



Cranwell Primary School

Newsletter

8th October
2014
Term 1 Issue 78

A Parents' Guide to Assertive Mentoring at Cranwell Primary School

What is Assertive Mentoring?

Assertive Mentoring is a whole school system which aims to raise achievement for all children. We believe that it will support us well with what we already do at Cranwell Primary School, and will raise standards by strengthening good practice and refining our existing systems.

The Key aspects of Assertive Mentoring are:

- Target setting which is based on the school's data analysis of your child's prior attainment or baseline testing. This sets challenging targets which are based on skills your child needs to work on over a period of approximately two months.
- The system assists teachers to make highly accurate assessments of your child's learning needs. This enables teachers to focus their teaching on the 'gaps in their learning' to accelerate progress.
- Pupil tracking identifies if a child is meeting their potential.
- Support systems which include the assertive mentoring conversation provide a collaborative dialogue based on the child's present and future learning.

The child remains central to the whole process throughout.

How will Assertive Mentoring benefit my child?

- All children from the Foundation Stage to Year Six are encouraged to have ownership of their own targets
- All children will have targets for Reading, Writing and Maths, together with relevant aspects of school life pertinent to your child, for example, presentation of work, attitude to homework, wearing of correct uniform, bringing into school PE kit, attendance and punctuality.
- All children will have the opportunity to meet with their teacher on an individual basis to talk positively about their progress, their targets, their attitude to learning and their effort in class. They will be encouraged to reflect on how well they are doing in relation to their own personal learning targets.
- All children, including those with SEN or who are Gifted and Talented, take a full part in ensuring they have a clear understanding of how they can achieve identified targets and next steps will be discussed with the child.
- Children will become more motivated to succeed and meet their targets



How does Assertive Mentoring enrich the Parent/School Partnership?

- Parents and teachers will have a joint understanding of the principles and aims of Assertive Mentoring. This will enable parents and school to work as a team to ensure every child reaches their full potential.
- The dialogue with the teacher can focus in on what additional support and strategies can be undertaken at school and home to maximise progress for the child.

Parents' Evening will allow us to discuss every aspect of the Assertive Mentoring system with you.



Hot School Meals

The Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) implementation within school has been relatively smooth to manage the huge increase in children having school dinners. We are now serving in excess of 200 meals per day. The Midday Supervisors and staff at School have worked extremely hard to ensure the provision of the meals, as well as the eating environment, are encouraging for the children. The quality of the food has been excellent and the portions the children receive are plentiful.

UIFSM is not to be confused with being eligible for Free School Meals (FSM), which can run throughout your child's time in school and not just in infants. You may be eligible if you are in receipt of certain benefits and this is called Pupil Premium. Pupil Premium can be used by the school in a variety of ways to help support your child. A breakdown of what we spend our FSM Pupil Premium on is found on our School Website. If you have not applied for FSM, please contact the school office.

Using a Knife and Fork

Please teach your child to use a knife and fork at home. The lunchtime staff help the children as much as they can e.g. chopping up some foods, but it is important the children acquire the basic skill of using a knife and fork. Of course for our youngest children we help them as much as they need. We have a lot of staff but the ratio is not the same as at home so the children do need to learn basic skills. The children are doing really well and are enjoying their dinners. It is great to see so many children enjoying delicious, well - balanced meals in the middle of the day.

Film Club

We are delighted to inform you that FILMCLUB will be showing its second film of this academic year on Wednesday 15th October 2014. It will be a chance for your child to experience a variety of films in a safe, happy and structured setting.

Our FILMCLUB aims to make a wide range of films available, which challenge, unite, educate, amaze and inspire.

Our FILMCLUB will be running from immediately after school until 5.00pm. Refreshments will be provided and there will be a small charge of £1 to cover this.

We will be watching **Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs**. This film has a U rating and is classified as suitable for all.



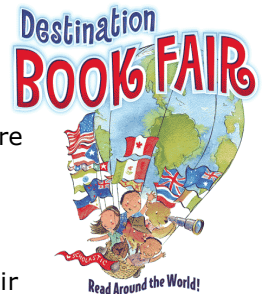
Manny and co are back for their latest action-packed adventure this time taking them beneath the earth's icy surface to explore a hidden world. When slothful Sid stumbles across three abandoned eggs in an underground cave, he decides to adopt them. But before long, the babies mother - a giant T-Rex - comes to claim them, kidnapping Sid in the process. The gang launch a rescue mission and encounter some funny new faces along the way, while Scrat meets his match - a female squirrel called Scratte.

Parent Evenings

Parent Evenings have been arranged for the week beginning 20th October 2014. You should have already received an appointment request letter outlining possible times to meet with your class teacher. When these have been sent back into school, teachers will work together to ensure siblings who are in different classes have appointment times close together. Please contact the school office if you have not received one. The School Governors will be in school while Parent Interviews take place, providing refreshments and answering any questions you may have.

Bookfair

The traditional Bookfair will be available while Parent Interviews are taking place. The stalls will be displayed within the school hall for children to purchase books. The children will have the opportunity during the week to visit the Bookfair with their class.



Upcoming Events:

Open Day for Foundation Stage 2015:

Friday 10th October 2014 Between 9:30 - 11:30 am:

School Disco:

Thursday 16th October 2014:

Infants from 3:00 to 3:45pm:

Juniors from 4:00 to 5:00pm:

Parent Interviews & Bookfair:

Week beginning 20th October 2014:

Safety Day:

Thursday 23rd October 2014:

Next PTA Meeting:

12th November 2014 at 9:30 am:

Christmas Fayre:

Thursday 11th December 2014:

between 3:15 and 5:15pm:

School Trip to the Newark Pantomime:

Friday 12th December 2014:

This Academic year:

Term 1 ends - Thurs 23rd October 2014:

Term 2: Mon 3rd November - Thurs 18th December 2014:

Term 3: Tuesday 6th January - Fri 13th February 2015:

Term 4: Monday 23rd February - Thurs 26th March 2015:

Term 5: Monday 13th April - Friday 22nd May 2015:

Term 6: Monday 1st June - Wednesday 22nd July 2015:

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