The Cramlington Courier!

13th November 2026

In this week's issue:

- Message from Mrs Whitehead (Principal)
- Attendance challenge
- Values in Practice (VIPs) awards
- Dates for your diary and information
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) - What's on at the Family Hubs
- Safeguarding - Whats App

A message from Mrs Whitehead (Principal)

Our young scientists had a fantastic time celebrating **World Science Day**! The children participated in hands-on, fun experiments across the school, sparking plenty of curiosity, questioning, and excitement for learning.





A huge thank you for your generous donations to **Children in Need**. The children looked brilliant in their best dancing outfits as they took on our ***Strictly 26 Step Dance Challenge*!** If you haven't seen it yet, head over to our official school Facebook page to watch their amazing moves in action. By taking on this challenge, our pupils learned that helping others can be active and fun! It gave the children a real sense of pride to know that their moves were making a positive difference for other young people across the UK.





On November 11th, we marked **Remembrance Day** together as a school community. The children showed great maturity and respect during our whole-school assembly and observed the two-minute silence impeccably to honor those who have or continue to serve.





Thank you to all the parents and carers who joined us for our **Christmas-themed Winter Wellbeing workshops**. It was wonderful to see families working together and enjoying some festive, creative downtime.

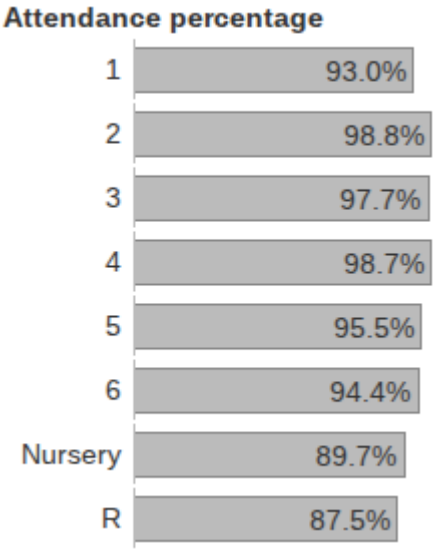
Thank you to our wonderful **Parent and Friend Association** who have organised a **Christmas jumper swap** ready for our Christmas lunch day and the festive period.

Best wishes,

Mrs Whitehead (Principal)

Attendance -

Y4
Attendance Challenge
winners for
13th November 2026
98.7%



Values in Practice (VIPS)

Nursery	**Libby** for always taking care and pride in everything linked to learning.
Reception	**Dani** for showing pride in his Maths work.
Year 1	**Willow** for making good choices in school and taking pride in everything you do.

Year 2	**Robyn H** for always showing care in the presentation of her work.
Year 3	**Aria** for taking pride in presenting her column addition neatly and thoughtfully.
Year 4	**Finley** for working incredibly hard and taking great pride in everything you are doing. You are working so hard and setting a fantastic example.
Year 5	**Leo S** for being so helpful and supportive in the dinner hall. Your willingness to help others is greatly appreciated.
Year 6	**Leigha M** for always showing pride in her work and having an excellent attitude to learning.

