Friday 23rd October 2026

NEWSLETTER

The Latest News From Cradley Primary School

A Note from the Headteacher

As we reach the end of our first half term, it has been another busy and enjoyable week at school. All the children have visited the Malvern Storytelling Festival, Oak Class enjoyed a trip to Malvern Theatres to see Private Peaceful, and Nursery had a lovely autumn outing to Top Barn Farm to pick pumpkins.

It was also lovely to welcome parents into school for our Parents' Evenings. Thank you for coming along and for your continued support.

A big thank you to everyone involved in our recent Open Day. In particular, our fantastic GroundForce Team, who gave up their time to dismantle and remove a shed and weed the garden beds ready for winter. Special thanks to Tony Copp for coordinating the work. Thank you also to Governors Katharine Parsons and Rev Rosie Roberts for their support, and to our Nursery and teaching staff who gave up their Saturday morning to welcome visitors. We are also grateful to James Little for taking photographs for future school marketing.

Looking Ahead – Cheese and Wine Evening
Our next event is our Cheese and Wine Evening, when parents, Governors and staff are warmly invited to join us to celebrate our successful Ofsted inspection and hear about our plans for the coming year. Please see the poster in this newsletter for details. We hope to see you there!

Finally, thank you all for your support during this first half term. I wish everyone a happy and restful half-term break and look forward to welcoming the children back after the holiday.

God Bless
Mrs Jones



Value of the Month

THANKFULNESS

”Praise the Lord.
Give thanks to the Lord,
For he is good;
His love endures forever.”
Psalm 106:1

Friday 23rd October 2026

Calendar Dates

2 Nov - Back to school

4 Nov - Cheese and Wine Evening, 6.30pm

5 Nov - Teeny Tots, 10.00am-11.30am (every Thursday)

5 Nov - Y5/6 Mixed Football Tournament @ Herefordshire FA

6 Nov - Forest School Tots, 10.30am-12.00pm (every other Friday)

13 Nov - Children In Need

16 & 17 Nov - Bikeability for Y6

16 Nov - Odd Socks Day

18 Nov - Birch Class Collective Worship, 8.50am

27 Nov - FoCS Wreath Making Workshop

2 Dec - Oak Class Welcome Wednesday

5 Dec - Cradley Christmas Fayre (FoCS Stall)

8 & 9 Dec - Nativity Performances

15 Dec - Christmas Lunch

School Lunches

Week one	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	w/c
MAIN	Ham & Pineapple Croquette Potatoes Peas	Pasta Bolognese Bake with added vegetables. Sweetcorn Garlic Bread.	Fish Cakes Hash Browns Spaghetti Hoops	Roast Turkey Roast Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Gravy	Hot dogs Salad Bar Baked Beans	31/08/2026 21/09/2026 12/10/2026 09/11/2026 30/11/2026
VEGETARIAN	Cheese Omelette	Quorn Bolognese with added veg	Meat Free Sausage Roll	Quorn Fillet	Veggie Hot Dog	
PUDDING	Chocolate Sponge & Choc Sauce	Fruit Salad Fruit Yogurts	Ice Cream	Banana Cake	Fruit Jellies	
WEEK TWO	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURDSAY	FRIDAY	
MAIN	Lasagne Garlic Bread Sweetcorn	Jacket Potato Day Cheese, Baked Beans, Tuna Mayo Salad Bar	Oven Baked Fish Croquette Potatoes & Peas	Sausages Roast Potatoes Carrots & Broccoli Gravy.	Margherita Pizza Salad Bar Baked Beans	07/09/2026 28/09/2026 19/10/2026 16/11/2026 07/12/2026
VEGETARIAN	Veggie Lasagne	As above	Cheese & Onion Quiche	Veggie Sausage	As above	
PUDDING	Blueberry & Lemon Sponge & Custard	Cherry Cupcake	Flavoured Mousse	Flapjack	Fruit Salad Fruit Yogurts	
WEEK THREE	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
MAIN	Mild Chilli Con Carne, Taco Shells Rice & Sweetcorn	Chicken & Veg Pie Croquette Potato Broccoli Gravy	Fish Fingers Hash Browns Peas	Italian Pasta Bake Sweetcorn Garlic Bread	Chicken Burger Baked Beans Salad Bar	14/09/2026 05/10/2026 02/11/2026 23/11/2026 14/12/2026
VEGETARIAN	Veggie Mild Chilli Con Carne	Veggie Pie	Veggie Fingers	As above	Veggie Burger	
PUDDING	Chocolate Brownie	Fruit Salad Fruit Yogurts	Ice Cream	Sprinkle Cake	Fruit Fruit Yogurts	

