

Church Crookham News

"Achievement By All"

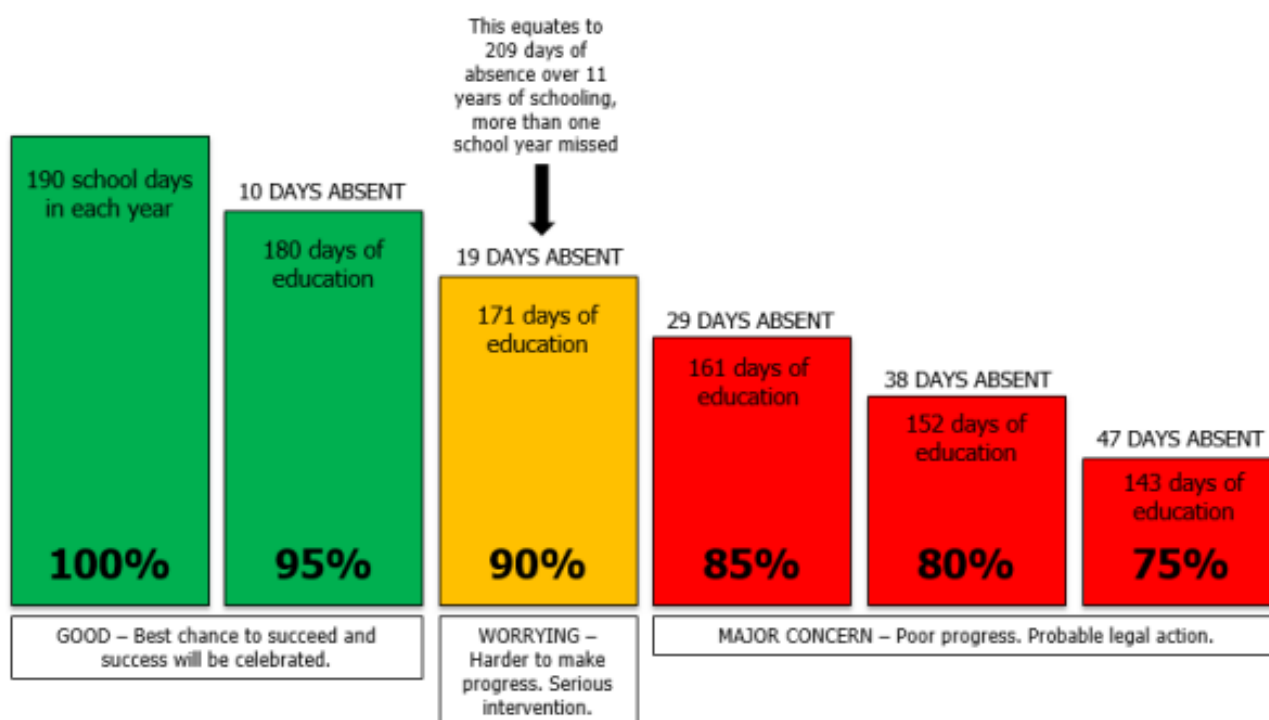
We have really enjoyed hosting cross-country events at Crookham Park over the past two weeks. It's been wonderful to see children race around the running track at Crookham Park and enjoy competing against their peers in this friendly event for all year groups and all children. Well done to everyone who has taken part, to parents who supported and the staff who gave up their time after school to host the event.

Equipment and Toys in School

Thank you to many of you for working with us to ensure that your child brings in the minimal equipment to school and for them not to bring in toys from home. It has helped considerably for children to be more focussed on their learning and not on items they have brought from home. Please do continue to remind your child that they should be leaving toys at home.

Attendance

You will already know the importance of school attendance. 95% attendance over an academic year is an acceptable level of attendance for a child's progress not to be adversely affected. A 90% attendance rate results in 19 days of lost education, with 29 days being lost at 85% and 80% being the equivalent of half a term of learning being missed. The graph below helps to illustrate this.



