



Dear Parents and Carers,

From the Headteacher

Welcome back to the new academic year! It's been wonderful to see all of our children in school this week, feeling so happy and positive about the new changes to lunchtimes. Children have been telling us each day, "It is the best day ever!" Read more about our commitment to improving children's health and wellbeing through OPAL play below.

Thank you to all of our families for supporting us with our uniform standards as the children look really smart and ready to learn. A copy of our uniform standards can be found on our website at: <https://www.crockerne.co.uk/uniform-information/>

There has also been an impressively high standard of behaviour this week, as children have focused on our school rules, to 'be ready, be respectful and be safe.' We look forward to all of the 'gem powers' they will earn as they display amazing behaviour for learning as kind and considerate friends at Crockerne. You can read more about our Learning Gems on our website: <https://www.crockerne.co.uk/learning-gems/>

Meet the Teacher

Families of children in Years 1-6 are invited to meet their child's new teacher after school on Wednesday 11th September. Please meet at the following locations for a 3.20pm start:

Year 1/2 – In your child's assigned classroom

Year 3/4 – In Hawthorn classroom – Charterhouse meeting for Year 4's straight after

Year 5/6 – In Cherry classroom

Charterhouse Y4 Camp 1st – 3rd October 2025 (meeting in Hawthorn class Weds 11th Sep after meet the teacher)

We will be holding a meeting regarding Charterhouse Residential Camp, straight after the meet the teacher sessions. If your child is enrolled in camp, please attend for information on the venue, activities and kit list, and so we may answer any questions or concerns that you may have.

Attendance

We will shortly be emailing information to you regarding attendance. Please read this carefully, as they contain very important changes recently announced by the government.

Punctuality

Registers are called at the very beginning of the day at 08.50 and school ends at 3.15pm. Our main gates are open between 08:40 and 08:50. Legally, all registers must close 30 minutes after opening and so any pupils who arrive at school after 09.20 will be recorded as unauthorised. If a child has 10 unauthorised absences, then parents will receive a penalty notice.

Please speak to a member of our pastoral team if your child is regularly late to school, so we can work together to ensure that no learning is missed.

Late pick ups

Parents are required to collect their children, on time, at 3.15pm. Afterschool club is regularly full and SHINE cannot accept pupils as a provision for lateness.

New School Office Opening Times 08:40 – 4:00pm

We have extended our after school office hours to support families with enquiries so our office admin team are now available until 4pm.

Healthy School Morning Snacks

Please only provide health snacks for your child at morning break. Children are encouraged to bring either fruit or low sugar cereal bars – please do not send chocolate bars or cakes.

Drinks in water bottles should be water only, which is refillable at school, is required. Please do not send children in with squash.

Swift Kitchen

Swift Kitchen provide the catering services to the schools across the Kaleidoscope Multi Academy Trust. Swift Kitchen is dedicated to creating menus which are nutritional, varied and representative of our pupil population and the menus feature a broad selection of meal options, including vegetarian and vegan choices, school meal favourites as well as meals inspired by different cultures.

Free School Meals

You may be eligible for Free School Meals for your child(ren)

Registering for Free School Meals is a Quick and Easy Process

You can apply online by visiting: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>. If you are unable to complete the form online, please visit the school office, and a member of our office team will provide you with the necessary support. Please be assured that your application will be treated with the utmost confidentiality, and it will not affect any other benefits you may be receiving. If you have any questions, concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

School aged immunisations

Sirona Care & health are commissioned by the NHS to deliver the national school-aged immunisation programmes across Bristol, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset. They deliver various vaccinations, including childhood flu, Meningococcal ACWY, Diphtheria, tetanus and polio boosters. Please contact them for more information at Sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net, or on 0300 124 5515.

Absence

Please phone the school office by 09:00 to report your child's absence with a clear reason, as 'unwell' is considered too vague by Education Welfare officers.

Polite language

Swearing and impolite language on the school site is unwelcome. Please be mindful of the children in our care.

Mobile Phones

Please be reminded that adults and children must not be use phones whilst on the school grounds.

Lunchtimes are changing and Opal is here!

This week we made some changes to our lunchtimes as we launched Opal at Crockerne. Opal is our exciting new project to make our playtimes even better, in conjunction with Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) CIC. In 2018, OPAL won the best active schools' programme in Europe award and has been cited in two parliamentary reports as delivering outstanding practice. OPAL is working closely with Sport England to promote more active childhoods, which is one of the many reasons we are improving our playtime, as well as to improve opportunities for socialisation, cooperation, coordination, resilience, creativity, imagination and enjoyment for your child.

www.outdoorplayandlearning.org.uk,

There will be more information to follow at a parents' session later in the year, when you will be invited to come and play with your children. As we develop lunchtimes you may find us asking you for resources as we launch our OPAL Bingo, and your children may tell you about changes in how the children use the school grounds. They now use more of the grounds, for more of the year. Your children may get a bit messier, be exposed to more challenges and have greater freedoms to play where, with whom and how they like. **We have areas where children can store a named pair of wellies in school all year round, and waterproofs will be essential as we go out in all weather except heavy rain.**

Our lunchtime staff team are now known as the 'Crockerne Play Team'.



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 and children whilst on school premises.
- 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 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/>
- 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 and 3.00 – 4.00 pm.

Considerate parking

We have received numerous reports at school drop off and pick up, that children are stepping out of cars into the road. This is dangerous and will create poor road sense for our children.

2025/2026 Term dates, Dates for diaries and **INSET** days 2025/2026

Term 1 Thursday 4th September 2025 to Thursday 23rd October 2025

Thurs 11th Sept, Meet the Teacher

Mon 15th Sept, Wear the Wrong Trousers

Wed 1st – Fri 3rd Oct, Y4 Camp – Charterhouse

Fri 10th Oct, Wear **yellow** for Mental Health Day

Tues 14th Oct, Pupil Individual Photos – Tulip photography

Wed 15th Oct, Harvest festival, pupils only

Thurs 16th Oct, Y5/6 Dodgeball team event

Mon 10th – Wed 13th Nov, Book Fair

Mon 10th Nov, Nasal Flu Vaccines

Wed 12th and Thu 13th Nov, Parents Evenings 3:30pm – 6:30pm

Fri 14th Nov, Children In Need Day – Wear something yellow or spotty

Thu 20th Nov, Science Fair

Mon 11th – Fri 15th May Y6 SAT's week

Inset Days

- Friday 24th October 2025
- Monday 3rd November 2025
- Monday 5th January 2026
- Friday 13th February 2026

Mrs Bray – Headteacher

Mrs Crutchley & Mrs Rees – Assistant Headteachers

Website: www.crockerne.co.uk

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Multi Academy Trust