



Crawford Village
Primary School & Nursery

THE CRAWFORD CHRONICLE

Friday 17th January 2025

Class Attendances

10 th January 2025			17 th January 2025		
C1	C2	C3	C1	C2	C3
95.4%	95.7%	100%	96.2%	89.3%	97.1%

School
Target
96%

A note from Year 3 & 4...

Year 3 & 4 have had a super start to the year. In English we are reading 'Stone Age Boy' and using this to focus on prepositions and fronted adverbials. The children have been practising their new skills for writing to create some incredible setting descriptions. I can't wait for next week to see their independent work.

In Maths, we had a gentle start to the year learning about area which we have decided was the perfect topic for the first week back. We are now back on multiplication and division and the Year threes are learning to use the more formal approach to multiplication for the first time! Super exciting.

We have also taken advantage of the beautiful sunshine to check on our spring bulbs which we planted before Christmas and were delighted to see that they are peeping through showing the first signs of spring. Fingers crossed for a fabulous display in a few weeks time.



Coming up @ Crawford...

Diary Dates

Mon	Lunchtime - School Choir
Tues	Lunchtime - Self-love Club After School - Eco Club
Wed	Lunchtime - Spanish After School - Craft Club
Thurs	Lunchtime - Brass After School - Table Tennis
Fri	Lunchtime - Micro:bit Club / Chicken Club
Mon	Lunchtime - School Choir
Tues	Lunchtime - Self-love Club After School - Eco Club
Wed	Lunchtime - Spanish After School - Craft Club
Thurs	Lunchtime - Brass After School - Table Tennis
Fri	Lunchtime - Micro:bit Club / Chicken Club

Next week:

21st January 2025
Pupil Parliament Debate

22nd January 2025
PTA Meeting 6.00pm

Later in the half-term:

28th January 2025
C2 Final Swimming Session

29th January 2025
Chinese New Year
Y5/6 Trip to Burnley (Linking Project)

2nd February 2025
National Hedgehog Day

4th February 2025
C3 Swimming

7th February 2025
Young Voices
NSPCC Number Day

10th February 2025
Online Safety Week

Dear Parents

How lovely it is to see all the children back at school after the Christmas break – we've enjoyed what feels like all four seasons in the two weeks we have been back. The children loved being able to play outside in the snow ... but I think they were actually equally pleased to return to their warm classrooms at the end of playtimes!

Everybody has settled back into our routines really well and there's a wonderful buzz of excited learning that permeates through school. It's also been fabulous to restart our extra-curricular clubs and I'm so pleased that so many children take up the offer and are able to participate in the wider aspects of school life. We are looking forward to the clubs extending even more as the weather gets warmer and we can hold some of them outside.

As ever, the school diary is getting busier as the term unfolds so please keep your eyes peeled for our diary dates section on the newsletter.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend!

Mrs Eaton

Mrs Eaton's Column

Award Winners



Star of the Week

C2 Max
C3 Meadow

C1 Heath
C2 Darcey E
C3 Charlie-Rai



Pride Award

C2 Evelyn R C2 James
C3 Evie C3 Freddie T



Super Writers

C2 Freddie C
C3 Lennon
Y3/4 Rosie

C2 Eddie
C3 Lucas &
Phoebe P
Y3/4 Scarlett

Housepoints

OWLS



1st

RAVENS



2nd

EAGLES



3rd

PHOENIX



4th

Find us on social media...



Crawford Village Primary School



@crawford_school

Don't forget to log on to your child's Seesaw account. You will find work that they do in school, photographs and videos that are not uploaded to social media and you can upload photos from home. Please ask if you are having any problems logging on and we will help if we can.

Do not forget to check out our school website! You will find details of upcoming events, term dates, important key documents and policies plus lots of information and photographs showcasing what we have been doing in school.



NYJO



Musicians Wanted!

We are looking for young musicians aged 18 and under who are interested in exploring creative music-making further!

Session Dates:

**18/1, 25/1, 15/2,
8/3, 22/3, 5/4**

12:45 - 15:15



St Michael's CE High School
PR7 1RS

In 2025, NYJO (National Youth Jazz Orchestra) are delivering 6 sessions in partnership with Lancashire Music Hub. If you are a young musician approx. Grade 3+ on your instrument, this is a chance for you to work with NYJO Educator Fergus Quill to explore improvisation and create a brand-new group composition. Sessions are open to everyone - even if you've never played in an ensemble before, come along and have a go!



To sign-up today or to ask any questions about this project, please get in touch with Sam French at Lancashire Music Hub.

Sam.French@lancashire.gov.uk

LANCASHIRE MUSIC SERVICE

BRASS DAY



SIGN UP!



ST MICHAEL'S CHORLEY

1ST FEBRUARY
SIGN UP TODAY

WWW.LANCASHIREMUSICHUB.CO.UK



For this week's story, we are visiting...

Switzerland

What?

Scientists in Switzerland have created a special 'battery' that's alive! It's made from fungi and works in a clever way: just like living things eat food to get energy, this battery uses nutrients to make electricity.



Source: Empix

Scientists call it a 'microbial fuel cell' because it captures energy from tiny living organisms, like fungi, and turns it into power.

This living battery can run small devices, like sensors that measure temperatures on farms or in nature. Once its job is done, it safely breaks down on its own, leaving no mess behind. It's also non-toxic, which means it's safe for the environment.

What?

Right now, the battery can work for a few days, but the researchers are working to make it last longer and produce more power.

They're also exploring other fungi to see if they can find the perfect one to make even better batteries.



