Welcome

Castle Hill Infant School

Every day a successful day for all
... whatever it takes

Early Years Curriculum and Learning

Who's Who

Mrs Cameron – Deputy Headteacher and Early Years Leader

Fir Class

- Mrs Nocella – Early Years Teacher
- Miss Hogan - LSA
- Miss Saunders - LSA

Ash Class

- Mrs Dalton– Early Years Teacher
- Miss Cox– LSA
- Miss Saunders– LSA

Our School Values

- Community
- Appreciation
- Self-esteem
- Trust
- Learning
- Excellence





The Early Years Foundation Stage

Castle Hill Infant School

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The EYFS promotes teaching and learning to ensure children's 'school readiness' and gives children the broad range of knowledge and skills, providing a good foundation for future progress through school and life.

(DfE Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage)

We link all of our learning with the seven areas of learning and development of the Early Years Foundation Stage:



- Communication and Language (CL)
- Physical Development (PD)
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)
- Mathematics (M)
- Literacy (L)
- Understanding the World (UtW)
- Expressive Arts and Design (EAD)

Each area of learning and development is broken down into different aspects:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

- **Self regulation** – understanding feelings and regulating behaviour
- **Managing self** – basic hygiene and personal needs, being confident to try new things and showing resilience and perseverance
- **Building relationships-** working and playing co-operatively and forming positive relationships





- Next week we are starting our PSHE scheme
- Each year group will work through puzzle pieces to build a puzzle of learning by the end of the unit

Themes covered:

Being Me in My World

Celebrating Difference

Dreams and Goals

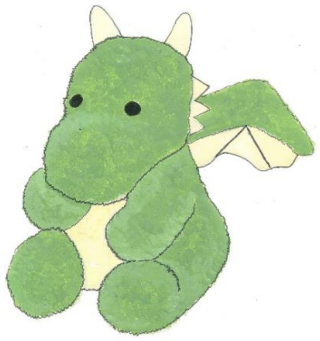
Healthy Me

Relationships

Changing Me

Communication and Language (CL)

- **Listening, Attention and Understanding-** listen attentively and respond to what they hear with relevant questions and comments in whole class and small groups
- **Speaking** – participate in discussions, offer explanations for why things might happen, use new vocabulary and express their ideas and feelings



Physical Development



- **Gross motor** - negotiating space and obstacles safely, demonstrating strength, balance and coordination when playing

- **Fine motor** – holding a pencil effectively, use a range of small tools and begin to show accuracy when drawing

Write Dance



Mathematics (M)

- **Numbers** – having a deep understanding of numbers to 10
- **Numerical pattern** – counting, comparing and exploring pattern



Literacy (L)

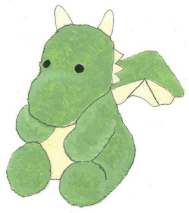
- **Comprehension**
- **Word reading**
- **Writing**

Understanding the World (UtW)

- Past and present
- People, culture and communities
- The natural world

Expressive Arts and Design (EAD)

- Creating with materials
- Being imaginative and expressive






EYFS Profile

- Ongoing assessment takes place throughout the year
- Observations of the children help us to gain an understanding of development and learning
- The children will be assessed at the end of the year against the Early Learning Goals

Delivering the Early Years Curriculum at CHIS

- Children access a range of activities and experiences which cover all areas of learning and development

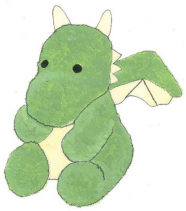
- '**Sparkle Time**' is when children can move freely between the areas of the unit. This time allows children to extend, repeat or explore an activity of their choice. Practitioners at this time will make observations and support the children in order to move their learning on

- Children are taught as a whole class with follow-up activities to enhance and support their learning. This will often be in small groups

Projects

- We look at a range of exciting projects throughout the year
- Each time a new project is started you will receive a copy of the parent overview. These can also be found on our website under the curriculum tab, year group pages, Early Years
- Project outcomes and events





Tapestry



- Next week you will receive an activation email
- Tapestry is an online platform. It is one way that we share what the children have been doing with you
- You can upload wow moments from home too
- It is not a communication tool for messages
- There will be one post published a week

Phonics

- We follow the Essential Letters and Sounds phonics programme

- When we get started, we will be sending home a sound wallet for your child. At the end of each week the new sounds will be added that we have been learning. Please work on them at home