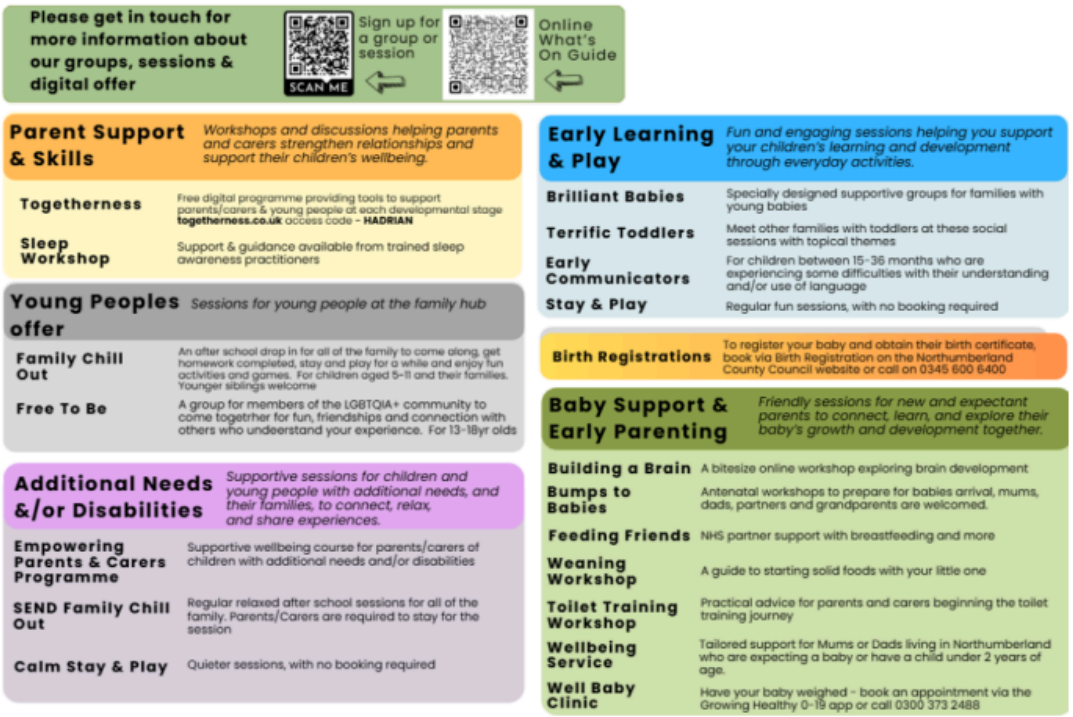
Dates for your diary and information

Please note - the new **key dates** document -. calendar 2026-27.pdf

Monday 16th November	Anti-bullying week - look out on Facebook and next week's newsletter to find out what your children have learned
Monday 16th November	Road Safety week - look out on Facebook and next week's newsletter to find out what your children have learned
Tuesday 17th November	Please note change in date to key dates document - Join your child in Key Stage 2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) for an anti-bullying workshop for parents and carers at 2:45pm
Wednesday 18th November	Please note change in date to key dates document - Join your child in Early Years (Nursery and Reception) and Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) for an anti-bullying workshop for parents and carers at 2:45pm
Wednesday 18th November	Winter Wellbeing children and parents/carers workshops with a Christmas theme! - 9-11am. Please sign up on MCaS.
Monday 23rd November	World Parliament week - look out on Facebook and next week's newsletter to find out what your children have learned
Friday 27th November	Whole School Personal Development Day - Our Community - look out on Facebook and next week's newsletter to find out what your children have learned
Monday 30th November	Please note change in time to key dates document - Early Years parents/carers are invited in for Christmas lunch and optional Christmas jumper day at 11:30-12:30. Please sign-up via MCaS.
Tuesday 1st December	Children and parent/carer Christmas forest school workshops with Paul from Wild About Adventures. Please sign-up via MCaS.
Wednesday 2nd December	Year 5 and 6 parents/carers are invited in for Christmas lunch and optional Christmas jumper day at 11:45-12:45. Please sign-up via MCaS.
Thursday 3rd December	Year 3 and 4 parents/carers are invited in for Christmas lunch and optional Christmas jumper day at 11:45-12:45. Please sign-up via MCaS.

Friday 4th December	Year 1 and 2 parents/carers are invited in for Christmas lunch and optional Christmas jumper day at 11:45-12:45. Please sign-up via MCaS.
Tuesday 8th December	Rocksteady parent/carer showcase concert
Wednesday 9th December	Nursery and reception Nativity - 2:45pm
Thursday 10th December	Key Stage 2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) St Nicholas's Church, Cramlington, carols and readings - 1:30pm
Friday 11th December	Year 1 and 2 Nativity - 9am
Monday 14th December	Year 1 and 2 Christmas Party - please come into school dressed in their party outfit
Tuesday 15th December	Year 5 and 6 Christmas Party - please come into school dressed in their party outfit
Wednesday 16th December	Year 3 and 4 Christmas Party - please come into school dressed in their party outfit
Thursday 17th December	Nursery and Reception Christmas Party - please come into school dressed in their party outfit
Friday 18th December	School closes for the Christmas holiday and reopens on Tuesday 5th January at 8:20am