Source: Empix (picturing Empix scientist Gustav Nyström)



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about JUSTALK KIDS



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SUBSCRIPTION FOR PREMIUM ACCESS

While JusTalk Kids is free, there's the option to subscribe to a kids' premium account or a premium family account. At a cost, this feature allows children to have access to more fun features such as games they can play with others in a call, exclusive stickers, a badge denoting them as a premium subscriber, and exclusive ringtones and themes.

RESISTANCE TO CONTROLS

JusTalk Kids endeavours to allow children the sense of having a chat-based app while allowing parents to set controls (within the app or from their own adult JusTalk account). The basis behind this is positive; however, some children are challenging their parents by refusing to use JusTalk Kids, preferring to use the adult version without any restrictions in place.

KNOWING THE PARENT PASSCODE

After downloading JusTalk Kids, parents can set a passcode which users must enter to add contacts. The parental controls help to manage which content can be viewed and who children can add as a contact; this then allows children to chat with friends in a controlled environment. However, prospective contacts don't have to know a specific username, meaning someone could type in a random name and then add them as a friend.

POTENTIAL DATA LEAKS

JusTalk and JusTalk Kids claim to be secure and encrypted, going so far as to state that even the developers themselves won't access your data. However, a security lapse in 2022 highlighted that messages were not in fact encrypted – leading to concerns around the security of the app and the transparency of the development team.

CYBERBULLYING

Online chats can provide a sense of anonymity, leading some users to post things which they wouldn't normally say in person. Combined with the option of group chats, there's a risk that young people might join in with this kind of behaviour, escalating it further and potentially turning what should be a fun experience into something deeply negative.

TOO MUCH SCREENTIME

A report by the UK Parliament Education Committee highlighted a 92% increase in children's screen time between 2020 and 2022 – as well as finding that 25% of children used their smartphones in a manner consistent with screen addiction, introducing children to social networking apps when they're too young can lead to bad digital habits and a reliance on technology from an early age.

Advice for Parents & Educators

JUSTIFY THE CONTROLS

If parents allow their child to use JusTalk Kids, they should explain that they're putting parental controls in place to make the app safer. Make sure the child knows as not to put their full name on the account and doesn't use a photo of themselves as their profile picture. This type of open discussion will help to ensure that a child is aware of the app's potential risks and knows how to reduce them.

TALK ABOUT ONLINE FRIENDSHIPS

Young children could be excited to use this app. However, highlight that they must do so in a polite, respectful and responsible manner. While it can be easy to get caught up in a group chat, it's important to talk to others politely and not to any unpleasant behaviour. Discuss the importance of limiting their contacts to people they know in real life and use parental controls to enforce this.

DOS AND DON'TS OF SHARING

Some children might not understand the potential dangers of oversharing online. Set clear guidelines around what is and isn't safe to share on the internet, and discuss the concept of a digital footprint. Children need to understand that the things they say and share online can never be completely erased. Even if they delete it themselves, it can be saved and distributed by others.

ENCOURAGE OPEN COMMUNICATION

Apps like JusTalk can sometimes lend themselves to bullying behaviours. Parents should monitor what their child is sending and receiving, check in with them regularly and encourage them to share their feelings (both positive and negative) at home. Remind them that they can block or contact if someone is treating them disrespectfully.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TIKTOK



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Adults tend to associate online videos with YouTube – but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a stream of short clips tailored to users' interests, based on what they've already watched. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while much of the content is benign, Ofcom considered it the app where youngsters "were most likely to encounter a potential harm".

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's algorithm feeds only videos from familiar creators, for kids it's not so simple. Most of these videos will probably be inoffensive, but the app could potentially show something inappropriate. If children then engage with the content, more they will follow. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or harmful content, but the huge number of clips through means that a small amount inevitably slips through.

BODY IMAGE AND DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

According to Ofcom, most online harms for teens are body image related for girls (promoting unhealthy eating, body shaming and so on) and dangerous stunts for boys. Both are prevalent on TikTok. One extreme example of encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. This led to several young people being hospitalised and the tragic deaths of their children.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase gifts for content creators. Coin bundles range from £3.99 to an eye-watering £99; while that may not sound exorbitant, the app still generated £7.9 billion in user spending in 2023. TikTok's policy is that under-18s can't make in-app purchases, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birth date.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With more than 1.5 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by bots (or even by young people using a fake date of birth) are not visible by default. This means that not only is someone's profile visible to everyone else on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and enables anyone to download or comment on them.

MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION

Although the short videos on TikTok tend to be more frivolous than the longer ones on YouTube, clips can still influence impressionable minds in a negative way. Not only is there plenty of dangerous misinformation on TikTok, but Ofcom reports that nearly a third of 12 to 17-year-olds use TikTok as a news source – so you should be wary of misogynistic, racist or conspiracy-themed material shaping how they see the world.

ADDICTIVE DESIGN

With its constant stream of eye-catching videos, TikTok can be addictive to young brains. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 127 minutes per day on the app – that's twice as much as in 2020. Excessive use can interfere with young people's sleep patterns – affect other, healthier activities, and distract them from the skipable nature of bite-size videos may also impact children's ability to maintain focus.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account to their child's, and control settings remotely. Parents can turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chance of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen-time limits, make accounts private and manage whether their child can send messages – and if they can, to whom. Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks. Ensure that they don't share any identifying personal information on the app. With more teens using TikTok for news, it's also worth talking about misinformation and propaganda, and how to identify it.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING

If a child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter their settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend enabling this feature, as it can be quite easy for a young person to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins to unlock more features of the app – sometimes without even realising.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to potential red flags, as is having to complete homework or skipping meals. Remember, the parental controls are there for a reason, and it's never too late to introduce limits.