- There will be a phonics workshop on the **4th November at 9.05am**

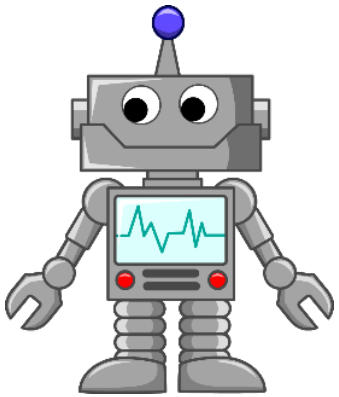
- **Our Early Years page on the website has links to videos modelling how to say each sound**



Blending and Segmenting

- **Segmenting** – breaking the word down to say each sound, e.g. c-a-t

- **Blending** – putting the sounds together to read a word, e.g. cat



Robot arms



Handwriting at Castle Hill Infant School

- At Castle Hill Infant School we use the Kinetic Letters scheme
- We are starting to learn different positions to help our bodies become stronger for writing
- **There will be a workshop in the spring term**

Reading

- Reading books – will start coming the week after next. Each week your child will read with us and be issued with a new book on their reading day. To begin with they will be wordless with a focus on comprehension and book talk
- Please read at home with your child. It is better to do a little bit each day rather than a long session
- The idea is that over the course of the week your child will become more familiar with the book and gain greater fluency and comprehension, so re-reading the book is important throughout the week
- Please use the home learning diary to record when your child reads at home and we will also record in the diary when they read at school
- Book Worms of the Week – at least 3 times a week



National Year of Reading

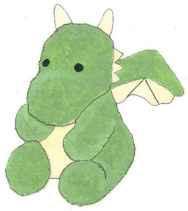
- In January we went 'ALL IN' for the National Year of Reading
- Greater emphasis on developing a love of reading culture
- Library opening – Friday 3.15 - 4pm
- Reading Sheds
- Library environment refreshed
- Optional holiday reading challenges
- World Book Day – We made it into the Gazette!
- Book Worms of the Week Challenge
- Book corners in class – book voting
- National Storytelling Week
- Check out the section of the newsletter each week to see upcoming events and keep up to date with the latest news



Part of the
National Year of Reading 2026
GO ALL IN.



Home Learning

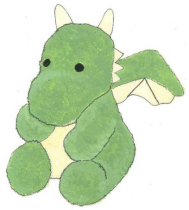


- Sounds
- Key words
- Reading
- Time to Talk – An opportunity for you to talk about a given topic with your child. A small book will come home in book bags for you to record the things your child says. <u>These need to be in school every Monday</u>
- Home learning tasks – Please the see project overview. This contains the key vocabulary we will be teaching
- Handwriting

Reception Baseline Assessment (RBA)

- It is a standardised assessment which is carried out within the first 6 weeks of school
- There is no preparation to do for this and the children don't know they are doing an assessment, they just think they are doing a fun activity

Website





- School information
- Dates for your diaries
- Newsletters
- 'Who's Who' at Castle Hill Infant School
- Early Years page

A few reminders…

- **Please label all** of your child's belongings, especially jumpers, cardigans, water bottles and school shoes
- Water bottles tend to leak in book bags so please get your child to carry them separately
- **Only water** should be in bottles
- Please ensure PE kits are in school ready for when we start to change
- We have a policy of **no earrings** in school
- Children may have one small keyring on their book bag handle

A few reminders…

Outside area- Please can you make sure that the children do not play with anything before or after school. This includes the climbing frame and bikes.



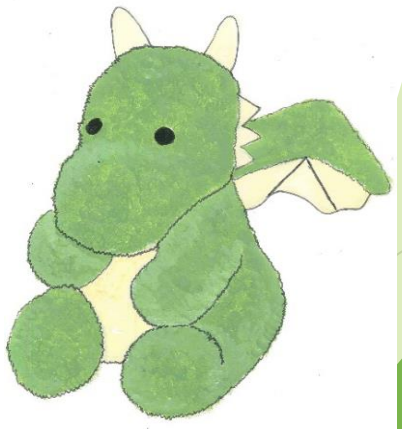
Help and advice

There are a number of people available for help and advice:

- The Early Years team
- Parent Support Advisor – Carol Robertson
- Admin team
- Mrs Fitzpatrick and Mrs Cameron

Parent Partnership

- Open door – come and speak to us!
- Open door events
- Project activities and events
- Home learning
- Newsletters
- Diary dates
- Website



Thank you!