ALSO AVAILABLE TO ORDER: JACKET POTATOES – WITH A CHOICE OF CHEESE, BAKED BEANS, TUNA MAYO & SALAD BAR.
FRESHLY MADE BAGUETTES – CHEESE, HAM OR TUNA MAYO SERVED WITH FRESH SALAD BAR.
FRESH FRUIT ALWAYS AVAILABLE.

Here is the menu for this term. Orders should be placed on Arbor. Please order for the following week by midnight on the Wednesday before. A text reminder will be sent. Thank you.

Clubs

These are the clubs on offer next half-term.
Clubs will end on Friday 11th December 2026.
Please sign your child up on Arbor under Activities/Clubs.

Club	Day/Time	Years	Member of Staff
Choir	Monday 3.15-4.00pm	Yrs 3-6	Miss Hughes
Lego	Tuesday 3.15-4.00pm	Yrs 1-2	Mrs Galvin
Basketball (Second Half-term)	Tuesday 3.15-4.00pm	Yrs 5-6	Miss Foster
Football	Wednesday 3.15-4.15pm	Yrs 4-6	AFC Worcester Sports Coaching
Netball (Second Half-term)	Thursday 3.15-4.00pm	Yrs 4-6	Ms Creek
Dance	Friday 3.15-4.00pm	Yrs 3-6	Miss Furlong

Attendance

Well done to Oak Class who have had 97.61% attendance this week. They will look after the Attendance Bear next week!
Please can we remind parents that **arrivals after 8.50am are counted as late and are included in attendance figures.**



Maple Class 93.08%
Sycamore Class 93.57%
Birch Class 96%
Oak Class 97.61%

Celebrating Our Fantastic Attendance Achievements!

We are incredibly proud to share the fantastic attendance achievements at Cradley Primary School during the 2025/26 academic year! Thanks to the wonderful efforts of our children, families and staff, our overall attendance reached an impressive 95.8%, our highest level since before the pandemic! This is a significant improvement on previous years and places us above the national average. Even more impressively, we consistently ranked among the top five similar schools for attendance throughout the year. We also saw a fantastic reduction in persistent absence, with fewer children missing significant amounts of school, alongside improvements in punctuality. These achievements reflect the commitment of our whole school community to ensuring that every child has the opportunity to learn, thrive and succeed. A huge thank you to all our families for your continued support in making every school day count! Let's keep up this brilliant momentum throughout 2026/27!



Musical Instrument Lessons

We are fortunate to have two music teachers who visit school to teach a variety of instruments. If your child is interested in learning to play an instrument please contact the teacher directly.



Guitar Lessons

Guitar, Ukulele and Bass Guitar lessons are currently available at school.
Music lessons are a great way to help children's creativity.
Music lessons improve memory, attention and language skills and also help boost confidence.
Also, learning an instrument is fun!

Lessons take place in school on Tuesdays in term time.

Please call or text teacher Mark Leedham (Encore Music Service) on 07813 643175 or email markleedham@yahoo.co.uk if your son or daughter would be interested in taking lessons.


SOMETHING NEW
IS COMING TO
CRADLEY C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY
WATCH THIS SPACE!
WE ARE LOOKING FOR
WATERPROOF COATS
TROUSERS AND WELLIES
IF YOUR CHILDREN HAVE GROWN OUT OF THINGS PLEASE
DONATE!


Cradley CE Primary School and Nursery
CHEESE & WINE EVENING
Wednesday 4th November
6.30pm
The governors and staff warmly invite you to celebrate our recent Ofsted inspection.
Join us to hear how we will address the next steps highlighted in the report and discover our three-year strategic school development plan.
A chance to celebrate, look ahead and enjoy an evening together.

Friends of Cradley School (FoCS) News

FoCS Newsletter: Easyfundraising - a free and easy way to support Cradley School this term- see below for more information or scan the QR code.

