Crossdale News - 13th November 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our Crossdale News - we hope that you enjoy reading our newsletter; a communication for you with key messages and dates from school.

It has been another busy and successful fortnight at Crossdale, with our children demonstrating enthusiasm, resilience and community spirit in a range of activities. Last week, our boys' football team showed fantastic determination in a thrilling 4-4 draw against Willow Brook Primary School, while the Book Bus visit was a huge success, with many children taking home a fantastic new read and helping to raise valuable funds for our class libraries and topic books. We were also delighted by the support for Children in Need, with children and staff enjoying a super non-uniform day and raising money for a wonderful cause through the generosity of our school community.

Please remember to keep checking our school website, as this is where you should be able to find answers to many of the questions you may have. All newsletters can be found on our school website, in the 'News' section.

Best Wishes,

Mr. Cresswell and Miss Seedhouse

Included in this week's edition:

- **Anti-Bullying Week 2026 – Break the Silence**
- **Bringing learning to life at Crossdale**
- **The Book Bus**
- **Learning updates for this half term**
- **Children in Need 2026**
- **Dressing for the colder weather**
- **School Dinner Puddings – Clarifying Our Arrangements for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2**
- **Consultation on school admissions arrangements**

- **Working Together with Respect - Equals Trust Respect Statement**
- **Please Park Considerately – A Message to Parents and Carers**
- **Sporting Events**
- **Safeguarding Tips**
- **Rushcliffe Family Hub**
- **PTA Updates**
- **Celebrations - Stamp chart filler stars & Roll of Honour**
- **Upcoming Events**
- **School DInner Menu**

Anti-Bullying Week 2026 – Break the Silence

16–20 November 2026

Next week is Anti-Bullying Week, and this year's national theme is **'Break the Silence'**.

The theme reminds us how important it is for children to feel confident speaking up if they are experiencing bullying or see it happening to someone else. Just as importantly, it reminds adults of their responsibility to listen, take concerns seriously and help.

We will begin the week with a whole-school assembly on Monday, followed by activities and discussions in classrooms throughout the week. Children will explore what bullying can look like, why speaking up matters and how we can all help to make our school a safe, welcoming and inclusive place.

How can you help at home?

We encourage parents and carers to talk with their children about the week's theme. A simple question such as *"What would you do if you saw someone being bullied?"* can help start an important conversation.

The Anti-Bullying Alliance has also produced an excellent free **Parent and Carer Pack for Anti-Bullying Week 2026**. It includes practical advice, conversation starters and activities to help families talk about bullying.

If you ever have concerns about bullying or your child's friendships, please speak to us. Working together, we can help every child feel safe, supported and included.

Breaking the silence starts with listening, speaking up and taking action together.

Bringing Learning to Life at Crossdale

Learning by Doing – Developing Skills for Life!

At Crossdale, we know that some of the most valuable learning happens when children have the opportunity to get involved, try things for themselves and put their skills into practice.

Our Design and Technology (DT) curriculum is a lovely example of this. As well as learning how to design, make and evaluate their work, children develop practical skills that they can use beyond the classroom. They learn to solve problems, make decisions, work together and become increasingly independent.

Two recent class blogs give a great insight into this learning.

Sandwich Making in Year 3

Our Year 3 children became sandwich designers and makers, planning their creations, choosing ingredients and learning how to prepare food safely. They practised using the bridge hold and claw grip when cutting ingredients, developed their understanding of food hygiene and, of course, enjoyed tasting the finished results!

Read the Year 3 sandwich-making blog here

Fruit Kebab Fun in Years 1 and 2

Our younger children also enjoyed putting their food preparation skills into practice, carefully chopping different fruits and creating their own colourful kebabs. It was a lovely opportunity to develop independence, practise using equipment safely and encourage an interest in healthy eating.

Read the Years 1 and 2 fruit kebab blog here

Why does this learning matter?

