



**Crossways supported Joe, Ollie, and Peyton as they joined from the pre-school and they all love being part of the Crossways' school family.**



**The Crossways  
Schools**

Shona and Sean Ryan have Joe and Ollie in Reception and Peyton in Year 2 plus little ones at home who are looking forward to their Crossways journey starting.

#### **Support from day one**

Over the summer before the twins, Joe and Ollie, started in Reception at Crossways, the family received news that Joe has Perthes' disease which effects his hip and means he walks with a walker. "We spoke with school before Joe started and Crossways were very supportive. We have a parking pass so that we can park closer to school's entrance as crossing the road was proving difficult for Joe. I can't thank them enough for helping us settle in. Ollie can get anxious on a morning, and they've asked if there's anything they can do to help. His teacher comes out to meet him and we're okay to go in with him and

help him settle in the classroom. The teachers are always there to welcome each child, it's a lovely school" says Shona.

#### **Settling in**

Adapting to the new school day can be a big change for young children but Joe and Ollie are now fully on board with their new routine. "The boys have done really well adapting to the new school routine. They have a two-week staggered start which builds to full days. They have settled in well, they haven't struggled," says Shona.

### Keeping in touch

Crossways welcomes parents to talk to teachers and staff in school, from catching up at the classroom door to helping with medication, everyone is on hand to talk to. "I'm confident school would let me know of any issues; their communication is brilliant. Joe has medication, the office will always accommodate any changes, nothing ever seems to be any trouble, they're always willing to help," says Shona.

### Moving to Juniors

Crossways has an Infants school and Juniors school and come Year 3 the children make the transition over. "Peyton goes into Juniors next year. They have already started going to have a look around, they've done PE over on the Junior's fields so they're getting the children used to the move. They started introducing them in April. She's looking forward to it," says Shona.

### Star Awards

Each week children are chosen for Star Awards and it's a chance for parents and families to come into Crossways and for the Infants and Juniors to come together and celebrate. "School message you and invite you to come and watch the awards, grandparents can come too, it's so nice to see it rather than the children come home and tell you. It's lovely to hear what the teachers are saying and seeing the children's faces as they receive their awards," says Shona.

### Quick to act

When Peyton joined Reception class after Covid, the teachers were quick to pick up that she needed extra support. "Peyton had speech problems which when she reached Reception, were immediately picked up on. Covid had paused so much of the usual support but the SENCO was there straight away to get her the extra support," says Shona.

### One big family

"Peyton's class are having a picnic and the whole family is welcome to attend, the boys have their play coming up and the teachers host open classroom days where parents can visit; when the boys had theirs, we went in and planted sunflower seeds, it's just a lovely place to be. They are a very family orientated as a school," says Shona.

### Children say

Joe says: "I play with Lego when I need quiet time."

Ollie says: "I love playing on the bikes at lunch time."

Peyton says: "I like reading at home with my mum and dad."



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**Crossways Infant & Junior School**

Knapp Road, Thornbury, BS35 2HQ

**Call:** 01454 866 566

**Email:** [office@crossways.org.uk](mailto:office@crossways.org.uk)

**Website:** [www.crosswaysschools.co.uk](http://www.crosswaysschools.co.uk)

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