

# Newsletter Issue 2



**Newsletter Issue 2**

**18th September 2025**





## Headteacher's News

Our newsletters are sent every fortnight and should give you a snapshot of school life, reminders of dates and things going on in school along with some community information. School information is always first if you find the Sway document too long for you! We have tried to get the length of the letter right but are aware it is too short / infrequent for some of you and too long and frequent for others!

## School Improvement

Each year we focus on areas of improvement so we are continually trying to drive the school forwards, taking on board local and national changes to ensure children at Sissinghurst get the best educational experience that they can with us. This year our 3 key areas of foci are further strengthening the curriculum so children know and remember more in all subjects. To consider how our Christian vision empowers ALL members of the school community to shine. We want to give children more chances to practise speaking, debating, standing up for what is right, and helping others. Our third key area is to improve attendance for all pupils to ensure

that no one falls behind - each day in school offers unique opportunities for children to build knowledge, confidence, and the essential skills they need to be successful. We will keep you updated each term on how we are doing with these priorities.

### **Curriculum and Class information**

Parents often ask their children what are you learning. You can find the answers easily here.

We are proud of our curriculum offer. Please do look here at class

pages <https://www.sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Year+Groups&pid=45>

for an overview for the term / year, our reading spines (books studied over the coming year) and copies of the letters you received at the start of term from each teacher.

### **Admissions**

It is that time of year again when we are planning tours for new YR pupils joining us next September. If you have a child of nearly school age, please do join us on Tuesday 4 November in the morning or afternoon for a short speech and tours with our fantastic Y6 pupils. See more here <https://sissinghurst.ovw8.devwebsite.co.uk/page/?title=Admissions&pid=9>

We have filled most spaces across the school now but do have some space in our current Y1 and Y5. Please do contact Mrs Hodges in the office or pass on this information to friends or neighbours if you know anyone who may like to join our school.

### **Car park**

Please can we ask that parents do not double park along the left hand side of the car park when coming into school for drop off or collection of children. This makes the driveway too narrow to manoeuvre and congested. Thankyou for your support. Remember the Milk House kindly offer their car park if you want easy parking and a little walk to school to avoid the traffic. This applies before school and at the end of the day. Thankyou to the Milk House for this kind offer to our families. Do remember to let them know your registration to avoid a fine though with the new cameras in their carpark!

### **Worship**

We welcome families to Friday worship from 9-9.30 every Friday. Please sign in at reception and find a chair at the back of the hall when you arrive. This is a celebration assembly where we may sing a song, share great things in school and from home and have things like weekly house point updates and celebrate birthdays. Please also note, Lions are not coming in for a while to let them settle in to school life first.

### **Communication**

We welcome feedback and ideas -positive and negative. Please do share any thoughts, ideas or niggles with us at any time, especially if they are common themes on your class WhatsApp groups so we can listen and consider suggestions to continually improve – we are always open to new ideas. We do have an easy contact us button for feedback on our website here <https://sissinghurst.ovw8.devwebsite.co.uk/page/?title=Suggestions+%2F+Feedback&pid=102>

Have a lovely weekend when it gets here

Sarah Holman

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[Click here for dates](#)

## Staff Changes

Mrs Lea is one of our amazing TAs who is leaving us at the end of this month to go to work in another school. Mrs Lea has worked with us for over 6 years and seen many changes in that time. She has helped in all year groups and taught classes too, most recently with huge success in art lessons and of course running our art club too. We will miss her dearly but thank her for the wonderful contribution she has made to our school and will send her on with our love and very best wishes. Good luck Mrs Lea and thankyou!



## Reminders

### Healthy Snacks and Lunches

Please remember to send in fruit or vegetable snacks for break time if your child is in Y3-6 (Lions, Giraffes and Elephants receive free fruit in school). Please also remember if your child has a packed lunch in school they should be a healthy selection of foods and not a plethora of buffet items, cakes and biscuits! Thankyou for your help in encouraging healthy living choices.

## GDPR

A big change towards the UK's data privacy law came into effect on the 25th May 2018.

The General Data Protection Regulation (or GDPR for short) is a positive change towards giving data subjects more control over how their data is used and how they are contacted. In line with this, we have changed both our Data Protection and Privacy Notice. It details how we collect, use, share and store personal data. It also provides you with information on the new rights available to all data subjects when Data Protection laws changed.

You can view our Data Protection and Privacy Policy via this link on our website. Please note you have the option to remove your child's information for sharing in some cases. Speak to Mrs Holman or Mrs Branson should you wish to do this or discuss it.

<https://www.sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=GDPR&pid=23>

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## Sickness, Medicines & Medical Appointments

### *Sickness*

If your child is sick, please studybug a message in ideally or you can email [office@sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk) or telephone the school each morning on 01580 713895 **no later than 8.45am**. If your child has **sickness or diarrhea they must not return to school until at least 48 hours after their last episode** in line with the Kent Health Protection Unit guidelines.

### *Medicines*

We are only able to administer 'prescribed only' medicine during school hours (not 'as and when' medicines) and this should be in its original container, with the prescriber's instructions and child's name attached where relevant. All medicines must be labelled and handed into the main school office (**please do NOT give to teachers**) along with a completed medication form.

We do allow calpol in school if your child is a little poorly but you must fill in a form before we can administer it for you.