Activities like these might seem quite simple, but they provide children with opportunities to develop skills that will be useful throughout their lives. Following a plan, handling equipment safely, making choices, working with others and taking pride in something they have created are all valuable parts of learning.

Throughout their time at Crossdale, children build on these experiences through our Design and Technology curriculum, exploring food and nutrition alongside structures, mechanisms and textiles.

Thank you, too, to the parent helpers who support these types of activities in school!

Book Bus Visit

We were delighted to welcome the Book Bus to school last Monday. It was fantastic to see so many children excited about choosing and taking home a brand-new book to enjoy. Encouraging a love of reading is at the heart of what we do, and it was wonderful to see such enthusiasm from the children. We are also incredibly grateful for the support from families, as the event generated valuable funds for the school. This money will be used to enhance our topic book collections and class libraries, helping to provide even more high-quality reading opportunities for all children. Thank you to everyone who supported this successful event.

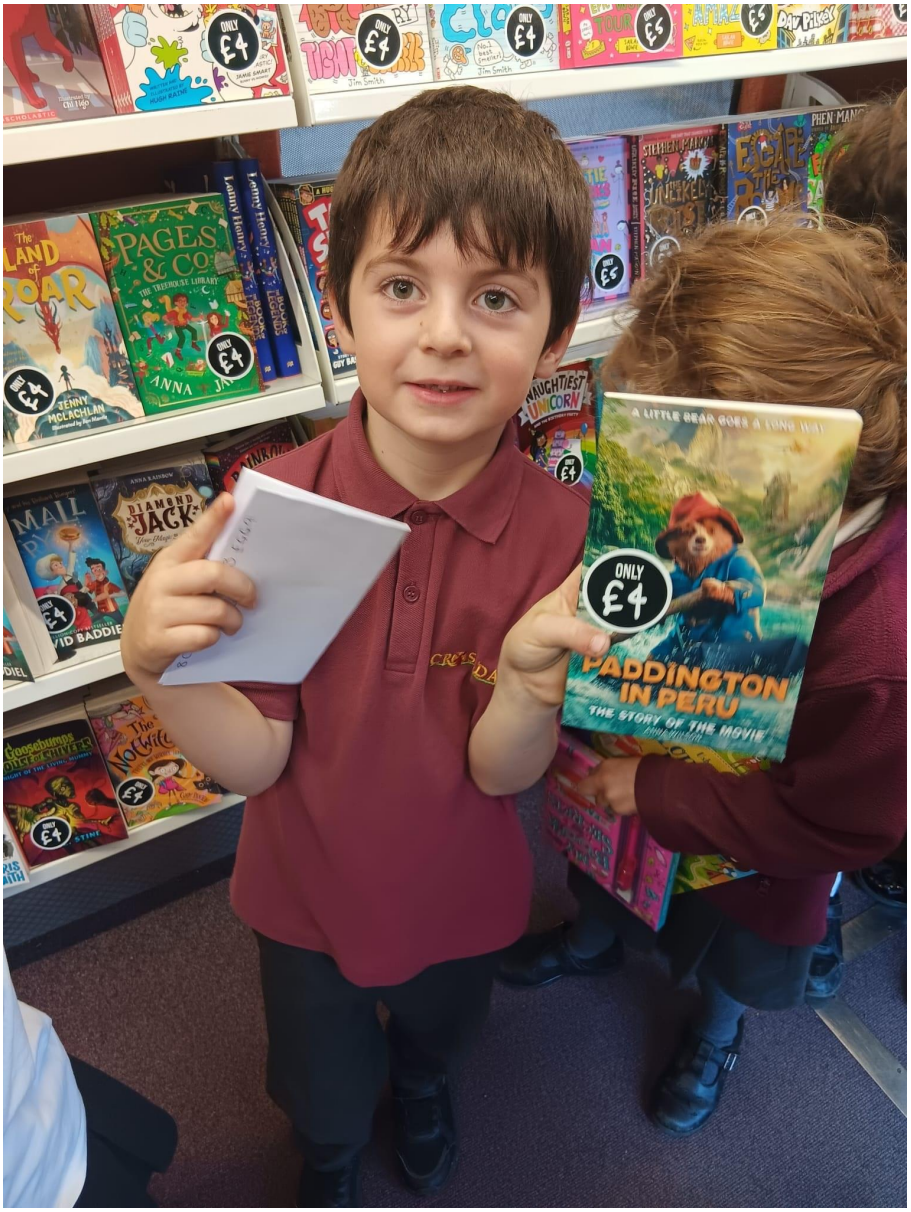



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Learning updates for this half term



Please take a look at your child's class blog, where you'll find curriculum maps and, where appropriate, knowledge organisers for this half term. Spelling homework is also shared through the blogs.

Topic homework is being shared this week, and our **class topic homework showcase will take place on Tuesday 15 December**. This is an opportunity for children to share what they've been working on with their classmates and celebrate each other's efforts.

Children in Need 2026



Our Children in Need Day was a fantastic success and a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together in support of an important cause. The children thoroughly

enjoyed taking part in our non-uniform day and showed great enthusiasm for helping to raise money for the charity.

A huge thank you to all our families for your generosity and support. Not only did the day raise valuable funds for Children in Need, but it also gave us an opportunity to talk with the children about the importance of helping others and making a positive difference in the wider community.

Dressing for the colder weather



As we move into the second half of the autumn term and the weather becomes more changeable, please ensure that all children bring a named coat to school each day. As temperatures begin to drop and the weather becomes more wintry, we also encourage children to bring a hat and gloves.

We would also like to remind families to name all of their children's belongings, as this helps us to reunite any lost items with their rightful owner.

