

Dear Parents and Carers,

From the Acting Headteacher

January can feel like a long, wet stretch for everyone. Dark mornings, muddy shoes and cold playgrounds can make even the shortest weeks seem endless. But each day in school, our children remind us that joy doesn't disappear just because the weather turns grey.

Whether it's laughter echoing across the playground, pride in a piece of work well done, or the excitement of learning something new, our pupils bring energy and optimism with them every morning. Their curiosity, resilience and ability to find delight in small moments brighten even the gloomiest days.

Visitors to our school have commented on our children's marvellous manners and what a warm welcome they receive at Crockerne.

OPAL Play



As you aware, OPAL play is active throughout the school and continues to prove to be a huge success with our Children. Please be reminded that we play outside in all weather, so it is important that your child brings wellies, coats and waterproofs to school every day.

Year 1 Phonics Meeting

Thank you to all Year 1 parents who attended our Phonics Screening Check Meeting with Mrs Hawker yesterday. The presentation covered key information about the screening check, when it will take place and how to support your child with this. If you were unable to attend the meeting but would like further information, please speak to the class teachers.

Book Week – 2nd to 6th March

In conjunction with the National Year of Reading, we will be participating in Book Week at the start of March. Every day will see new challenges/activities and we will also be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 5th March – more information to follow.

Upcoming PTA Events:

Friends of Crockerne PTA will be offering a variety of exciting events this year, including:

'Cronka Bar'...find a golden ticket to win prizes!

KS2 Trip to the Bristol Old Vic – April 2026.

KS1 Trip to the Redgrave Theatre – June 2026

Full details to follow!

Bags 2 school

Bags to School is back! This is free fundraising scheme organised by Friends of Crockerne using resources that everyone has in their wardrobes! If you have any unwanted clothes/shoes/bedding etc, please bag them up and drop them to the collection point at 5 Westward Drive, Pill, BS20 0JW. Bags may be dropped from Friday 24th January, until 9am on Monday 26th January 2026. Please see our recent communication for a full list of collected items.

Shine Holiday Clubs

Our After School Club provider, Shine, will be running Holiday Clubs in Portishead during the February break. Suitable for children from Reception to Year 6, standard days run from 9am to 3.30pm with early & late hours available, if required.

Activities offered range from Football Fundays, Mega Mash Up, Forest Adventure, Gymnastics and Cheerleading, Play in a Day; Wicked!, Basketball Workshop and Netball Half Days

Book before 8th February 2026 to receive 20% off! Use the code Early Booker. Please see their website at [Shine Holiday Clubs](#) for more information and available sessions.

Upcoming Church Events

Sunday 25 th January	10:30 Holy Communion at Christ Church (no mistake!) 10:30 Holy Communion at St Mary 18:00 Evensong at St George
Tuesday 27 th January	19:30 Home Group at Jo Hawker's
Wednesday 28 th January	10:00 - 13:00 Open House at St Mary 17:00 St Mary's PCC meeting
Thursday 29 th January	9:00 Morning Prayer at St George 15:00 LWAs meeting at Christ Church 18:00 Meditation followed by a meal at Christ Church.
Sunday 1 st February	Candlemas 10:30 Morning Worship at Christ Church 10:30 Holy Communion at St George 10:30 Morning Worship at St Mary

Polite reminders and useful information:

- Reminder: Children are parents' responsibility from the time we hand over at the end of the day. Please do not allow children to play on any equipment before and after school.
- **Safeguarding:** should you wish for your child to be collected from school by another adult. You must notify the office no later than **2:30pm** on the day. We cannot allow anyone to collect a child without their parent's permission.
- We ask that **no mobile phones** are used or seen by adults or children whilst on school premises, at any time.
- Please remember that Crockerne C of E Primary School has a **no nuts** policy.
- All children in Reception, year 1 and year 2 are entitled to a free school meal as part of the Universal Free School Meal campaign.
- **If you claim qualifying benefits your older child may be entitled to Free School Meals. Please follow the link to see if you are entitled.**
https://ems.n-somerset.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE/en
- Breakfast club is available daily from 7.30am and must be pre-booked on
<https://app.parentpay.com/>
- After School Club is ran by My Shine from 3:15pm – 6:00pm All information for this is found directly with My Shine. Visit <https://myshine.co.uk>
- **Westward Drive** is now a **School Street** which is a road where a school temporarily closes to become a pedestrian and cycle zone during the school's opening and closing times.
The School Street operational times on Westward Drive are 8.30 - 9.30 am & 3.00 - 4.00 pm.

Dates for diaries and INSET days 2026

Term 3 Tuesday 6th January 2026 to Thursday 12th February 2026

Watercress Farm Class Visits – February 2026

Mon 2nd Feb, Hawthorn Class

Tues 10th Feb, Chestnut Class

Wed 11th Feb, Willow Class

Tues 12th Feb, Holly Class

Mon 2nd – Fri 5th March – World Book Week

Mon 11th – Fri 15th May, Y6 SAT's week

Inset Days

Friday 13th February 2026

Mrs Rees – Acting Headteacher

Mrs Bray – Headteacher

Mrs Crutchley – Assistant Headteacher

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