The form can be found on our website using the following link:-

<https://www.sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Forms%2C+Payment+and+Communication&p id=10>

### ***Medical/Dental Appointments***

Where possible all non-urgent medical, dental and optician appointments should be made ***outside of school hours*** or in the school holidays. **There are 175 days a year when children are not at school for non-urgent appointments.** We understand that hospital appointments may be during the school day. Copies of all appointment letters must be emailed into the school office for our files so the absence can be recorded as authorised.

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### **Class WhatsApp Groups**

We know that class WhatsApp groups can be a really helpful way for parents to share reminders and support each other. However, we kindly ask that everyone uses these groups in a positive and considerate way. Please remember that comments made online can sometimes be misinterpreted and may cause unnecessary upset.

We would encourage all parents to:

Keep messages respectful and supportive.

Use the groups for practical reminders and helpful information.

Avoid discussing individual children, staff, or school matters in the group – these should always be raised directly with school.

By keeping these spaces kind and constructive, we can ensure they remain a useful tool for everyone. Thank you for your support in helping to maintain a positive community around our school and helping uphold the school values.

## **Communication**

There are many ways to find out the information you require about your child or school related matters.

Please speak to your child's class teacher before or after school where possible with any queries you have for them. Use Studybugs for miscellaneous notes, including changes to collection arrangements at the end of the day, and general things you wish the office or your child's teacher to read.

If you prefer to email the school, please use the office email and it will be forwarded to the correct staff to reply to your query or concern. Please note, we do not give out or use named emails for direct contact with parents.

For term dates and queries about letters that have gone home, please check the school website <https://www.sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk> first. There is a wealth of information online including terms dates for this year and next, copies of most letters that have gone home, newsletters and all sorts of other information.

If your child has lost an item of clothing, ask them to check round their classroom first and ask their teacher/TA to help via a note on Studybugs or catch a teacher at the end of the day. Parents can also come into the building and check lost property themselves at the end of the school day.

Finally, we welcome feedback so we can continually improve. You can easily do this on our website feedback tab

here <https://www.sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Suggestions+%2F+Feedback&pid=102>

## **Summer Reading Challenge**

Sissinghurst School was 4th in the school league table for Tunbridge Wells District. Well done to all children who took part in this.

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## Naming Belongings

Can parents/carers please make sure ALL belongings are named clearly. This applies to all school uniform as well as water bottles, lunch boxes, pencil cases, PE kits, shoes etc. We had a huge amount of lost property left over at the end of the last academic year. If your child's belongings are named then they should find their way back to them if lost thank you.

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## Prime Minister's letter to parents and carers on Best Start in Life

To mark this week's childcare expansion milestone, Prime Minister Keir Starmer has written to parents reaffirming his Plan for Change promise to give children the best possible start with 75% of five-year-olds reaching a good level of development by 2028.

Visit the [Education Hub](#) to read the Prime Minister's letter to parents.

## Times Tables Rock Stars



Parents & Carers - Times Tables Rock Stars

WHY ARE TIMES TABLES IMPORTANT? SUPPORT LEARNING Times tables serve as a building block for [...]

[trockstars.com](http://trockstars.com)

[Parents & Carers - Times Tables Rock Stars](#)

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## Report on Flower Show - Saturday, 13th September

The Society's Autumn Show held last Saturday 13th September 2025 in the School Hall was very successful with a lovely display of fruit, flowers, vegetables, cookery and floral arrangements. The Junior entries made a great background to the Show and attracted a lot of interest during the afternoon.

The children had cut out their pastry for their jam tarts very carefully and many were decorated with pastry hearts, stars, eyes, sprinkles and two had even cut out their names. Decorated jam tarts would be a good idea for adults to copy! Well thought through everyone.

They must be congratulated on the impressive display of Wooden Spoon People for design and imagination. Faces were carefully detailed, lolly sticks, pipe cleaners used for arms and legs and one had a small ball for boots. String, wool and leaves for hair and "designer" clothes perfected their entries.

Their cameras had been busy too and the judge was impressed with the large number of entries and the composition and professional look to the entries in the class for Young Person's Photography.

The Pre School Learning Tree also deserve credit for their many entries of Wooden Spoon People with their coloured hair and carefully drawn faces. They made a lovely display.

The quality of their entries challenged the judges who found it difficult to choose the prize winners. A big Thank You to all the children for working so hard and with such obvious enjoyment.

In the afternoon everyone enjoyed tea and homemade cakes, there were sideshows for the children and of course, the Raffle



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KCHFT Oral Health Team- September Newsletter

[www.kentcht.nhs.uk/happyteeth](http://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/happyteeth)

# CRANBROOK RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB



- Be a part of our exciting Mini Section!
- All boys and girls aged 6-11 are invited to train and play.
- High quality pitches and qualified coaches.
- We train every Sunday morning - all welcome!



## GIVE US A TRY !

EMAIL : [CRFC.MINI@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CRFC.MINI@GMAIL.COM)

[CRANBROOKRUGBY.COM](http://CRANBROOKRUGBY.COM)

TOMLIN GROUND, ANGLE RD, CRANBROOK TN17 2PN

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PRICE IS PER CHILD AND ALL MATERIALS WILL BE PROVIDED



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## News & Events

For upcoming local events in the parish of Cranbrook & Sissinghurst:

<https://cranbrookandsissinghurstpc.co.uk/whats-on/upcoming-events/>

Sign up to receive 'Be In The Know' emails from the parish council:

<https://cranbrookandsissinghurstpc.co.uk/>

Or follow the Parish Council Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/CranbrookandSissinghurstPC>

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Office opening hours are 08.30am to 3.30pm (term-time only)