As we move through the second half of the autumn term and the weather becomes more changeable, please ensure that all children bring a **named coat** to school each day. As temperatures drop and the weather becomes more wintry, we also encourage children to bring a hat and gloves to help keep them warm.

We would also like to remind families to **clearly name all their children's belongings**, as this makes it much easier for us to reunite lost items with their owners.

School Dinner Puddings – Clarifying Our Arrangements for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

Many parents will be aware that we have made changes to pudding choices for younger children at Crossdale, working with our caterers in response to government guidance encouraging less sugar and more fruit in children's diets.

As part of these changes, we have offered children in R, Y1 and Y2 a choice of fruit or yoghurt for pudding every day since September. This approach made practical sense as R, Y1 and Y2 share a lunchtime sitting.

In addition to responding to current guidance, our approach also reflects the direction of national policy, with updated School Food Standards expected to come into force in 2027. These new standards will apply to **all primary school pupils** and introduce tighter restrictions on sugary puddings and desserts, alongside a greater emphasis on healthier, more nutritious school meals.

Why has there been some confusion?

Although these arrangements have been in place since September, some traditional puddings were served to children in R, Y1 and Y2 on a small number of days following temporary staffing changes. This was not intended and understandably caused confusion for children, particularly when they were subsequently told that these puddings would no longer be available.

We apologise for this confusion and recognise that we could have communicated and managed these arrangements more effectively.

What happens next?

Children in R, Y1 and Y2 will continue to be offered a choice of fruit or yoghurt for pudding each day. We will review the arrangements for other year groups in the new year, taking account of the updated School Food Standards, and will communicate any changes to parents well in advance.

Consultation on School Admission Arrangements for 2028–29

Equals Trust is consulting on its proposed school admission arrangements for September 2028.

These arrangements explain how school places are allocated, including catchment areas, sibling priority and what happens when more children apply than there are places available.

There are no significant changes proposed to the admission priority criteria. The consultation includes a proposed reduction in places at Wadsworth Fields Primary School and the inclusion of Orston Primary School in the Trust-wide arrangements.