With this in mind we encourage your child to attend everyday unless your child is clearly unwell. It is also for this reason that we are unable to authorise holidays during term time.

The Big Ambition Survey

The Children's Commissioner for England has recently launched 'The Big Ambition' to hear directly from children, young people, and parents across the country. This is an opportunity to hear from all children, in every part of the country and in every setting. The survey will be used to encourage policymakers to think about children and young people's needs, to ensure children's voices are reflected in the decisions that will affect them in years to come.

To find out more head to [The Big Ambition page](https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition). To take part in The Big Ambition survey visit: www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition.

Safety

As parents and carers, you know your local streets and also the dark alleys which you might avoid at night. The online world should be treated in just the same way. Understanding how spaces in the online world are connected, which are risk, and how they could affect your family can be just as important as knowing which places are safe and unsafe for your child. Being streetwise to digital risks can help you to have some good habits, as follows:

1. **Track your child's time** – Screen time itself isn't necessarily bad. It is about what your child is doing. Try tracking time, so you or your child don't get distracted from why your child is using an online device.
2. **Age Ratings** – Knowing age ratings of games or apps will have you feeling more in control of the spaces they're using. Social Media apps all tend to have an age rating of 13+years. For games you could have a look at the **PEGI rating** and see if it sounds appropriate. Also think carefully about your child – not all children are the same and some children who are less mature may find it harder to manage. As you know children at Junior age should not be playing games or having access apps which are not age appropriate.
3. **Share how you use online Devices** – spending time talking to your child about their games, online apps and what they enjoy is a really good way to have discussions about online behaviour and helps your child to share their understanding too.

At school we continue to help children to learn about the online world and strategies for helping children to keep themselves safe. There's some good resources which you may wish to use at home at <https://www.parents.parentzone.org.uk/download> to help reinforce messages from school.

Measles/MMR

Measles cases are rising across the country, with over 102,000 children starting primary school in England being at risk of catching the disease. Measles is highly infectious and if left unvaccinated nine out of ten children in a classroom can catch the disease if just one child is infectious. Please do check that your child is up-to-date with their MMR vaccinations and encourage any parents you know to get their children vaccinated, if they haven't.

For adults too it is never too late to catch up on any missed MMR vaccinations, do contact your GP practice to book an appointment.



Walktober

It's been good to see so many of the children walking to school regularly this month as part of Walktober. It's not too late to sign up, if you haven't it's not too late! Visit myjourneyhampshire.com/walktober to complete the challenge and take part in the weekly challenges. At the end of Walktober you can enter your child's Challenge Card into a prize draw!



Thursday 12th October 9-10am

We have our 'Big Emotions' event on Thursday 12th October 9-10am in the main school hall. All parents and carers are welcome to attend. All children experience 'Big Emotions' and it's an ideal time to come along learn more and reflect upon your own child. Please do join us.



PTA Firework Extravaganza

Our PTA Firework Evening takes place from 6.30pm on Thursday 19th October. Tickets can be purchased on the door or, at a reduced rate, ahead of the event by going to www.pta-events.co.uk/ccjs

Please do contact our PTA via their email which is crookhamjuniorspta@gmail.com if you are able to give any support to help with this event.



Harvest Breakfast

The dates for Harvest Breakfasts are:

Monday 9th October Year 6, 3NC & 3BP

Tuesday 10th October Year 5 & 3MP

Wednesday 11th October Year 4, 3LR & 3MS

We are also asking for a donation of £1, to be brought in on the day of your child's harvest breakfast to see if we can 'twin' our toilet and help improve sanitation for families who do not have access to a clean toilet.



... and finally....

At the end of this term, we will be saying a sad farewell to Mrs Trish Smith, who will be starting a new role at Calthorpe Park School in the Pastoral Team. Trish has been at CCJS for 13 years and, she is probably best known for her role as an ELSA. She has supported countless children over the years she has been with us and we wish her well as she moves to her next challenge.

Kind regards,

P. Meek

Pam Meek