Christmas Shopping

Starting your Christmas shopping? Make every purchase count! When you shop online with participating high-street retailers through Easyfundraising, you can raise free donations for FoCS at absolutely no extra cost to you. It only takes a few minutes to sign up, so please join today and help turn your festive shopping into valuable funds for our school. See below for more information.
🎁🎄

Cradley Church Christmas Fair – We Need You! 🆘

FoCS would love to have a stall at this year's Cradley Church Christmas Fair on Saturday 5 December 2026—but we need your help to make it happen! This is a fantastic opportunity to showcase the work we do and raise vital funds for our school. Could you spare some time to support the stall on the day? Every offer of help will make a real difference, no matter how small and help ensure FoCS can take part. If you can volunteer, please speak to a member of the FoCS team or contact reception. Thank you! 🎄💛

🎄 Christmas Wreath Making Evening 🎄

After last year's Christmas Wreath Making evening sold out, we are delighted to be bringing it back for another year! Join us on Friday 27th November 2026 at 6.30pm at Cradley School for a festive evening of creativity. Friends and family are very welcome too. Please see the poster below for full details.
🚨Limited Tickets Left🚨

Keep up to date with our latest news, reminders and events by joining our Friends of Cradley Church of England Primary School (FoCS) Facebook page.

Friends of Cradley School (FoCS) News

Support FoCS while you shop online

Did you know you can raise free donations for Friends of Cradley School simply by doing your usual online shopping? Easy Fundraising is a quick and simple way to support the school, and it will not cost you a penny.

Hundreds of well-known retailers donate when you shop online through Easy Fundraising.
✅ Sign up through the Easy Fundraising app or website
✅ Choose Friends of Cradley School as your cause
✅ Shop as normal
✅ FoCS receives a donation to help support the children
🔗 Ready to start? Sign up here:
https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=47592&invite=s84dvt&referral-campaign=s2s&utm_campaign=web-referral

📱 Top tip: Enable the donation reminder on your phone or device so you never miss a contribution.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Every donation, volunteer hour and shared post helps make a real difference to our school community.

💛 **Join the FoCS family**
We are always excited to welcome new faces. Whether you can help at the odd event, share ideas, or would like to become more involved, we would love to have you with us.

If you would like to know more, please speak to Cass, Charlotte or Verity, or pop by reception for a chat.
No experience is needed — just enthusiasm, a little time when you can spare it, and a willingness to get involved.

🌈 Wishing everyone a wonderful term ahead

With thanks, Cass, Charlotte & Verity

Friends of Cradley School (FoCS) News







Friday 23rd October 2026

Stars Of The Week

Nursery **Friendship Award** **Stars Of The Week**	Bee Bee has been an absolute superstar during her time in nursery. Solomon has been doing some excellent work with puzzles, showing fantastic concentration and determination as he puts the pieces together.
Maple Class **Friendship Award** **Star Of The Week**	James Betsy for making good choices on the Storytelling Festival trip.
Sycamore Class **Friendship Award** **Star Of The Week**	Innis Faye for setting a fantastic example, making sensible choices and being a wonderful role model for others.
Birch Class **Friendship Award** **Star Of The Week**	Laycee Jesse for taking such care with his handwriting and letter formation during his Big Write this week.
Oak Class **Friendship Award** **Star Of The Week**	Hudson James for working hard in every lesson.
Headteacher Award	To all of the staff for their dedication, kindness and teamwork, and for making Cradley School such a special place where every child is cared for, supported and encouraged to be the best that they can be. Thank you for all that you do!

Nursery







Here we are at the end of our first half term - where have the weeks gone?! Over the past few weeks our topic has been 'All About Me' and it has been lovely getting to know the children, finding out more about them, their families and what they like to do together.
The arrival of Autumn has allowed the children to explore this season further through a range of fun activities and hands on experiences, which have included a variety of sensory trays and experiences.
We have enjoyed walks out and about around the local area and have had some fun playing down in the forest school area, in amongst the trees and bushes and jumping in muddy puddles.

Today we are looking forward to our trip to Top Barn Farm, where the children will be searching for their perfect pumpkin, visiting the farm animals and there may even be time for a ride on a tractor and trailer!

We hope you all have a lovely half-term break and look forward to seeing you in November.

Friday 23rd October 2026

Maple Class

This week in Maple Class we have continued exploring our topic 'Me and My Community'. We read Super Duper You and made All About Me posters. We also carried on learning about People Who Help Us, focusing on postal workers and what they do.

The children really enjoyed our trip to the Malvern Festival of Stories, where we listened to storytellers and watched a puppet show.















