



Crowmarsh Gifford C.E. Primary School

Old Reading Road, Crowmarsh-Gifford, Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 8EN | Tel/Fax: 01491 836785 | E-mail: office.3200@crowmarsh-gifford.oxon.sch.uk

"Working in Partnership for Success" Faith ~ Service ~ Integrity ~ Responsibility ~ Truth ~ Excellence

Week 1

Term 4

January 11th, 2018

Carol Dweck's Latest Thoughts...

(Part 5 - Taken from Muncaster and Clarke, 2016 – Growth Mindset) In late 2015, Dweck wrote an article airing some of her observations and concerns about the implementation of the growth mindset. She wrote:

- 1) A growth mindset isn't just about effort. Students need to try new strategies and seek input from others when they're stuck – a repertoire of strategies
- 2) Don't praise effort if no learning has happened. Say, "Let's talk about what you've tried and what you can try next."
- 3) The growth mindset was intended to close the achievement gaps, not hide them, so don't tell them everyone is smart or that just putting in effort is enough.

- 4) Don't use the fixed mindset to blame children.
- 5) Don't just talk about the growth mindset – your words and actions must follow. If you react to mistakes as though they are problems rather than helpful, students will develop fixed mindsets.
- 6) Acknowledge fixed mindset feelings and work with and through them.

'Mindsets revisited', Education Week, September 23, 2015. Published online.

Open Afternoon

Just to let you know that the first long open afternoon for this term is on Wednesday January 31st from 3:15 until 5:00. This is a chance to see your children's books, ask focused learning questions and discuss anything with the class teacher. We hope that you will be able to join us. Further, for your diaries, we will be having our next parent/child consultations during the week of February 28th. We hope that by making these conversations sooner, we will be able to keep parents fully involved with the progress their children are making and how to help at home. It was clear from parent feedback that the style we adopted was clearly a positive change, so we will keep it similar again this time.

On March 7th we will have another short open afternoon for parents to see their children's books until 3:45 with a final long afternoon on Wednesday March 28th until 5:00 to finish the term.

Mathematics Teaching

We invite all parents to come and hear all about how we teach maths in school. We welcome Steve Lomax who will share the principles of mastery, mindset and approaches/expectations to calculation. The session will be on Wednesday February 7th at 6:00 p.m. Please come along and be inspired!

What do we mean by being 'brave' in your learning?

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Monday: Run Club 8:00

Tuesday: Multi-skills to 4:15

Wednesday: Football to 4:15

Thursday:

Basketball to 4:15

Choir to 4:00

Friday: No Clubs

Christingle

A reminder that our annual Christingle will be on Friday January 19th at St Mary Magdalene Church. KS1 will start at 1:30 and KS2 will begin at 2:15. Parents are welcome to attend, but there is very limited seating.

Valentines Reading Morning

Don't forget our next reading morning on Wednesday February 7th at 8:00 a.m in the hall. Come and join your children reading with coffee and cakes!

Attendance

Throughout last year we continued to inform you of the changes to attendance and drew your attention on a number of occasions, to our newly updated Attendance Policy. In school it is our duty to monitor children whose absence levels fall below 90%. Children's percentages are looked at every big term and where a child has fallen below this, our policy, in line with The Education Act 1996, classes this as 'persistent absenteeism'. Clearly, there are many reasons why children may miss school. As a school, we may authorise absences for exceptional circumstances. In the first instance, where a child's attendance falls below this percentage within a term, you will receive a letter to inform you of this. We may notify you if your percentage is very near the 90% mark as well, just to keep you informed. However, where we are concerned about a child's attendance, we will always contact the parents and set up a meeting to discuss actions that can be taken to help improve their child's attendance. In this case, where follow up action is taken and attendance does not improve, we may have to issue a penalty notice. Just remember when deciding whether to keep

Did you know that in every class children have a '5 Point Plan'? In Foundation it is known as the '4 B's'. Children use these steps when they get stuck. It helps to develop children as independent learners which is all a part of our Purple Learning ethos. Ask your children about it and see what they say.

your child at home, that all absence at any stage leads to gaps in your child's learning. Thank you for your support.

