



Weekly Newsletter

'Education on another level, where possibilities are endless'



END OF AUTUMN TERM

Our Autumn Term chapter is done, and what a chapter it has been! When you walk around school, visit the classes and see everything they have learnt, are learning and how our children are developing and progressing, you realise just how far they have come over the last term.

- Pre-School – our children have started school for the first time, learnt new routines, built new friendship and moved into their new classroom.
- Reception – our children have settled in so well to life in Reception – for both those children who moved up from our Pre-School and our new children who joined in September. They have all grown up so much since September and are already showing us how they are respectful and kind in everything they do.
- Year 1 - it is easy to underestimate the jump from Reception to Year 1 (and our children have even moved to a new floor in school) but they have done it so well! They have taken to new routines well and are embracing the new learning that comes with Year 1, as well as continuing to support our younger children across school.

The last couple of weeks of our Pantomime, Winter Performances, festive activities and parties have been a lovely way to end our Autumn term.

Some school updates this term have included our playground with new Astro and equipment, artwork around school (more to come in 2026), continuing to work with National Trust Castlefield Viaduct along with welcoming in families for our Play & Pick Up and Mystery Readers sessions.

Our PTA have had a busy term too! Our new Chairs Bisma and Corinne, along with the wider team, have set out to raise even more funds through the Halloween Party, Winter Card Project as well as providing refreshments at our Performances. The money the PTA raise is vital additional funds that will directly benefit our children and school. We are hoping to begin our garden development work across the Spring and Summer terms so thank you to our PTA and all of you who have supported.

I'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone! To the staff team, who are brilliant and help to make our school the place it is. Thank you to all of you - our parents/carers and extended families for your continued support throughout this term. An extra thank you for all the messages, well wishes, cards and gifts that have been shared ahead of the festive break - your words of thanks really do mean a great deal to us all. And finally to our children - thank you! This week each class received a Character Award Certificate for Bravery and Citizenship for their Winter Performances. They also received a 'Proud Postcard' again for their performances, but also their work over the last term. We will be sharing more about Proud Postcards next term!

Whatever you have planned over the next two weeks, whether you are celebrating, relaxing and/or spending time with friends and family - we wish you a wonderful holiday. We look forward to seeing you in the new year when school reopens for our children on **Tuesday 6th January 2026 at 8:45am**.

Best wishes, from everyone at Crown Street Primary.

Winter Break Reading Challenge

As you know, reading is very, very important! Reading little and often at home helps build confidence, improve vocabulary, strengthen relationships and spark imagination- all while having fun! We want to continue to encourage this over the holiday, so on the last page of this Newsletter you will find a Reading Challenge for over the Winter break.

This is *entirely optional*, however has been designed so that you can pick and choose the activities and engage with it in a way that works for you and your child. This is meant to help provide some structure, but also fun with your reading routine. We have also included a few (*optional*) additional ideas for over the break.

We would love to see pictures and/or a list of what books have been read and enjoyed documented on Tapestry (this can just be on one post at the end of the holiday rather than updates per each 'challenge' to make it easier). I hope that amidst whatever you have planned, that reading weaves its way in and throughout your holiday.

DIGITAL WELLBEING INFORMATION

We appreciate that our children at Crown Street are still young, however we understand and appreciate that they are exposed to technology in various forms. We appreciate the benefits technology can offer, but we also appreciate the difficulties and potential risks that technology and the online-world can bring, along with other more subtle risks posed to things like attention span, self-esteem and more broader moral values.

With this in mind, and ahead of the festive break (a time where children may be spending more time using/accessing technology) we wanted to share some information that may support parents with eSafety.

For under 5s please click here –
internetmatters.org/advice/0-5/

For over 5s please click here –
internetmatters.org/advice/6-10/

On each of the pages you can download a guide, as well as find information including suggested apps and guides on parental controls.

ALLERGY AWARE SCHOOL

Please remember we are an allergy aware school. Under **no circumstances** should nuts, or any **product containing nuts**, be bought onto school premises. This includes the children walking in with breakfast items in the morning. We ask that parents/carers continue to follow this rule with the snacks that they bring at the end of the school day. Thank you for your cooperation.

RECEPTION 2026 ADMISSIONS

Deadline = 15th January 2026

The deadline for Reception Admissions for September 2026 is **15th January 2026**. The co-ordination of admissions is undertaken by Manchester City Council. Should you, or anyone you know be interested then you can find more information on our website by clicking here – [Reception Admissions](#)

We are offering one more School tour for prospective Reception parents on 12th January, please [click here](#) to book a tour.

Please note being part of our Pre-School does not guarantee you a place within our Reception.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mon 5th Jan – Inset Day – school closed to pupils

Tues 6th Jan – School reopens, first day of Spring 1 term

For 2025-26 and 2026-27 Term Dates please [click here](#)

In our first Newsletter back, we will be sharing all the dates you need to know for Spring term.

BEHAVIOUR UPDATE

Last week we shared information about our Behaviour Policy updates. As mentioned, much of how we teach and support behaviour in school won't change too much. The updates will help us to support our children by encouraging them to 'own' their behaviour, and it will allow us to be more systematic and timely in the way we share negative behaviour with parents/carers and how we can collaboratively work together to support our children. The full policy can be found by [clicking here](#) We will continue to share more information with you as we enter the new term. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Express Uniform – Discount Code

Express Uniform has launched a promotional offer for rest of December. Use the code HOHOHO10 at checkout for 10% off – this expires on 31st December at 23.59!



PTA - easyfundraising

Ahead of any festive purchases you are making – please consider supporting our PTA for free by joining [easyfundraising](#) (please click the link highlighted or search Crown Street Primary School PTA). This allows for many retailers to donate to us whenever you shop with them.

PRE-SCHOOL 2026 ADMISSIONS NOW OPEN!

If you have a child born between **1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023**, they will be eligible to start in our Pre-School in September 2026.

The Admissions form is now available on the '[Pre-School](#)' page of our website. If you wish to have a look around Pre-School ahead of applying, you are able to book onto a Pre-School tour by clicking - [Book a tour for Pre-School](#)



Bravery



Citizenship



Curiosity



Gratitude



Integrity



Kindness



Reading Challenge

Find and share a Festive / Winter poem

Read a story about an animal

Read a story next to/under some decorations

Read a non-fiction book

Share your favourite picture book

Read a Christmas / Festive / Winter book

Find a book older than you are

Have a whole family bedtime story



Draw a picture from your favourite book

Build a reading den and share a story inside it



Some other activities...

Winter Nature Walk and Scavenger Hunt

Go on a nature walk to explore the environment and observe seasonal changes. You could observe, identify and collect natural objects.

Baking Winter Treats Together

Bake a winter treat with your family or friends. Practise measuring, following directions and cause and effect. Let us know what you made and what it tasted like!

Hot Chocolate (and a book!)

Make hot chocolate and talk about how the ingredients dissolve and mix together. You could even experiment with different flavours or extras! Get cosy and enjoy with a story!

Visiting Family and Friends

Take the time to visit family and friends over the break. You could take photos or draw or write about what you have done and share it with us when we are back at School.

These are just some suggested activities that you may wish to do over the Winter Break.

Please use feel free to upload any photos to Tapestry over the break to either show any of the above, or to keep us updated with what you get up to.