## Mrs Bennett's Blog

## Thursday 16th June 2022

Hi Everyone,

In assembly on Monday we talked about how to keep ourselves safe in the sun. With the forecast really set to warm up over the next few days, please can you ensure your child comes to school with sun cream, sun hat, sunglasses and extra water. It is going to be hot hot hot tomorrow!

I am deep into planning for the next academic year now and I have been over the past week giving lots of thought to our drop off and pick up arrangements. We are a large school with 456 children and lots of families, who journey to and from our school twice a day. Whilst drop off and pick up is just a small fraction of our day as a school, it is important that all of our days begin in the best way possible for everyone.

From schools perspective, the current system in a morning has:

- Significantly eased the parking congestion on Morton Lane- pre pandemic it was extremely busy and congested causing fraught starts to the day for everyone struggling for parking spaces.
- Enabled us to line the children up at the start of the day with the 'drop and go' system which really does ensure that our children are very calm and ready to begin their learning immediately as they enter the classrooms and parents are able to 'drop and go' so they can also start their day.
- Made our safeguarding procedures even tighter that before. We know who is on our site at all times, we know our families really well, we know who belongs to who and if someone we don't know approaches our school, they are challenged very quickly. One of our core functions is to ensure every child is safe in our care.

From the recent parent survey and conversations I have had with some parents this week, many families really like the current system and wish for it to remain as we enter the next academic year in September. However, I also do understand the view point of some families, who really would like to come back into our playground to chat to other families and feel more physically connected to their children's teachers and classrooms during drop off and pick up. I am no longer running the school governed by Covid restrictions, therefore there is always space to tweak current arrangements as the needs of our school evolves and changes.

For example, we will be modifying the drop off for the new to reception in September so that those families new to our school can see where their child's classroom is rather than dropping at the gate immediately in September as we were forced to do last year. We are also planning on providing our current reception parents lots of 'Mingle Monday' afternoons in September to see what Year 1 looks like as they had no choice but to drop their child at the gate last year and we really want to provide those families with some time in school to see what their child does every day with us in their classrooms. Of course, we will also be back to regularly opening our doors to all of our families, once our reception and Year 1 are settled, so that all of our families can have the opportunity to see what school is like for their children and of course for our children to show off their amazing efforts in their learning.

I do therefore want to provide a final opportunity for any families, who might have missed the parent survey, to drop me an email should you wish to share your views on our current system and going forwards into the new academic year. My email is <u>Nicola.bennett@crossflatts.bradford.sch.uk</u>. Please can I request that you get in touch by Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> of June.



Preparations for Rose Day are well underway. I thought I should explain what Rose day is, especially for our parents who have not yet experienced one!

Rose Day began over 28 years ago, as a celebration to commemorate the old school building being open for 100 years. There were four classes in school; each performed a dance and the whole school paraded around Crossflatts in their finery. This was then repeated the following year and so the tradition began! As the years have gone by, Rose Day has grown into a celebration of friendship and our way of

saying goodbye to Year 6 each year. On Rose Day, families and friends of Crossflatts are invited to our Rose Day celebrations, which take place on the Key Stage 1 playground. The audience sit on the banking and we begin the ceremony by welcoming the Rose Day King and Queen. These are two children from Year 6, who arrive with our Nursery Attendants. Each class perform a dance and then our King and Queen pass on the commemorative Rose Day plate and a new rose bush to our Year 5, our new Year 6 in September.

After school, we continue our Rose Day celebrations, which are planned and organised by our PTA for months in advance. Everyone is welcome to this celebration and there are many fun activities for the whole family, along with refreshments, hotdogs, raffles, games, music, stalls and entertainments galore! It is a very special event on the Crossflatts calendar, which all members of the Crossflatts family really look forward to each and every year. Rose day is Thursday 14th July and our celebrations begin at 1.30pm and then recommence with lots of fun, stalls and entertainment at 4pm – 7pm. We are all very excited about our Rose Day this year after such a long pause. It is going to be fabulous!







## From The Friends of Crossflatts Primary:

The Friends of Crossflatts Primary School (PTA) are planning for their Rose Day evening event on Thursday 14th July 4-7pm and over the next few weeks will be sending out information on the event, asking for donations and looking for volunteers to help run the stalls. Everyone is welcome to this celebration and there are many fun activities for the whole family, along with refreshments, hotdogs, raffles, games, music, and entertainments galore! One of the stalls is the much loved Teddy Tombola and we need your cuddly toy donations. We'd love you to part with your furry friends, so please bring CLEAN AND WASHED teddy's into school clearly by Friday 1st July. This year as well as stalls run by our families and teaching staff we are inviting external stall holders to host a stall. So, if you are a business or know of a business and would like to join us it is £15 per table and a donation for our raffle. If you would like more information please contact us on friends@crossflatts.bradford.sch.uk

Enjoy the lovely weather!

Mrs Bennett Headteacher