Friday 23rd October 2026

Sycamore Class







Class 2 have been developing and practicing a range of movement skills using apparatus.








Friday 23rd October 2026

Birch Class



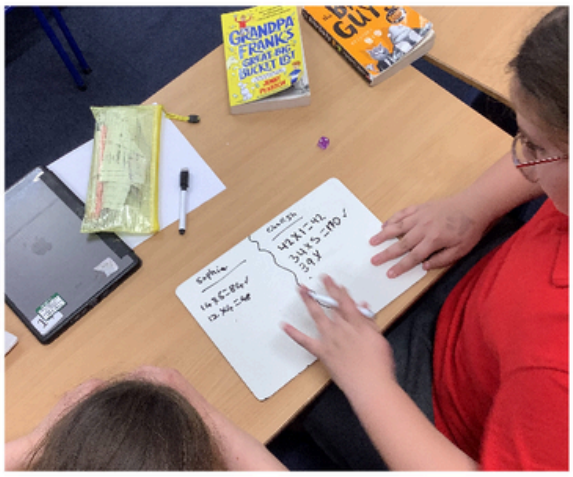
Birch Class have been experimenting this week on scratch to see what they can do with their little Sprite.

Friday 23rd October 2026

Oak Class

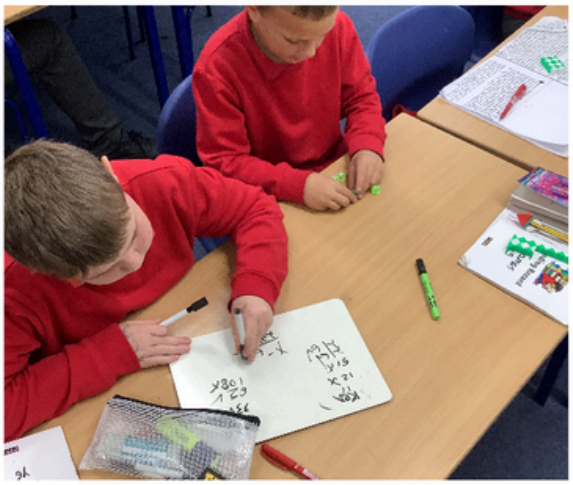
This week Oak Class have been playing multiplication games in class, to build confidence and speed when working out long multiplication sums. The class have really enjoyed this one!

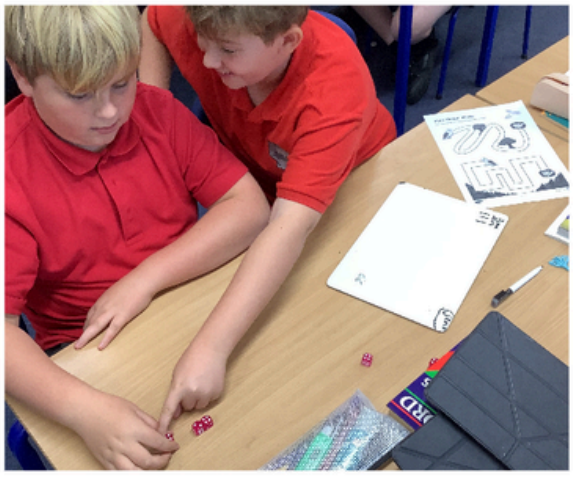
Over half-term, it would be great for them to continue to play games with their families on multiplication.













FOREST SCHOOL TOTS

at Cradley Primary School

CRADLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY







UPCOMING DATES

- 6th November
- 20th November
- 4th December
- 18th December

10:30 to 12 noon

Crafts | Activities | Games

All ages but children should be walking.

Crafts, activities, games all in our beautiful forest school setting. Led by experienced Forest School Leader.

£5 per family

Call 01886880315
or email admin@cradley.hereford.sch.uk
to book in.

Free SEND Advice Appointments

Malvern

Sunshine Family Hub,
Swinyard Rd, Malvern, WR14 1GU

Tuesday 3 & 10 November

Have you got questions about SEND support or the EHCP process? Need help with your next steps?
Meet a SENDIASS Advisor for a FREE 30-minute advice slot.

