'Come as you are and leave at your best'

'We are a family, who learn how to flourish and then fly high.'



#### **Mrs Bennett's Blog**

#### **Thursday 4th September 2025**

Hi Everyone,

Welcome everyone to academic year 2025/26! It has been wonderful to see everyone bounding in through our gates this week ready to begin a brand-new year here at Crossflatts Primary School looking so smart in their fresh new uniforms! A special welcome to all of our new children and families, who are just beginning their very first days with us, we are so excited to welcome you into the Crossflatts family and see you fly!



#### **RAAC Update**

I am beyond thrilled to begin this year with our hall, gym and school kitchen all open and shining like new pennies, it was so lovely to have a school assembly on Tuesday and all be back together in the main hall! I

did have a few tears. We are also back to a full menu in the dining room and the food is really nice. I have tried a different meal every day this week and they are really tasty. The children are really enjoying sitting in the hall and having a lovely hot lunch again. There is a new system where the children click their name on an iPad at the counter (they all had this sorted in about 35 seconds) and this displays on the screen what has been ordered so the cook can see what has been chosen by their families and ensure they have their intended lunch. Therefore, it is really important that you do order your children's meals in advance of the week ahead so they can use the new system properly, as it does flash up that no order has been placed for your child's lunch.





It really feels like RAAC is now coming to the end and we are moving on to a new chapter. The building team are on site and now working really hard to complete the remedial works on the main reception, offices and staff room so we can hopefully return to those by October half term. Saying goodbye to the teal tin cabins will be an exciting day!



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#### **Attendance**

There are only **190 days** in our school year and it is vitally important that all the children attend school every day, in order to gain the very most they can from the learning opportunities we provide at Crossflatts Primary School. The national target for attendance is **96%** and we are aiming to be above that target this year. In order to do so, we will be monitoring absences very closely and we are encouraging all our children to aim for at least **96%** attendance over the course of the year. Of course, we are all unwell from time to time and if there is a rare occasion your child is unwell and unable to come to school, please can I request that you telephone the school office to inform us of your child's absence no later than 8.30am. Let's go big this year... **All day, every day, the Crossflatts Way!** 

#### Some whole school updates:



The children requested that they would really like it if on their birthday they can come to school in their own clothes as a special birthday treat, this has been granted. If your child's birthday falls at the weekend or during the holidays, they are welcome to come in their own clothes on the last Friday of the term or the Friday before their birthday weekend. The children were very excited for this little treat!

The children have also requested that at **the end of each half term**- they be able, as a class to select some activities that they would like to do and call this Free Day Friday. This could be craft, a mini disco, a movie, a toy day, a Dingley Dell day etc. The children were very clear that they feel everyone should be invited but if someone repeatedly makes wrong behaviour choices, after 3 strikes, they should not be rewarded with Free choice Friday. Behaviour at our school is excellent and our children have



settled beautifully back into the Crossflatts Way. Therefore, I know everyone will be joining in the Free Choice Friday. Naturally, we all have blips and these are treated as blips, we right the wrong and we move on. We are learning how to behave as we grow and develop. However, I do agree with the children that this is a reward for children following the Crossflatts Way, and this has been shared with all the children who felt this was fair and something to look forward to.

#### Secondary school open evenings

For our Year 6 children who will soon be commencing the process of considering which Secondary School they wish to move on to when they end their time with us next summer- Beckfoot open evening is being held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> of September 5.30pm-7.30pm and Bingley Grammar School's open evening is being held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 5.00pm-8.00pm.

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#### **Safeguarding**

Safeguarding our children is fundamental to all we do at Crossflatts Primary School and something we all take extremely seriously. As it is the beginning of a new term, I just wanted to remind you, who you can talk to should you ever have any concerns about any child in our school these are the people who will be able to help you immediately. We also have a 'safeguarding concern' button on our website where you can also report concerns.

### Designated Safeguarding Leads



Nicola Bennett – Headteacher



Rebecca Petrie - Deputy Head Teacher



Laura Barker - Assistant Head Teacher



Laura Reynolds – Assistant Head Teacher



Gemma Craven Jeffrey – Assistant Head Teacher



Jo Cattell – Learning Mentor



Olivia Dearden - Teacher



Rebecca Lee – Attendance and Family Champion

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September is about new beginnings, which is exciting but which can also feel wobbly. New classrooms, new teachers, new routines, uniform which feels strange and often shifting and changing friendships. It takes time for us all to settle into a new routine, so be kind to yourself and your children. September is exhausting just readjusting to new things and structures. Go back to the basics- plenty of rest, sleep, downtime away from devices and make the most of the sunlight in the outdoors as the evenings are beginning to draw in. Here's to a brand-new chapter.



**Best wishes** 

Mrs Bennett

Headteacher