

Mrs Bennett's Blog

Thursday 12th January 2023

Hi Everyone,

Happy New Year to everyone! I hope you all enjoyed the break and are now refreshed and energised for the Spring Term ahead which only has four weeks and one day left! It is going to be a speedy one with so much learning to achieve in the coming four weeks.

With the weather being colder now that we are in the depths of Winter, please ensure that your children bring appropriate hats, gloves, scarves and coats, which are labelled to ensure they are toasty when they are outside in the cold weather. We could see some snow over the coming weeks, at school we make every endeavour to remain open during adverse weather. However, it is important if the weather forecast predicts heavy snow, that all families regularly check their phones and our school website as, in the rare event that we have to close the school we will communicate this to you via text message and Class Dojo in the first instance and publish this on our website. It is never an easy decision to close our school but the health and safety of everyone must come first. We would of course inform you of any decisions at the earliest possible time in order for families to make any necessary arrangements. Obviously, we grit as quickly as we can during periods of ice and snow, gritting the main entrance and exit routes first. On occasions of severe ice and snow, we will only open the main gate to ensure everyone's safety. Let's hope the mild weather we have experienced so far continues.

Friends of Crossflatts

Happy New Year from Friends of Crossflatts! Our first of 2023 is on Friday 13th January at 9am in school. We welcome anyone from our school community to attend our monthly meetings. Just come along to the school reception and join us for a cuppa. We will be reviewing the Christmas Fair and planning events for the coming months. For those that may not be available to attend meetings in person we also hold Zoom meetings every second Wednesday of the month at 8pm. If you would like to attend, please contact friends@crossflatts.bradford.sch.uk.

On-line safety

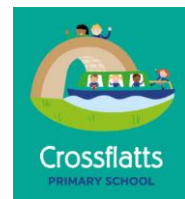
Since its release 2017, the battle-royale simulator – Fortnite, has become ubiquitous in classrooms and playgrounds throughout the world. The game, which features cartoonish renderings of characters, bright colours and non-visceral consequence free violence, has had a mass appeal to children.

Fortunately to allow for greater comprehension for families of what the game entails- Internetmatters.org has published a guide to understanding the game and its terms. You can find the link below:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/guidance/fortnite-battle-royal-parents-guide-keep-kids-safe-gaming>

Attendance

Regular attendance is crucial if our children are to achieve all they can in the next two terms. We understand that sometimes children do become ill and the best place for them to be is at home so they can recover quickly and return to school. There are only **21 days remaining in this half term** and then we will be half way through the academic year, every day really does count. As you are aware, we monitor attendance very closely, **if your child is too unwell to attend school, it is important that you telephone the school office by 8.30am to inform us of your child's absence.**



There have been several tragic cases in previous years, where schools had not chased up the reasons for a child's absence. It has then transpired that there have been tragic circumstances around these absences and the child was too young to raise the alarm and get help. Because of cases like the ones described above, it is statutory that all schools have at least 3 emergency contacts within their records for each child and practise the following protocol:

If we have not heard from you by 9.00am, then we will start to call all the contact numbers that you have provided in order to gain an explanation for the absence. If we still have not been able to ascertain where your child is, then we will make a home visit to ensure the family are all safe. Thank you for supporting school with reporting any absence as early as possible.

A date for your diaries:

Monday 6th of February and Tuesday 7th of February will be our Spring term parents evenings. Both of these will be held in person in school from **3.30pm- to 6pm**. The appointment system to book your slot to see your child's teacher will be **open from 6.30pm on Friday 20th of January**. Please click on the following link: <https://crossflatts.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Here's to a healthy, happy and exciting 2023, full of new possibilities, adventures and to making lots of new memories to treasure.

Kind regards

Mrs Bennett

Headteacher