Find out more

SCAN ME

Appointments available between 9am and 12pm

SEND Information, Advice and Support Service Herefordshire & Worcestershire

worcestershire county council

SEND Information, Advice and Support Service Herefordshire & Worcestershire

Training and Development

Inform • Empower • Improve

Free SEND Training Workshops delivered at your venue

Do you want to increase your knowledge and understanding of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)?

The following workshops can be delivered free at your venue...

- Autism and Me
- What does a good Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP) look like?
- SEND: What you need to know
- SEND: Preparing for Adulthood
- SENDIASS Information Session

Visit our website hwsendiass.co.uk or scan the QR code for further information

SEND Information, Advice and Support Service Herefordshire & Worcestershire
www.hwsendiass.co.uk

ADULT LEARNING WORCESTERSHIRE

worcestershire county council

WIN A SILENT DISCO FOR OUR SCHOOL!

...and raise funds for the Herefordshire Summer Games!

PRIZE DRAW

Help us win a free silent disco for our school! All donations will be used by Stride Active to deliver the Herefordshire Summer Games.





ENTER HERE

Entries close, midday 6th November 2026

ENTRY AND FULL T&C'S CAN BE FOUND AT:
WWW.CROWDFUNDER.CO.UK/P/STRIDEACTIVE

Herefordshire Council

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Reception admissions for 2027-2028

Do you have a child born between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023

If so you will need to apply for a school place by 15 January 2027
(to commence September 2027)

Applications can be completed from **14 September 2026** online (scan QR code) or visit:
www.herefordshire.gov.uk/schools-education/primary-school-admissions

Please note: a place at a nursery does not guarantee a place at the associated primary school, therefore you must still apply.

For further information please contact the school admissions team on 01432 260926 / 261574 or **schooladmissions@herefordshire.gov.uk**

hfdscouncil

herefordshire.gov.uk

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE

WhatsApp group chats: what parents need to know



Group chats can be a fun way for young people to stay in touch, but they can also be used by others to groom, exploit or harm children.
It's important to know the risks and how you can help keep them safe.

WHY GROUP CHATS CAN BE RISKY

- Children may be added to groups by people they do not know.
- Grooming can start with friendship, attention, gifts, games or status.
- Children can be pressured to share photos, personal information or their location.
- Sexual images can be requested, shared or used to threaten or blackmail a child.
- Criminal exploitation can involve secrecy, money, gifts, drugs, violence or pressure to meet others.
- Screenshots, forwarding and disappearing messages can make harmful content difficult to control.

TALK TO YOUR CHILD

- Ask who is in their groups. Help them think about who they really know online.
- Check privacy settings together (e.g. who can add them to groups, who can see their profile and posts).
- Encourage them to tell you if someone makes them uncomfortable.
- Reassure them: they will not be in trouble for asking for help.

Have open and regular conversations

WARNING SIGNS

- Suddenly secretive about their phone.
- New online friends or contacts they cannot explain.
- Receiving gifts, money or new phones/clothes.
- Becoming withdrawn, anxious or upset after being online.
- Missing school or going missing.
- Talking about meeting people they know online.
- Sexualised messages/images or pressure to send pictures.

WHAT PARENTS CAN DO

1. Keep accounts private and review group-chat settings (e.g. who can add them).
2. Encourage children to block and report suspicious accounts.
3. Save evidence/screenshots if something worrying happens.
4. Do not confront a suspected exploiter yourself as this could put your child at further risk.
5. Get advice early — you do not need to be certain that exploitation is happening.

Stay involved. Stay informed. Keep them safe.

WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD?

Herefordshire Children's Services – SAFE Team
For advice and support about child exploitation (including online exploitation) and missing children.

Email: **exploitationteam@herefordshire.gov.uk**

If a child is in immediate danger call **999**

For safeguarding concerns contact **Herefordshire MASH**
01432 260800 (office hours)
01905 768020 (out of hours)

Trust your instincts. **Early advice can make a difference.**
Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Herefordshire Council



CARVE A PUMPKIN!

£5 prize in each class for the best one!

A competition for ages 5-10 and 11 -14, sponsored by Cradley Village Hall and judged on **31st October.**

Simply take a pumpkin and carve a face or just a design into it. The weirder, the more dramatic, or even the funnier face or design, the better. Any size pumpkin will do.

Judging will take place in Cradley Village Hall on the morning of **Saturday 31st October**. Bring your pumpkin along from 11.45 am until 12 noon, and the results will be announced at the same time as the winners of our Giant Pumpkin Weigh-In.





