



Friday 5th January 2024

Halwin Headlines

We are pleased to welcome everyone back to school for the start of the Spring term. We hope you had a lovely Christmas holiday and we all wish you a Happy New Year. Thank you very much for all the Christmas gifts, cards and kind words at the end of last term. It has been wonderful to welcome children back and hear all about their special holiday experiences. Even though it was a short week, the children were straight back to work and it has been lovely to see them working hard and enjoying their learning. I was especially excited to see Robins children creating books in continuous provision and to hear from Kingfishers children about their new Accelerated Reader book ranges. Mrs Roadley visited Owls today to say hello before her start in Owls on Monday.

Thank you to everyone who entered the Zen Educate Snow Globe competition at the end of last term. Congratulations to Penny who was third and received an Amazon voucher for herself and one for the school!

Our new TA, Miss Williams, will now be running our after school wrap-around provision and has planned some fun activities with a different theme for each afternoon. Please find a poster with more information later in the newsletter and ensure you use the booking link to book your wrap-around care provision each week.

Our next Reading Café will be Tuesday 23rd January. No choir club this term but Mr Barnard is busy organising a Table Tennis Club—watch this space!

Don't forget as part of their weekly homework, children in Owls and Kingfishers should be using Times Tables Rockstars to practice their times tables each week and completing 3 blue gems on Maths Whizz. Children who complete 3 blue gems AND 3 red gems each week will be included in the Maths Whizz Hall of Fame and celebrated in our weekly newsletter!

We are very excited that we will be starting our weekly swimming lessons on Wednesday. Please ensure your child brings in a named waterproof bag with towel, swimming costume/shorts, swimming goggles and cap (optional) and a hairband for longer hair.

Have a lovely weekend!

Get in touch

You can contact us via phone or email.

01209 860329

halwinsecretary@croftymat.org

Wrap-Around Care
Booking Link attached.

Attendance

We aim for all our children to have at least 97% attendance throughout the year.

Overall attendance for this week was 94%

See below for the attendance for each class last week.

Robins: 100%

Owls: 92%

Kingfishers: 92%

Congratulations

Robins!



Next week's lunch menu **week 2**



Diary dates



Wednesday 10th Jan	Swimming lessons begin — Owls and Kingfishers
Tuesday 16th Jan	Y4 Multiplication Tables Check Parent Workshop 3.15pm
Thursday 18th Jan	School Census Day
W/C 12th Feb	Half Term
Monday 19th Feb	INSET day—school closed to pupils
W/C 1st April and W/C 8th April	Easter Break

Notices and Events



Staffing changes

We would like to wish Mrs Moulding good luck for her new job as she will be leaving us on Wednesday 10th January. She will be temporarily covered by Mrs. Julia Dodd, an experienced administrator, while we recruit a replacement.

We are excited to have employed Mrs. Claire Rishworth as a TA, who comes to us with lots of experience, particularly in early years. She will start later this month and will be working predominantly Mondays and Fridays.

Change of Menu

Please see the posters further on in the newsletter for information about a yummy menu change on Thursday 18th January.

Applying for a Place in a Primary School

The deadline to apply for a Reception place in a primary school is 15th January 2024. Please go to www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions and follow the instructions.

Taking Holiday in Term Time

Last year's attendance for the whole school was just 93%. The national average is 97% which is also the expectation for Halwin School. You have a legal duty to make sure your child attends school regularly and punctually. The school and the Local Authority monitor your child's attendance and will take action if it is poor. The Government recommends that family holidays are taken outside of school terms. Headteachers will sometimes give permission for a pupil to go on holiday during term time. They will consider the reasons for the holiday, the pupil's past attendance, and the effects the absence will have on the pupil's learning. But will not normally give permission simply because holidays cost less during term time. Headteachers have the discretion to grant leave, but they should only do so in exceptional circumstances. If a headteacher grants a leave request, it will be for them to determine the length of time that the child can be away from school. It is, however, unlikely to be granted for the purposes of a family holiday. Parents can be fined for taking their child on holiday during term time without consent from the school. If you take your child out of school without permission you will be committing an offence under the Education Act 1996. We may refer the matter to the Education Welfare Service who may decide to prosecute. A conviction may result in a fine of up to £2500, a prison sentence of up to 3 months or both. Alternatively, a penalty notice may be issued, this carries a fine of £60 per child if paid within 21 days or £120 if paid after this but within 28 days. Failure to pay the penalty notice will result in Court action.

Car Parking

The playground gates will be opened for parking for afternoon collection at 2.50pm and at 2:30pm for parent assemblies. Please avoid arriving before then to avoid congestion.

