

# CROMWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Cromwell Learning Community Multi Academy Trust

**Senior Executive Leader:**  
Mrs. R. Darr

**Telephone:**  
0121 464 2434

8<sup>th</sup> June 2026



**Address:**  
Cromwell Street  
Nechells  
Birmingham  
B7 5BA

### Summer Term (ii) Newsletter

Dear Parent / Carer(s),

Welcome back for the final half term of this academic year! We hope you enjoyed the break.

At this point can we also take the opportunity to extend a huge thanks to the families who were a part of a spectacular event held at the school at the weekend. Organised by parents and members of the school community, the Eid Fun Day brought everyone together and given its success, we hope this is one of many!

#### Upcoming events

As we draw the school year to a close, there are a range of activities for the children to enjoy, including Sports Week (N – Yr.6), Aston Olympians (Yr.5) swimming sessions (Yrs. 3 – 6), rewards assemblies and class parties (whole school).



Yr.6 will also be presenting their leavers assembly on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July with a celebration on the evening to include a disco, food and refreshments.

In addition, Yrs. 3 – 5 who will go to Caldicott's Nursery to pick strawberries. Immersing children in green, open spaces, away from screens, lowers anxiety and encourages them to be present in the moment.

Taking place during the school day, and travelling on the school minibus, they will be accompanied by a Senior Leader and a qualified Paediatric First Aider. Look out for the punnet of fresh fruit coming home for the family to share!



#### Swimming Sessions

The sessions this year will run from Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June until Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July. Further details of each individual classes swimming will follow a little nearer the time. The required swimming kit for boys will consist of knee length shorts, while for girls it will be a swimming burkini /costume which can be worn with tight leggings (to the ankles) and a long-sleeved top. The children will also need a swimming cap and of course a towel, and waterproof bag to store their kit. Please do not apply sun protection cream during timetables sessions though, as it impacts on the pool's filter system. Thank you.



Swimming is part of the national curriculum for PE in primary schools, meaning that all children in Yrs. 3 – 6 are expected to participate in these sessions. It's a minimum requirement for children to leave primary school, able to swim confidently and safely for at least 25 metres. In addition to this however, our children will be taught how to perform safe, self-rescue and the recent tragedies have gone a long way to demonstrate the importance of these sessions.

#### Appeal for safety after drownings

During the half term heat wave at least 15 people, including children and teenagers, died in open water incidents. While temperatures soared to record heights, few realised that the rivers, lakes and reservoirs used to cool off remained extremely cold. "Cold water shock," is especially dangerous to children and the tragedies have prompted an urgent need to teach children how to stay safe, in and around water.

The Water Safety Partnership appearing on BBC Breakfast advised those who find themselves in difficulty in open water to use the 'Float to Live' technique. 'Lie on your back with your head back, with your ears submerged, use your arms and legs to stabilise yourself and just let your breathing come back to a normal pattern. When you are confident that your breathing is back to normal, you can shout for help or swim to save yourself.'

It's important that stakeholders work alongside one another to ensure the children in school have a clear understanding of water safety but also recognise swimming as a lifelong skill which can develop fitness and also bring enjoyment and relaxation.

#### Statutory Assessments

Over this half term there will be statutory assessments across all key stages. **Yr.4** will be completing the **Multiplication Tables Check** (1<sup>st</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> June), while **Yr.1** will be undertaking the **Phonics Screening Check** (8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> June). The **Early Years Foundation Stage Profile** is used to measure a child's development and learning by the end of their **Reception** year and this too will be finalised in the next few weeks. **Please note that attendance over the term is extremely important to these summative assessments.**



<https://cromwell.eschools.co.uk/>



@cromwellprimary



While no longer statutory, the school also chooses to administer **KS1 SATs**. The assessments in reading and maths allows the school to measure progress and identify specific areas where a child might need additional learning support as they transition in to Key Stage 2. In response to this, **Yr.2** will be completing these assessments **throughout the month of June**.

### Grammar School Entry Exams

Registration is now open for parents of current Year 5 pupils who would like their child to sit the entrance test for a place at any of the grammar schools in Birmingham/West Midlands (entry to Year 7 in September 2027).

Registration can be made online by visiting the website below. If you are interested in registering your child please do so before the closing date on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2026 at 4.00pm. The test is then timetabled to take place on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2026.

[www.westmidlandsgrammarschools.co.uk](http://www.westmidlandsgrammarschools.co.uk)

### Attendance and Term Time Leave

As we approach the summer months, a reminder too, that Headteachers can only authorise leave in exceptional situations. **General family holidays or cheaper travel are not considered valid excuses** and parents are requested to adhere to the agreed holiday periods. **This year the school closes on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July which allows for earlier flights and enables families to make appropriate travel arrangements.** Should additional leave be taken, a fine can be triggered if a child has 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a 10-school-week period.

### School Meals

As from September 2026 the school will have a new provider for our school meals. Children, Senior Leaders and Trustees were involved in the tendering process and a decision was taken to award the contract to **Educaters**. With 60 years' experience, their menu options are designed in close collaboration with schools and their children and cater for both cultural and lifestyle choices. The staff are fully trained in preparing and cooking vegan and vegetarian dishes, Halal (HMC and HFA) and Kosher meals as well as a full range of allergen compliant menus. **Photo menus and a wristband pre-ordering system** will also ensure every child gets their first choice. The new providers will be on the school playground in July with sample foods for parents and their children – please look out for them.

In the new academic year **children in Year 3** will need to pay for school lunches unless your family receives qualifying benefits. If eligible, your child can continue to receive free school meals in Year 3 and throughout Key Stage 2. Parents should notify the office of their child's meal option in time for our return in September.

**All parents** should note that from September 2026, Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility in Birmingham will expand to include **all pupils from households in receipt of Universal Credit**, regardless of their earnings. Parents can check their eligibility themselves via <https://apply.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/entrust>. Should you need any additional support, please contact a member of the Admin Team.

And finally .....

### Birmingham City Mission

We have for many years worked with Birmingham City Mission. We have recently been asked if we would be able to support them with a food collection this half term for the foodbank at their Resource Centre. They usually distribute up to 260 food parcels each month, more than 2,500 each year, but their foodbank is currently very low on all food items (except pasta) and they cannot wait until their usual influx in October following Harvest collections. In response, we are looking to support their work and are asking families for contributions of food and / or toiletries. Universally requested non-perishable goods we would welcome this half term include:



- **Tinned Goods:** Fish (tuna, sardines), vegetables (peas, potatoes & carrots) & fruit (pears, peaches & mandarin oranges)
- **Carbohydrates & Staples:** Rice (including microwave pouches), instant mash, and porridge oats.
- **Meal Foundations:** Pasta sauce, tinned soups and baked beans.
- **Hot Drinks & Long-life items:** UHT (long-life) milk, UHT fruit juice, instant coffee, and teabags.
- **Treats & Spreads:** Biscuits, cereal bars, jam and chocolate.
- **Household & Toiletries:** Deodorant, shower gel, shampoo, toothpaste, sanitary towels, and laundry detergent.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Rubina Darr

R.Darr (Mrs)

Snr. Executive Leader

### Term Time Dates

#### Summer Term

**Summer (ii)** Monday 1.6.26 – Thursday 16.7.26

**School Term Break – 17.7.26 – 3.9.26**