Unicef Rights Rights Respecting School

As many of you know, Crowmarsh aims to be a school where children's rights are at the heart of our ethos and culture, to improve well-being and to develop every child's talents and abilities to their full potential. As part of this plan we are now working towards recognition as a 'Rights Respecting School', an award given to schools on behalf of Unicef UK. We have discussed and talked about children's rights for the past few years with the children, so this journey is well underway. Unicef is the world's leading organisation working for children and young people and their rights. In 1989, governments across the world agreed that all children have the same rights by adopting the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). These rights are based on what a child needs to survive, grow, participate and fulfil their potential. Crowmarsh pupils learn about their rights by putting them into practice every day. A Rights Respecting School models rights

and respect in all its relationships.

We really hope that you continue to support our school on our journey towards becoming a Unicef UK Rights Respecting School. It would be great if you could spend a few minutes reading through our questions & answers on the back of this letter, and also find a bit more about the Convention on the Rights of the Child by visiting unicef.org.uk/crc.

Frequently asked questions are attached to the newsletter. For further information about Rights Respecting Schools please visit: www.unicef.org.uk/rrsa

Sports News

Netball

We are going to be running a netball tournament at Crowmarsh recreation ground on Wednesday 24th January after school for any children in Years 4, 5 and 6. If your son/daughter would like to play they would benefit from attending the club on Wednesday lunchtime from 12.00 – 12.30. Forms will be sent out next week.

Run Club

Run Club starts again this coming Monday 15th January at 8am. If your son or daughter would like to attend, please just come along.

Social Netball for Adults

Mrs Hermsen is organizing some social netball sessions at the netball courts at Crowmarsh recreation ground on Wednesday evenings between 7 and 9pm. If you are interested, please let the school office know.

Basketball Club

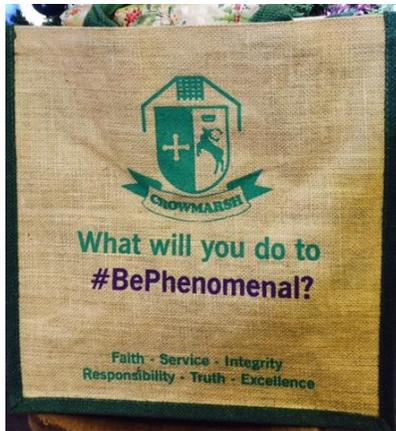
Basketball Club will be running on Thursdays for KS2 pupils, starting on 18th January and finishing on Thursday 22nd March. Please complete the attached form if your child would like to participate.

PTA News

There will be a disco for pupils on Thursday 8th February, run by Fizzical Disco. Further information will follow nearer the time but put the date in your diary now!

Crowmarsh Shopping Bags

Our canvas shopping bags are on sale from the school office, price £7.00. Please see the photo below or have a look at the sample in the office.



Primary School Admissions Deadline

A reminder that the deadline for applications for reception class admissions in September 2018 is Monday 15th January. Apply at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/admissions.

Curriculum Newsletters

By the end of next week you will receive in your child's book bag a class newsletter. These will also be available on the school website. If you have any questions about the curriculum please speak to your child's teacher on our open afternoon on 31st January.

School Meals

May we remind parents that payment for school meals must be made in advance please, either using the on-line system 'School Money' or by cash or cheque payable to OCC. NB It is not possible to pay on the day via School Money.

Community News

We are happy to include community items when space permits but readers should be aware that events and activities advertised have not been researched by the school.

Community Café

This month sees the launch of the 'Crowmarsh Community Café' on Saturday 13th, a new venture to bring our community together. Initially, this will be once a month on the second Saturday of each month from 10.00 to 12 noon at the Village Hall and refreshments will be available (tea, coffee, cake) as well as a warm welcome and hopefully a good natter.

February Half Term Cricket Camp

A Cricket Camp will be running during February Half Term, run by Dan Housego. For more information visit <https://www.danhousegocricketcoaching.com/booking-form>.