

Our Vision and Values

'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 19th January 2023

Hi Everyone,

Hope you are able to get out and enjoy the sunshine even if it is quite cold at the minute. We are slowly walking towards spring, lighter mornings and some much needed Vitamin D.

I am sure you have seen in the press this week that there is pending strike action with some of the teaching unions, which is currently planned to take place on the 1st of February. As is stands, our teaching staff have taken the decision not to strike and school shall remain operationally normal for all of the children. I must add that whilst we are not striking, we are operating our school with the tightest of budgets I have ever seen in my entire career. The staff pay award the government granted to staff for this academic year was unfunded by the government and we have had no choice but to pay this from the main school budget. It has essentially emptied the school bank account and we have a very small amount of money remaining for any unforeseen circumstances (boiler, staff sickness, and urgent equipment repairs) which may arise until we are given our new budget at the end of March. School funding is my biggest concern as I begin the planning process for the next academic year and whilst we have so far been able to protect staff roles as the key priority in our financial planning, I am very concerned that we will be unable to continue to fund the current staffing model if there are no changes to our school funding. So please do email, tweet, Insta message and ask questions of your local MP's as we have to be heard as the funding we need is for our children's futures.

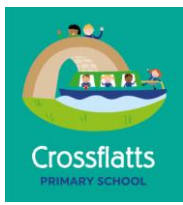
Polite Plea I have had sent to me from our local community:

I do think Brenda's message is very fair and in the best interests of all our children's safety. I understand in the cold and miserable winter weather, parents are eager to drop/collect their children quickly but we do have to make sure all of the children are able to enter and exit our school safely whilst respecting our neighbours and local community.

I must also request that if you drop at the main gate with me/Mrs Petrie/Mrs Dobson, unless your child has an individual arrangement for arriving at the big main gate due to additional needs, then all families are expected to line up with everyone else. I am responsible for ensuring the youngest 180 children in our school are handed over to their families safely. It can feel overwhelming when there are many families crowding in the staff car park and I struggle to be able to see which child has gone to which adult. The system is in place to keep everyone safe and I do ask that it is respected. I do my absolute best to dismiss the children as



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quickly as possible especially in these freezing temperatures so I appreciate your support in helping me by joining the queue.

Friends of Crossflatts

Friends of Crossflatts would like to say a big thank you to everyone that helped to make our Christmas events a great success. Thank you to all of the staff, volunteers and particularly the families that attended. Along with the Secret Santa shop we raised an incredible £1,227.85. (Christmas Fair, £728.95 & Santa Shop, £498.90)

The PTA raised the money for the bike track to school nearly 10 years ago, so to honour this legacy and help with the ongoing costs of maintaining the track the Friends of Crossflatts have donated £1500 towards keeping the track safe for everyone to use.

One of our stalls at the Christmas Fair was the Bottle Tombola which the children really enjoyed so we are planning on doing this stall again at another event. So, if anybody has any unwanted bottles following Christmas please can you drop them off at Reception.

Watch this space for future activities and if you would like to be involved with Friends, please email friends@crossflatts.bradford.sch.uk

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/>

Attendance:

Here are last week's figures:

Whole School: 95.4%

Our Aspirational Target	The national target	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
98%	97%	94.4%	95.2%	94.7%	95.6%	96.1%	96.8%	95.1%

Have a great week ahead everyone.

Kind regards

Mrs Bennett

Headteacher

Family-Flourish-Fly