

CROMWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Cromwell Learning Community Multi Academy Trust

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8th September 2025

Autumn Term Newsletter

Dear Parent / Carers,
Welcome back - we hope you enjoyed the summer break.

Uniform & P.E Kits

The children all looked very smart in their **uniforms** when they arrived on Wednesday – thank you - and the behaviour throughout the day was excellent. It is important **P.E kits** are now in school. Please ensure they are returned in the blue drawstring P.E bag provided. Could you please make sure that you 'name' all items of your child's uniform and P.E kit too, so that we can make sure any lost property is returned to you / your child. This is so important when so many of our families are struggling financially.

Staffing

We have welcomed Ms Robinson to the Reception class this term, and Miss Sultana has joined us in Yr.5 while Ms Roberts is on maternity leave. New staff will be part of the Expectations Meetings timetabled to take place over the next two weeks and we hope you will come along to meet them. At these meetings you will also be able to develop an understanding of the year group's curriculum and age-related expectations. If the school is to secure the best outcomes for your child it is important parents attend, and positive home school relationships are established.

Attendance

Attendance remains high focus and in the last few days the media has highlighted that **every day at school counts**. The evidence is clear - even a few days of missed school can have a significant impact on a child's education and future prospects and recent research by the Department for Education shows just how closely attendance and attainment are linked.

At primary school, children who attend school nearly every day in Year 6 (95-100% attendance) are 30% more likely to reach the expected standard in reading, writing and maths compared to similar pupils who attend 90-95% of the time.

Bridget Phillipson, the education secretary, has warned parents of the dangers of poor attendance at the start of the school year. She told BBC Breakfast: "What we know is, if children miss a day or two in the first couple of weeks of term, they're more likely to go on to be persistently absent." She went on to say that parents had to pull together with schools and government to get their children "off to a good start".

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025 makes the government's "Working together to improve school attendance" guidance **statutory**, which means all schools must adhere to it from September 2025. As such, the CLC MAT will continue to report daily attendance and follow legal requirements on admission registers and penalty notices for unauthorised absences of 10 sessions or more over a 10-week period.

As a parent or carer, you have an important role in making school attendance a priority. Only keep your child off school when they are genuinely too ill to attend. Book medical appointments and holidays outside of school time whenever possible and talk to the school if you're having any difficulties with attendance.

Wellbeing Sessions and Educational Visits

During the Autumn Term all children in KS1 and KS2 will engage in wellbeing sessions. There's a strong link between wellbeing and academic success, but it is also a significant factor in higher attendance rates. It is hoped our wellbeing sessions this term will motivate our children and encourage them to attend on a daily basis.



<https://cromwell.eschools.co.uk/>



@cromwellprimary





Our younger children in Yrs. 1 and 2 can look forward to forest school and the bouncy castle, as well as group games, while those in **Yrs. 3 and 4 will visit Caldicotts' Orchard** to connect with nature, and experience learning beyond the classroom. Look out for the bags of apples that they will be bringing home to share with the family!

Yrs. 5 and 6 will travel to free@last and take on the challenge of the climbing wall which provides physical, mental and social benefits for children.



Where involved in off site visits the children will travel in small groups on the school minibus with identified adults / qualified first aiders. All activities will be within the school day and have been timetabled to take place Tuesday to Thursday over the next few weeks.

On 16th October our Yr.1 children will also have a fantastic opportunity to visit the Black Country Living Museum.



Acting as a stimulus for their non-core lessons they will be able to develop their history skills through an awareness of the past, and in this instance, how homes and lifestyles have changed over time. We will send further details very soon.

"This Museum has been named England's best – and rightly so" – The Telegraph

Yr. 4 will then have the excitement of Wollaton Hall in Nottingham, on 8th October, to explore life in Ancient Greece, hear more of its myths and legends and create their own Greek theatre masks!



Yr.3 – School lunches and Preferred Options

Please remember that **Yr.2 pupils who have transferred to Yr.3 are no longer entitled to a universal free school meal**. Parents will need to identify whether they wish to purchase a hot meal (Monday – Thursday), at a cost of £2.50 a day, or alternatively provide a healthy packed lunch for your child. You can always check whether your child is entitled to a free school meal by logging on to: <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/birmingham> however meals taken, with no eligibility, will be charged from the beginning of term.

In terms of school lunches, all parents must commit to the preferred meal option on a half termly basis (which will be the minimum time period) and notify Admin. staff verbally, or in writing, of any changes for the next half term.

Yr.6 & Rec. – Application for Secondary / Primary School

The **application period for secondary school places in Birmingham for September 2025 is from September 1st 2025 to October 31st 2025**. Applications received after this date will be considered late and applicants may have a lower chance of being offered a place at their preferred schools. Full details including admission arrangements and guidance to help parents when making preferences are available on the Birmingham City Council's website. All applications are online, but should you need any help please see a member of the Admin. Team.

Dates for the academic year 2025 – 2026

Autumn Term 2025

Term starts: Wednesday 3rd September 2025

Half term: Monday 27th October 2025 to Friday 31st October 2025

Term Ends: Friday 19th December 2025

Spring Term 2026

Term starts: Monday 5th January 2026

Half term: Monday 16th February 2026 to Friday 20th February 2026

Term ends: Friday 27th March 2026

Summer Term 2026

Term starts: Monday 13th April 2026

Half Term: Monday 25th May 2026 to Friday 29th May 2026

Term ends: Friday 17th July 2026

We look forward to working with all our families again this year to ensure the very best outcomes for all.

Yours sincerely,

Rubina Darr

R.Darr (Mrs)

Snr. Executive Leader