The consultation runs from 2 November to 21 December 2026, and parents and carers are welcome to share their views.

You can read both the consultation summary and the full proposed arrangements in the Admissions section of our school website.

Anyone wishing to comment can use the response form detailed in the consultation documents or email **enquiries@equalstrust.org** by 21 December 2026.

Working Together with Respect

At Crossdale, we value the positive relationships we have with our parents and carers. Working together, communicating openly and treating one another with kindness and respect are all important parts of making our school a safe, happy and welcoming place for everyone.

Recent Department for Education guidance and changes to employment law have reinforced the importance of protecting school staff from bullying, harassment and intimidation. In response, Equals Trust has introduced a **Respect Statement** across its schools, setting out some simple expectations for how we treat one another.

The statement asks everyone in our school community to communicate calmly and courteously, follow reasonable instructions from staff and respect the safety, privacy and dignity of others.

We recognise that there will sometimes be questions, concerns or differences of opinion. Parents and carers should always feel comfortable raising these with us. We are committed to listening carefully, responding fairly and working together to resolve any difficulties.

Equally, it is important that our staff can carry out their work without experiencing abusive, threatening, intimidating or harassing behaviour.

Our Respect Statement is not about changing the positive relationships we already enjoy with our families. It is about making our shared expectations clear and ensuring that everyone feels safe, valued and respected.

You can read the full Equals Trust Respect Statement below.

Thank you for continuing to help make Crossdale such a welcoming and supportive school community.

Equals Trust Respect Statement

Welcome to our school

We are committed to providing a safe, welcoming and respectful environment for our children, families, staff and visitors.

We ask everyone who enters our school to:

- Treat pupils, staff and other visitors with kindness, courtesy and respect.
- Communicate calmly and appropriately.
- Follow the reasonable instructions of school staff.
- Respect the safety, privacy and confidentiality of others.

We will not tolerate abusive, threatening, intimidating, discriminatory or harassing behaviour towards our staff or others.

If behaviour is inappropriate, we may ask an individual to leave the premises and, where necessary, take further proportionate action, including restricting access to the school or methods of communication.

Thank you for helping us keep our school a safe and respectful place for everyone.

Equals Trust

Please Park Considerately – A Message to Parents and Carers

We are once again asking parents and carers to think carefully about where they park when dropping off and collecting children from school.

A photograph was shared with us by one of our neighbours which shows a vehicle parked across their driveway, preventing them from getting their cars out. Unfortunately, this is not an isolated incident.

We receive complaints about inconsiderate parking around school almost every week. Some residents have repeatedly found their driveways blocked, despite politely asking drivers not to park there.

We understand that parking around school can be difficult, particularly at busy times. However, this does not excuse blocking driveways or causing difficulties for the people who live near our school.

There is also a wider impact. Every complaint requires school staff to spend time responding, speaking to those involved and trying to resolve situations over which we have very limited control. **This is valuable time that could be better spent supporting our children, developing teaching and learning, and improving our school.**

We ask all parents and carers to:

- Never park across someone's driveway, even for a few minutes.
- Park legally and considerately, keeping access clear for residents.
- Be respectful of our neighbours and the community around our school.
- Consider parking a little further away and walking the final part of the journey.

We want Crossdale to be a good neighbour and to be respected within our local community. We need everyone's cooperation to make that happen.

Please help us by making considerate parking a priority every day.

Sport



The boys' football team played Willow Brook Primary School in a tense local derby last Thursday. The boys started the game positively, taking the lead within the first few minutes, and continued to either lead or draw throughout the match. The game ended in a 4-4 draw; however, the boys showed great resilience, repeatedly battling back and responding to challenges after taking the lead on four separate occasions. Great job!



Safeguarding Tips for Parents and Carers



Safeguarding Tips for Parents and Carers

Staying Safe on Darker Journeys

With the darker mornings and evenings now upon us, and **Road Safety Week taking place from 15–21 November**, this is a good opportunity to remind children about staying safe when walking to and from school or travelling around their local area.