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)



Family Hubs
Here for everyone

Safeguarding

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION 13+ In the UK

WhatsApp is a free messaging app owned by Meta, that allows users to send messages, share multimedia, make calls, and participate in group chats. In September 2026, WhatsApp announced new optional parental controls for teenagers, including privacy settings, group notifications, and restrictions on AI content, which parents and educators should be aware of.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

GROUP CHAT PRESSURES

Group chats help young people stay connected, but they can also leave them feeling excluded or overwhelmed. Negative comments can escalate quickly, and frequent notifications can create a sense of needing to be constantly available. WhatsApp's new parental controls notify parents when teenagers join or leave groups, or when a group grows significantly in size.

SCAMS TARGETING YOUNG USERS

Scammers may use WhatsApp to trick young people into sharing personal information, sending money, or sharing security codes. They may impersonate friends or family members, using convincing stories about emergencies or urgent requests for help. New parental controls can help manage who contacts teenagers; however, they cannot prevent all scams or fraudulent messages.

DISAPPEARING AND HIDDEN MESSAGES

WhatsApp features such as disappearing messages and Chat Lock can make conversations harder for adults to identify. Although these tools are designed to protect privacy, they may also make it harder for adults to recognise inappropriate exchanges or harmful behaviour. WhatsApp's new parental controls do not give adults access to teenagers' private messages or calls.

HARMFUL CONTENT ON CHANNELS

WhatsApp Channels allow users to receive updates from public figures, organisations, and content creators; however, some Channels may expose young people to misinformation, harmful ideologies, or age-inappropriate material. New optional parental controls allow adults to restrict which Channels teenagers access, including limiting them to approved Channels.

UNWANTED CONTACT AND LOCATION SHARING

WhatsApp allows users to share their live location, profile information, and Status updates. Without appropriate privacy settings, this information could expose young people to unwanted attention or reveal their whereabouts. New parental controls enable adults to manage certain privacy settings, including who can view account details and add teenagers to groups.

COMMERCIAL AND AI CONTENT

WhatsApp includes advertising in parts of its Updates section and offers Meta AI, an integrated AI assistant. Young people may encounter sponsored content, misleading AI responses, or information which is unsuitable for their age. New parental controls offer a stricter 'Limited Content' setting for Meta AI; however, this cannot guarantee that every response will be accurate or appropriate.

ONLINE

Advice for Parents & Educators

EXPLORE NEW PARENTAL CONTROLS

WhatsApp's new optional parental controls are being rolled out gradually, giving families more ways to manage teenagers' privacy and interactions. Teenagers will need parental approval using a parent-set PIN to relax any protected settings. Keep the conversation open and set up the controls together, remembering that parents can adjust or switch them off at any time.

MANAGE CHANNELS AND AI

Explore the new settings for Channels, Status updates, and Meta AI. Parents can restrict Channels to approved selections or prevent teenagers from viewing them. They can also choose Meta AI's stricter 'Limited Content' option, which restricts certain topics. Remind young people that AI can produce inaccurate information and encourage them to question responses rather than accepting them at face value.

MONITOR GROUP ACTIVITY SAFELY

New parental controls notify adults when teenagers join or leave groups, or when a group grows significantly in size. These alerts can help identify potentially concerning interactions without revealing private messages. Encourage young people to discuss unfamiliar groups, uncomfortable conversations, or pressure from other members and that they can leave, mute, or report if they feel uncomfortable or unsafe.

PRIORITISE TRUST AND COMMUNICATION

Parental controls should support conversations about online safety, not replace them. Explain that WhatsApp's new features do not give adults access to private messages or calls, helping teenagers understand that their privacy remains protected. Reassure young people that they can speak openly about upsetting content, unwanted contact, or pressure from other group members.