



# The Herald

12<sup>th</sup> December 2025

What a magical week it has been in school. Both Year R and Year 1 Nativity plays were lovely and have really put everyone in a festive mood! Thank you to all families who generously donated to our collection to support our drive to improve the children's love of reading. The money raised will be used to subscribe to magazines and comics for the reading sheds. In January, the school council will choose what we will be buying.

Next week there are Christmas parties for all Year groups. I will ask the office to send reminders out the day before for Years 1 and 2. Year R's party is on Monday.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Fitz

## Class Stars of the Week



Ellie  
Elliot  
Edward  
Ethan P-F  
Venisa  
Ethan J  
Harley



## Mrs Fitz's Star of the Week



Harry Rolfe



Mrs Fitz is looking forward to a special tea party next Friday with this week and next week's stars of the week.

## Early Years

The children have had a lovely week this week. They performed in their very first nativity and what an amazing job they did! We hope you enjoyed the performance as much as we did. We are very proud of them all.

In RE the children have been exploring the Nativity, talking about where and when Jesus was born and why this is such a special time for us to celebrate.

During our project lessons, the children have completed some birthday writing, writing their names, age and a gift they received for their birthday. They have produced some fantastic work and worked so hard.

In phonics the children have learnt the digraphs sh, th, ng, nk. These sounds will be sent home with them today to practice over the Christmas holidays.

On Monday we have our Christmas party for Early Years. The children can come into school wearing their favourite party wear. Please ensure that they wear sensible shoes. We will also be celebrating this special time of year with lots of festive activities for the children to explore.

Thank you again for all your support, have a lovely weekend!

Early Years Team

### Year 1

We've had a very busy week making our last preparations for our Christmas play 'The Bossy King'! If you were able to make it to see a performance yesterday, we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. The children have worked so hard to make it a great show and we are incredibly proud of them all for taking part.

This week in maths the children have been using number lines to help with addition and subtraction number sentences. In our writing sessions the children have created a Christmas acrostic poem about a Christmas tree or Santa!

In RE the children have worked in groups to create a story map of the Nativity and have written short sentences about each part of it.

Next week we have our Year 1 Christmas party on Tuesday so remember the children can wear their own clothes into school for the day. Please ensure they are still dressed appropriately for the weather and have sensible shoes as they will still be going out for break and lunchtime.

Have a lovely weekend,

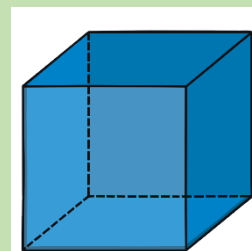
The Year 1 Team

### Year 2

The children have had a fabulous time learning about New Zealand in their 'Land of the Long White Cloud' project. Thank you to all those who attended our outcome on Wednesday. The children were very eager to share their facts with you!

Next week, we will finish our unit on shape in maths, looking at 3D shapes and their properties. For example, a cube has 6 faces, 8 vertices and 12 edges.

In addition, the children will take part in lots of Christmas activities next week, including our Year 2 Christmas party on Wednesday (children only) where they will play games and on Friday take part in our Christmas Trail!



In Maple class, we have welcomed a new LSA who will be working with the current team. Her name is Miss Marsh and the children have all given her a very warm Castle Hill welcome.

Have a lovely weekend,

The Year 2 Team

### Castle Hill Friends

🎄 ✨ Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from Castle Hill Friends! ✨ 🎄

As 2025 comes to a close, we want to say a huge THANK YOU to all our families, staff, and volunteers for your incredible support throughout the year 💙. From discos to fayres, trips to special treats — none of it would be possible without you.

We wish you all a joyful Christmas filled with laughter, love, and plenty of festive cheer 🎅 🎁

☀️ Here's to an exciting 2026 — with more events, more fun, and more opportunities to make lasting memories together! ☀️

With gratitude and best wishes, — Castle Hill Friends PTA

## **Office Notices**

### **INSET Days**

#### **2025/2026**

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026

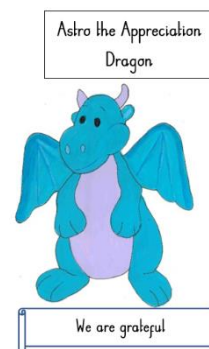
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2026

## **Thought of the Week**

Next week in school we will focus on our school value of appreciation. With this value we are looking to develop the skills of being grateful. We are particularly thinking about:

I am grateful for what I have

This is part of our 'I am grateful' value



## **Diary Dates**

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Early Years Christmas Party (during school hours) children can come to school in party clothes

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December – Year 1 Christmas Party (during school hours) children can come to school in party clothes

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – iRock Concert (iRock parents invited to attend) – 9am

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Year 2 Christmas Party (during school hours) children can come to school in party clothes

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Year 2 Christmas Concert - 14:15pm – Year 2 Parents invited (ticket only)

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Event morning

### **Christmas holiday**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January**



Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January – School Re-opens for Spring Term