The shorter days and reduced visibility can make it harder for drivers to see pedestrians, particularly children.

A few simple reminders for families:

- **Be bright and be seen.** Bright or fluorescent clothing helps during daylight and dusk, but **reflective materials are particularly important after dark**, as they reflect vehicle headlights. Reflective strips on coats, bags or shoes can make a real difference.
- **Choose safer routes.** Encourage children to use well-lit pavements and pedestrian crossings wherever possible.
- **Stay alert near roads.** Remind older children to put phones away and remove headphones when crossing.

- **Practise safe crossings.** Younger children need close adult supervision, while older children benefit from practising familiar routes together before walking independently.
- **Take extra care around school.** Drivers should also slow down and remain particularly alert for children near crossings and school entrances.

These simple habits can help children become safer and more confident pedestrians as they grow in independence.

For further advice:

Child Accident Prevention Trust – Pedestrian Safety

Brake – Road Safety Week 2026

Rushcliffe Family Hub Network – Support for Local Families

Nottingham Family Hubs

Did you know that the **Rushcliffe Family Hub** offers much more than baby groups and play sessions?

Whether you have a new baby, younger children at home, children at school or a mixture of ages, the Family Hub offers a wide range of **free activities, practical advice and support** that could be useful to your family.

You don't need to be experiencing serious difficulties to get in touch. Sometimes a little advice or reassurance is all that's needed, while other families may benefit from more regular support.

What could the Family Hub help you with?

You might be surprised by the range of services available, including:

- **Babies and new parents** – breastfeeding support, baby self-weigh, feeding, weaning and baby development.
- **Sleep, behaviour and routines** – advice about managing everyday challenges with children of different ages.

- **Children's emotional wellbeing** – support with understanding and responding to children's needs.
- **Parenting and family life** – parenting programmes, one-to-one support and help with communication and relationships.
- **Money and wider family pressures** – help finding financial advice and other local services.
- **Meeting other families** – free Stay & Play sessions, Under 1s groups and other opportunities to meet parents and carers.
- **Additional or specialist support** – help finding the right services when families need more specific advice.

Coming up in Keyworth

The next **Family Hub Drop-In and Baby Self-Weigh** takes place at:

Keyworth Health Centre, NG12 5JU

- **Monday 9 November, 1.30–2.30pm**
- **Monday 14 December, 1.30–2.30pm**

These sessions are a convenient local opportunity to use the baby self-weigh facilities and speak to Family Hub staff.

Free groups and activities nearby

The Family Hub has published an updated timetable covering **2 November to 18 December 2026**.

Regular term-time activities include:

- **Bingham:** Under 1s Group on Tuesdays and Under 5s Stay & Play on Thursdays.
- **East Leake:** Under 5s Stay & Play and breastfeeding support on Tuesdays.
- **Cotgrave:** Crafts and Family Hub Drop-In on Mondays.
- **West Bridgford:** Breastfeeding support and baby self-weigh on Wednesdays, with **Under 5s Stay & Play now taking place on Thursday afternoons**.

There are also Family Hub drop-in and baby self-weigh opportunities at other venues across Rushcliffe.

Find out what is available to your family

Rather than listing every activity, we'd encourage parents and carers to explore the Family Hub information for themselves. You may discover a group, course or support service you didn't know existed.

Rushcliffe Family Hub, Bingham – Your Notts Directory

Find out about the services offered by the Bingham Family Hub, including support for parents and children.

Latest November–December timetable – Family Hub Network Rushcliffe

See the updated timetable for specific activities, locations, dates and times.

Nottinghamshire Family Hub Networks

Explore the wider range of family support and services available.

Need some advice or support?

You can contact the Family Hub directly. You don't need to be referred by school or another professional.

