

# High Crags News



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No. 71 Monday 11th September

## Last week

I would like to start by saying that we had an amazing week last week as the start of the Autumn term with all of the children looking so smart in their uniforms and settling quickly into the class routines and learning. My thanks go to the children, parents and staff for enabling this to happen.

Last week we also received the news about our Academy Sponsor, WCAT being removed and the schools involved being re-brokered.

I want to take this opportunity to reassure all of our children and parents that as a school we will ensure that this does not affect the quality of education we continue to provide or our determination as a school to continue to improve. Over the last 2 years we have so much to be proud of due to the dedication, enthusiasm and sheer hard work of all of our children and staff but we are not complacent about the fact that our journey to good and outstanding is still continuing.

The decision about our new sponsor will be made by the Department for Education based on their knowledge and understanding of the school and what it needs to secure further improvements and we now look forward to working with them. As a school we will keep you informed once we have information about the process and the who the new Trust is.

Thank you once again for such a positive start to the term.

## Attendance for last week:

Reception: 94.4%

Yr 1: 97.5%

Yr 2: 92.9%

Yr 3: 94.4%

Yr 4: 97%

Yr 5: 97.7%

Yr 6: 97.7%

Total: 96%

## Children with 100% attendance this half of term:

Reception: 45

Yr 1: 52

Yr 2: 48

Yr 3: 44

Yr 4: 52

Yr 5: 53

Yr 6: 49

Total: 343

**Well done to all of you who have achieved this.**

## Jeans for Genes

On Friday 22nd September we will be joining many other schools and organisations to raise money for Genetic Disorders UK who organise the Jeans for Genes day.

This group help disorder-specific charities and patient groups to deliver inspiring projects and support services for children affected by a genetic disorder in the UK.

The monies raised on Jeans for Genes Day provide grants for day-to-day support, equipment, nursing and patient support services, and events which bring together affected children and their families.

In order to raise money on the Friday we will be asking all of our pupils to come into school wearing jeans with their school polo shirt and sweatshirt and pay for the privilege (£2.00 suggested).

During the day we will be holding a cake and sweet sale with everything available for the cost of 50 pence. We will also be asking the children to donate any loose change that they can to fill a pair of jeans.

We hope that we will all have an amazing day finding out about the great things this organisation does and the people that they help. We also hope that we can raise as much money as we can to donate towards their future projects.



## Parent teacher meetings

On Monday 6th November we will be holding the first parent teacher meetings for this academic year. Individual times to meet the teachers will be sent home to all parents and the aim of this sessions is to discuss how each child has settled into their new class and to give you the opportunity to view the work that they have completed so far. Once again we look forward to seeing you all on the night.



## Assemblies

Following the success of this initiative last year we will continue with the arrangements for assemblies as detailed below.

### Class assemblies

Throughout the year we will be inviting parents in to school to attend a class assembly. During this assembly the children will show the audience including their parents what they have been learning in class.

### Celebration assemblies

This year we will be holding our celebration assemblies once a month on a Thursday. The assembly for Years 1 and 2 will be held at 14.45pm. and for Years 3,4,5 and 6 it will be held at 09.05am. As in the past the parents or carers of children receiving a certificate will be invited to attend.



## National Curriculum Tests

During the Summer term the children in Year 6, Year 1 and Year 2 undertake a variety of tests set by the UK Government. The Year 6 tests take place during the week beginning Monday 14th May whilst the children in Year 1 sit their phonic screening and the Year 2 children take their tests in the month of June.

The results of these national assessments are important to both the children and the school and we are inviting parents with children in these years to attend a meeting that will explain all about them on **Tuesday 12th September at 15.30**. We look forward to seeing you there.



## School Photographer

The school photographer is visiting to take individual photographs of the children on Friday 10th November.

This year, in order to avoid any disappointment every child in the school will have **an individual photograph** taken during the school day.

The photographer will be holding a family session after school on the same day between 3-15 and 4-15 in the Sports Hall for parents wishing to have photographs of siblings or family members together.

Children will be given a proof and each family can select the type of photograph pack they wish to have. This is then returned to the school with full payment in the envelope provided, and the photographs will arrive a few weeks later, but before Christmas. Please be aware that the office staff cannot handle money relating to photo orders, you must make sure you put the correct amount in the envelope.



## Coffee Morning and Afternoon tea

On Monday 18th September at 10am we will be holding a coffee morning for all parents to come and meet the Senior Leadership Team. This will give everyone the opportunity in a relaxed and informal setting to ask any questions they might have about the Academy.



We look forward to seeing as many parents there as possible.

## Years 4, 5 and 6 Residential Visits meeting

On Thursday 21st September we will be holding a meeting for parents to discuss the planned residential visits for children in Years 4, 5 and 6. The meeting will start at 15.30 and it will give parents information about the residential visits due to be held throughout the year and ask any questions that they might have.



We look forward to seeing as many parents there as possible.

## Reading and phonics meeting



On Wednesday 27th September at 18.00 we will be holding a meeting for all parents with children in our new FS2 (Reception) class to talk about how we teach reading and phonics in school. The evening will last for about 1 hour. For parents with young children we will offer a crèche so you can attend. Please let us know if you want to take advantage of this. We look forward to meeting as many parents there as possible.

## Harvest Assembly

On Monday 16th October we will be holding our Harvest assembly. During the assembly we will be talking to the children about Harvest and asking them to bring food to put in the hampers we will be donating to the local food bank. As a school we really appreciate your support for this very worthy cause.



## Halloween Disco

On Wednesday 18th October we will be holding our annual Halloween Disco for all children in Key stage 2.

More details will follow.

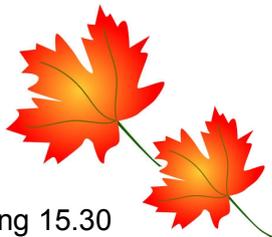


## Dates For Your Diary



### September

Tuesday 12th—National Curriculum Tests parents meeting 15.30  
Monday 18th—Parents coffee morning—10.00am  
Thursday 21st—Parents residential meeting—15.30  
Friday 22nd—Jeans for Genes day  
Wednesday 27th—FS2 parents reading and phonics meeting  
Thursday 29th—Celebration assembly—KS2 09.05 / KS1 14.45



### October

Friday 6th—Class assembly—Year 6 RS  
Monday 16th—Harvest assembly  
Wednesday 18th—KS2—Halloween disco  
Thursday 19th—Celebration assembly—KS2—09.05am / KS21-14.45pm  
Friday 20th—Class assembly—Year 6 HM—Last day of 1/2 term  
Monday 30th—Children start back to school.



### November

Friday 3rd—Class assembly—Year 5 BL  
Monday 6th—Parent teacher meetings  
Friday 10th—School Photographer  
Monday 13th—Anti-bullying week  
Friday 18th—Class assembly—Year 5 SN  
Monday 20th—Road safety awareness week / Festival theme starts  
Thursday 23rd—Celebration assembly KS2—09.05 / KS1—14.45  
Friday 24th—Christmas Fair—15.00  
Monday 27th—Christingle afternoon—14.00



### December

Wednesday 6th—Nursery production am / Celebration assembly KS2—09.05 / KS1—14.45  
Thursday 7th—FS2 (Reception) production pm  
Friday 8th—School Christmas Dinner  
Monday 11th—KS1 dress rehearsal  
Tuesday 12th—KS1 production pm / KS2 dress rehearsal  
Wednesday 13th—Ks2 production  
Thursday 14th—Christmas parties / KS2 visit Christmas market  
Friday 15th—Last day of term—children wear their own clothes £1 donation to charity.