friday afternoon **16 January** at the Sports Hall as in previous years. This visit will take place during the school day and is a lovely community event which is much enjoyed by all.

We're continuing to plan our upcoming PGL residential visit and further information and consent forms will be shared next week. In the meantime please save the date of **Tuesday 3 February** at 3:30pm for a parent/carer information meeting. Children from Oak Class are welcome to attend the meeting too.

Please check the attached diary dates document to keep up to speed with what's happening – new dates are added each week in red.

Awards in School This Week



	Apple	Beech	Holly	Oak
Stars of the Week	Harriet	Edmund	Letty	Keenan
		Riley	Milo	Aidan
Gold Awards for Sport	Violet	Sylvie	Esmond	Riley-Mae
Headteacher Awards	Hugo		Eva	
School Council Kindness Award	Tabi			
Cloakroom Ninja Award	Holly			

Team Points

Team	Points
Corrie ten Boom	311
Martin Luther King Jr	201
Mahatma Gandhi	270
Queen Elizabeth II	236

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 12 January 2026

	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 15 December 2025): **95.4%** School Target: **96%**

	Attendance	Punctuality
Apple	97%	2 lates (2 children)
Beech	97.3%	0 lates
Holly	95.8%	1 late
Oak	92.5%	4 lates (4 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 19th August 2024