Rushcliffe Family Hub

Telephone: **0115 977 3749**

Email: **FHRushcliffe@nottscc.gov.uk**

If you're not sure whether the Family Hub can help, it's worth having a look at the information or getting in touch. There may be support available that you weren't aware of.

Please check the latest timetable before attending, as sessions can occasionally change.

Crossdale PTA Events - Crossdale Drive School - PTA Events and Updates (crossdaleschool.com)



Our amazing group of parents and teachers work together to support school life and fund exciting projects. Each year, we cover annual commitments of £6,000, and everything we raise beyond that goes towards special projects within the school.

Since last year, we've been raising and saving for our quad regeneration - and there's some exciting news about this project! Read on below to find out more.

We're always happy to welcome new parents and carers. Whether you can help at an event, support planning, or assist behind the scenes, any contribution makes a real difference to our school community.

Friends of Crossdale



We've signed up to **easyfundraising**, which means you can help raise money for our PTA simply by shopping online – at absolutely no extra cost to you!

Over 8,000 retailers, including many popular high-street brands, will make a free donation to Friends of Crossdale whenever you shop through easyfundraising. All you need to do is sign up for free and remember to use easyfundraising when you shop. The donations soon add up!

With Black Friday and Christmas shopping just around the corner, now is the perfect time to get started. Even better, **install the easyfundraising app this month and we'll receive an instant £2 donation from everyone thaylt does!**

It's really easy to get involved:

- Sign up for free to support Friends of Crossdale - https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friends-of-crossdale
- Download the easyfundraising app and follow the quick steps to get started - https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/easyfundraising-app/?causeId=436755

- Shop as normal through easyfundraising and retailers will donate to us, at no extra cost to you.

Please spread the word with family and friends too – every donation helps us provide extra resources, opportunities and experiences for the children at Crossdale.



This month's **Your School Lottery** Super Draw has a fantastic prize up for grabs:

A PS5 Pro 2TB gaming bundle, complete with disc drive, extra controller, PULSE headset and a 50-inch 4K TV!

There's also a £1,000 cash alternative if you'd prefer.

To be in with a chance of winning, make sure you have a Crossdale School Lottery ticket before Saturday 28th November.

Tickets cost just **£1 a week**, giving you the chance to win the £25,000 jackpot in the regular weekly draw, while helping our PTA raise funds for the children at Crossdale.

Why not join in – or share the link with family and friends. Every ticket helps!

Play the Crossdale School Lottery -
https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/crossdale-drive-primary-school



1 - Look at what's planned for the festive season at Crossdale! More information will follow about each of the events.

Well done to the children who have completed their stamp charts over the last couple of weeks:



Well done to all of the children who have completed their stamp charts over the past two weeks:

Kingfisher class:

Sparrow class: Henry, Heidi, Sofia

Robin class: Lily, Finn, Eliza, Theo, Henry, Archie D, Mickey

Puffin class: Alfi, Jacob, Eliza

Starling class: Jacob, Ethan, Maisie, Violet, Joshua, Izzy, Chelsey, Maddie, Connie, Iris, Ellie, Ivy, Reuben, Maddy, Henry, Edward, Izzy, Chelsey, Connie, Archer, Anna, Olivia, Iris

Penguin class: Sophie, Eliza, Alfie, Agatha, Tilly, Rio, Freddie, Isabella, Ishbel, Shyla, Joseph, Elijah, Ffion, Arabella, Jack, Freddie, Noah, Elsie, Mabel, Ivy, Lucy, Edward, Siena, Lacey, Sophie, Christopher, Tilly, Cash, Alice, Grace, Shyla, James C, Isabella, Alex

Owl class: Seth, Sophia, Daniel, Edith, Daisy, Martha, Albie, Simi, Nancy, Aaryan, Georgia, Declan

Roll of Honour!



Super Swimmer

Innys (yr3) achieved her 100m swimming badge over the October half term holiday. Well done Innys! So proud of you!