Notices and Events



Homework

The partnership between home and school is very important to us. We recognize that children have spent a busy structured day at school and need time to relax and play. We are also mindful of children's out-of-school activities e.g. swimming, gymnastics, football etc. and we believe that homework activities should not cause conflict or resentment. Our homework approach has therefore been designed to focus on the benefits of reading with your child and developing a love of reading. Reading is our focus, and we ask that parents and carers prioritise and support this essential skill. You can help your child by becoming actively involved in their reading journey, listening to them read, talking about their book, giving them lots of encouragement and praise, and providing a quiet area and time to read together.

Pupils in EYFS and KS1 who are part of the Read Write Inc (RWI) phonics programme will be given a phonics book each week, matched to their ability, to read at home. Occasionally, pupils will also have specific sounds to practice at home. To ensure high quality reading we use a programme called Accelerated Reader from Year 2 onwards which supports children taking responsibility for their own reading progress through engaging reading quizzes.

Alongside reading, we will provide your child with a copy of their weekly spellings for Owls and Kingfishers. We allocate time in school to learn these spellings, but children would also benefit from practicing them at home.

At Halwin School, we subscribe to two excellent maths learning platforms. Pupils from Y2 upwards will be provided with a log in to Maths Whizz (<https://whizz.com>), an online programme which adapts topics and questions to each child's specific level in a fun game style approach. We recommend children complete 3 'gems' per week. As learning multiplication tables is crucial to children's mathematics progress and Y4 pupils are required to complete a statutory multiplication check, children in Owls and Kingfishers will also be provided with a log in to Times Tables Rock Stars (<https://trockstars.com>) where they can practice their times tables in an engaging game to increase their fluency and recall.

A breakdown of suggested homework is provided below:

Robins: 10-15 minutes of reading a day, record in reading diary

Owls & Kingfishers: 10-15 minutes of reading at least 5 times a week

3 blue gems per week on Maths Whizz

Times Tables Rockstars 15 minutes x2 a week

Spellings

Additional information such as knowledge organisers for topics will be sent out throughout the year. Please check your emails regularly. You are valuable partners in your children's education and we thank you for your continued support.

Message from the Trust



Unit 2 The Setons,
Tolvaddon Business Park,
Camborne,
Cornwall,
TR14 0HX
admin@croftymat.org

19th December 2023

To all interested parties

Consultation on proposed changes to The Crofty Multi Academy Trust's Admissions Arrangements

Crofty Multi Academy Trust is reviewing its schools' admissions arrangements for the year 2025-26.

There is one change proposed in our 2025-26 admissions arrangements, which is:

1. To reduce the PAN of Porthleven Primary School from 40 to 30.

The proposed arrangements with the changes highlighted are in the attached draft admissions policy, and the information can also be found on the Trust website <https://croftymat.org/information/admissions>. We openly invite comments from all stakeholders on these proposed admission arrangements in accordance with the School Admissions Code. The six-week consultation period begins on Tuesday 19th December 2023 and will end on Wednesday 31st January 2024.

You can submit your comments by emailing admin@croftymat.org or writing to the Company Secretary at Unit 2 The Setons, Tolvaddon Business Park, Camborne, Cornwall, TR14 0HX.

Please use the reference 'Consultation Admission Arrangements 25-26' as your subject heading. Comments are invited by the close of the school day on Wednesday 31st January 2024. We will, in due course, provide feedback on this consultation. If no feedback is provided, please assume that no objections have been brought to our attention.

If you have any queries about the changes to arrangements, or the process, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Simon Hague", written over a horizontal line.