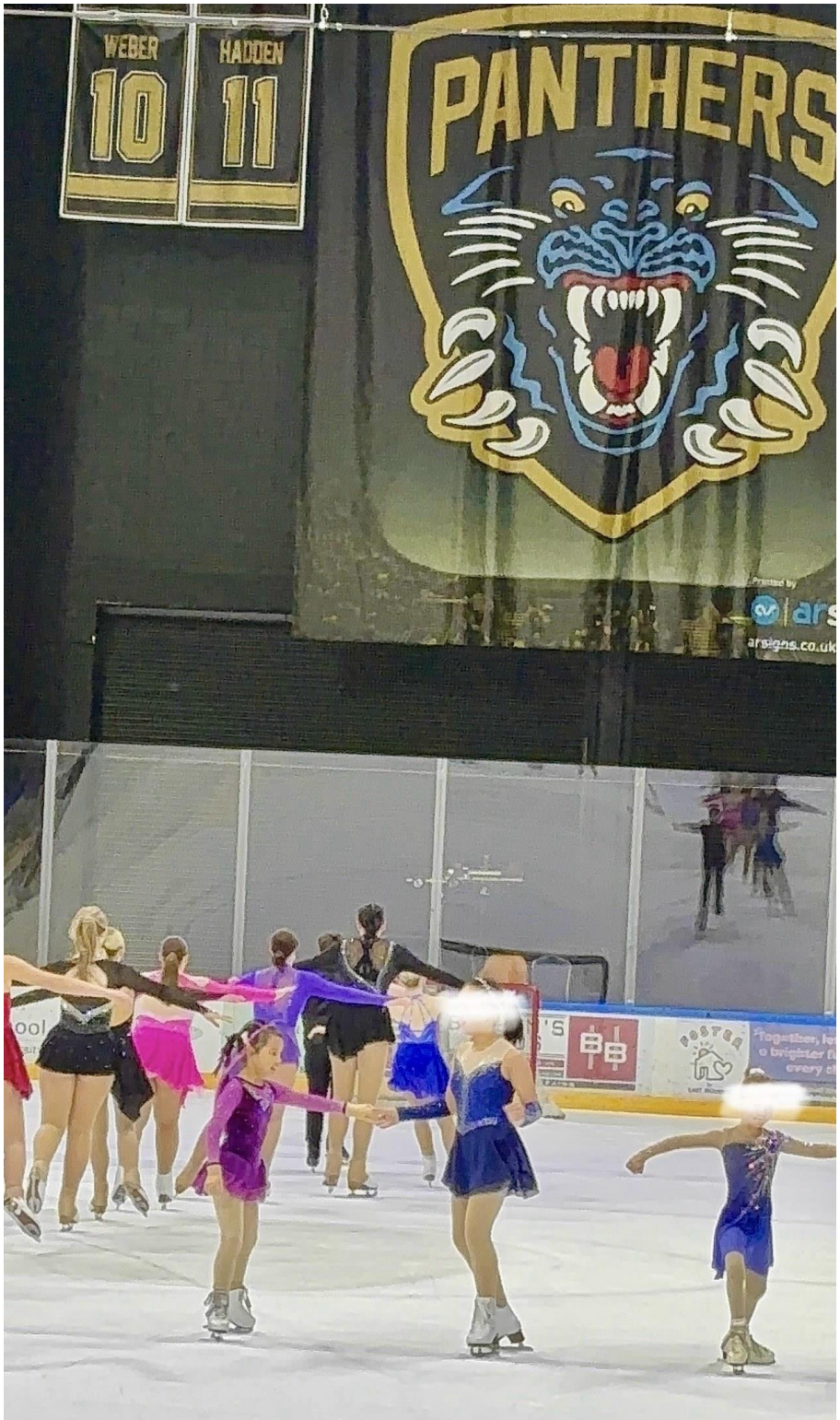
Congratulations Innys. This is a wonderful achievement! A big well done to you!

Ice Skating Showcase

Congratulations to Chelsey, who was invited to perform with Ice Cubs and Junior Skills during the first interval of the Nottingham Panthers game in Motorpoint Arena Nottingham. This was a fantastic opportunity to showcase her skating skills in front of a large audience!

What a wonderful opportunity, Chelsey! We hope you had a great time and didn't feel too nervous!





Swimming the distance!

We're very proud of Sophia from Year 2 who in the holidays achieved both her 100m and 200m Swimming distance badges!

Wow! A double achievement over the holidays! That's a super achievement and we hope you are very proud of yourself.



Swimming through the stages!

At the end of half term Ellie in Puffin class completed stage 6 swimming and has now moved up to stage 7. We are super proud of Ellie for always trying so hard in her swimming and listening to her instructor.

A big well done to you, Ellie - this is a fantastic achievement and we have no doubt you'll continue to succeed in your new group!



You can email contact@crossdale.notts.sch.uk to share any details and photographs of your child's achievements from out of school. We love to celebrate all the amazing things the children are doing! Please use *Roll of Honour* as the subject line.

(Please can we kindly ask that when sending in photographs, you consider blanking out surnames on any certificates and that when there are team photos, we assume that you have permission from the parents of all other children in the photo, to publish the photograph on our newsletter.)

Upcoming Events



KEY DATES

Clear-text version of the supplied image

Monday 19th October – Friday 30th October	Half Term
Monday 2nd November	Book bus visits school
Friday 6th November	PTA Choice Day – see information in the newsletter
Friday 13th November	Children in Need. Non-uniform – wear something yellow, spotty or Pudsey or Blush themed!
Monday 16th November	Parkgate Theatre visit for Y1 & Y2
Monday 16th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Friday 20th November	Individual and family photographs
Friday 27th November	PTA non-uniform day in exchange for chocolate for the tombola
Tuesday 1st December	PTA Christmas post box opens
Friday 4th December	Y3/4 Jingle Jog
Saturday 5th December	Keyworth Festivities Day – choir sing at 1:30pm
Wednesday 9th December	Christmas performance at 2pm and 5pm
Thursday 10th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 10th December	Christmas performance at 5pm
Friday 11th December	PTA Crossdale Christmas Cracker event
Wednesday 16th December	Christmas Lunch
Friday 18th December	Last day of term

Recreated from a low-resolution image. Please check against the original.

Please see the school calendar on the website for up-to-date information: Calendar - Crossdale Primary School

The term dates for the academic year can also be found on the website: School Holidays - Crossdale Primary School

School dinner menu



Please see our school dinner menus from our provider Taylor Shaw: School Dinner Menu - Crossdale Primary School

Menus for all year groups can be found by scrolling to the bottom of the page.

Please note that children in Reception and Y1 have a slightly different menu to the other year groups, due to government guidelines.

We are pleased to share our new *Spring/Summer 2026 School Dinner Menu*, will begin from Monday 13th April 2026 (Week 1).

The updated seasonal menu continues to offer a wide range of healthy, balanced meals, including:

- Freshly prepared hot meals across a three-week rotating menu
- Both meat and vegetarian/vegan options each day
- A daily selection of sandwiches, jacket potatoes, salad, fresh fruit and yoghurt
- Desserts designed to meet School Food Standards

We encourage parents to look through the menu with their child to help them choose the options they will enjoy. If your child has any dietary requirements or allergies, we will send their menu as soon as we receive it.

Contact Us



Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have a question or concern. Our teachers are on the playground before and after school most days and they are always happy to talk then or arrange an appointment for a longer chat.

If you need to email: contact@crossdale.notts.sch.uk

Crossdale Primary School

Crossdale Drive

Keyworth

Nottingham

NG12 5HP

Visit us on the web at our school website