Simon Hague
Chief Executive
Crofty Multi Academy Trust



After School Care

Monday: Chromebooks/Ipads



Tuesday: Construction Challenges

Wednesday: Multi-Sports

Thursday: Film Night

Friday: Just Dance Disco

Art resources, toys and puzzles will be available every session



Check the newsletter for special themed sessions

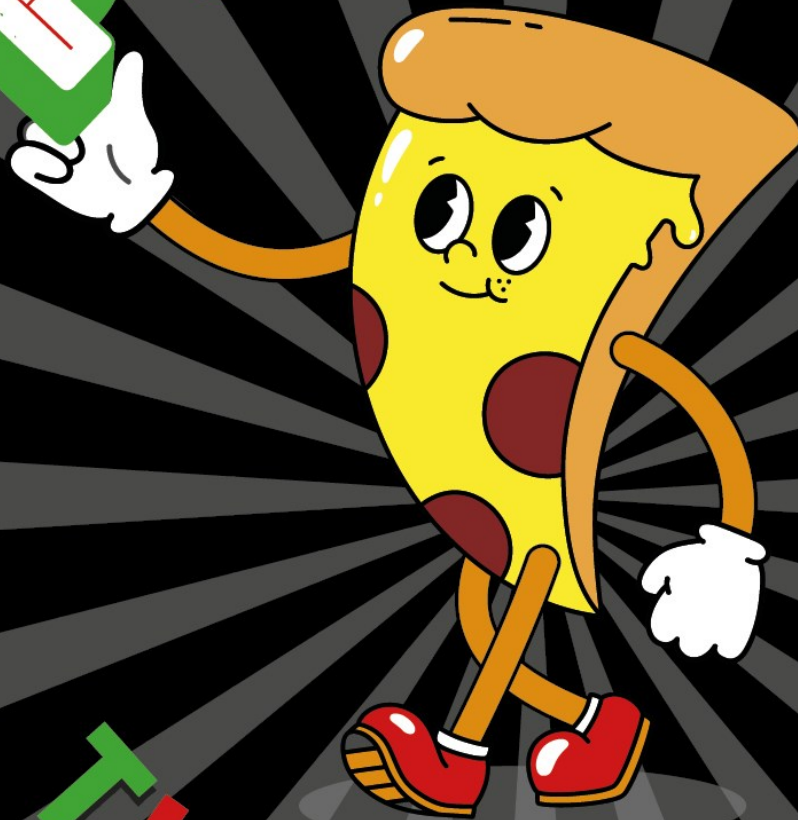


4.30pm Squash and biscuit



GRAB YOURSELF A

PIZZA



THE ACTION

Thursday 18th
January 2024

GRAB YOURSELF A

PIZZA



THE ACTION

MAINS

pick a slice of your favourite

BBQ Chicken
Veggie Supreme

SIDES

Potato Wedges
Salad

DESSERT

Vanilla or Chocolate Ice-Cream

Menus may be subject to change

Top Tips for... MANAGING SCREEN TIME

According to the latest stats, people aged between 8 and 17 spend four hours on digital devices during an average day. Obviously, a new year is ideal for fresh starts and renewed efforts – so lots of families are trying to cut down their combined screen time right now, creating more moments to connect with each other and relying less on gadgets to have fun. Our top tips on reducing screen time are for everyone, so you can get your whole family involved in turning over a new leaf this year!

GET OUT AND ABOUT

If the weather's decent, spend some time in the garden or go for a walk. Even a stroll to the local shop would do: the main thing is getting some fresh air and a break from your screen.

TRY A TIMED TRIAL

When you're taking a screen break to do a different activity or a chore, turn it into a game by setting yourself a timer. Can you complete your task before the alarm goes off?

GO DIGITAL DETOX

Challenge yourself and your family to take time off from screens, finding other things to do. You could start off with half a day, then build up to a full day or even an entire weekend.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let your family see you successfully managing your own screen time. You'll be showing them the way, and it might stop some of those grumbles when you do want to go online.

AGREE TECH-FREE ZONES

Nominate some spots at home where devices aren't allowed. Anywhere your family gathers together, like at the table or in the living room, could become a 'no phone zone'.

HOLD A SCREEN TIME AMNESTY

As a family, agree specific windows when it's OK to use devices. This should help everyone to balance time on phones or gaming with enjoying quality moments together.

BE MINDFUL OF TIME

Stay aware of how long you've been on your device for. Controlling how much time you spend in potentially stressful areas of the internet – like social media platforms – can also boost your wellbeing.

'PARK' PHONES OVERNIGHT

Set up an overnight charging station for everyone's devices – preferably away from bedrooms. That means less temptation for late-night scrolling.

SWITCH ON DND

Research shows that micro-distractions like message alerts and push notifications can chip away at our concentration levels. Put devices on 'do not disturb' until you're less busy.

TAKE A FAMILY TECH BREAK

Set aside certain times when the whole family puts their gadgets away and enjoys an activity together: playing a board game, going for a walk or just having a chat.

SOCIALISE WITHOUT SCREENS

When you're with friends, try not to automatically involve phones, TVs or other tech. Having company can be loads more fun if your attention isn't being split.

WIND DOWN PROPERLY

Try staying off phones, consoles, tablets and so on just before you go to sleep. Reading or just getting comfy in bed for a while can give you a much more restful night.

Meet Our Expert

Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering school leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.



DEVICE BOX

The National College®



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday