



# The Herald

19<sup>th</sup> December 2025

I would like to express my gratitude for your tremendous support during our Christmas events. Your participation and enthusiasm truly embodied the spirit of our school family. I am proud to announce that our collection for the National Year of Reading has reached an impressive final total of £370.

As we celebrate the end of term, we also bid farewell to a valued member of our staff. Mrs Crane has been a dedicated member of the community for 24 years. First as a parent and PTA member, then as a governor and a member of staff. She has helped to shape the lives of so many children and support their families. Mrs Crane has also been a long-standing Governor, working with both the school and local community in this role. I would like to thank her for the huge contribution she has made. I'm sure you will all join me in wishing her all the best in her future endeavours.

Over the Christmas holidays, Miss Gomes will be getting married. She will be returning in January as Mrs Newman. We hope she has a very special day. We also look forward to welcoming Mrs Fitz-Desorgher, who will be joining us in January to teach Rowan Class, alongside Mrs Cameron and myself.

Thank you for your continued support and the lovely gifts that the team and I have received. I wish you all a joyous and restful Christmas holiday and look forward to seeing you all on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January.

Mrs Fitz

## Early Years

Well done to all the children, they have completed their first term and have done a super job! We are so proud of how much they have achieved over the last couple of months. In the new year, we will be starting our new project 'The Magic Ride', please look out for any parent overviews which will contain all the details about what they will be learning, home learning and the project outcome.

This week, we have been exploring the different ways Christmas is celebrated all over the world and how it was celebrated in the past, relating it back to our past learning about how everyone is different and unique. In maths, we have started looking at one more and one less to 5.

The children have had lots of fun today, taking part in a variety of Christmas events and meeting a very special person!

Thank you so much for all of your support and we hope you have a great Christmas and New Year!

Early Years Team

## Year 1

This has been a lovely first term for Year 1! We have already completed two fantastic projects and look forward to moving onto the next. In January we will begin our new project 'Showtime!' and will send out the parent overview containing all the information in the first week.

For maths this week we have been doing some Christmas themed activities to recap addition, subtraction, number ordering and repeated patterns.

We have also completed some Christmas themed poems, written our wishes for the world and worked in groups to order and describe the Nativity story.

The children have loved joining in with the Christmas event today and we're sure they will tell you all about it!

Over Christmas we will be sending home some handwriting practise and a winter break recount for you to complete at home with your child. Please feel free to send these back into school when completed as we love seeing any work produced at home!

Thank you for your continued support this term and we hope you have an amazing Christmas and New Year! 😊

The Year 1 Team

## Year 2

What a wonderful term we have had! So much learning has happened and the children have really made us proud. They have settled into Year 2 well and are taking things in their stride. The children have become geographers, artists and scientists through the two amazing projects that we have done this autumn term.

This week has been all about Christmas and having some down time whilst completing fun activities. We have had a fantastically, festive Christmas Trail today!

Thank you for your continued support. We hope that you have a fabulous Christmas break! We look forward to seeing all the children back in January, where Miss Gomes will be Mrs Newman!!

The Year 2 Team

## Castle Hill Friends

☀️ A Huge Thank You to Stacey Bushell ☀️

We want to say a heartfelt THANK YOU to Stacey Bushell for her incredible dedication as Chair of the PTA. Stacey has given so much of her time, passion, and energy over the years to support our children and make every event possible. Her commitment has been nothing short of inspiring, and we are so grateful for everything she has done behind the scenes, she is truly amazing! ❤️

While Stacey will remain part of the PTA until July, she is now stepping down as Chair. We'll miss her leadership, but we're excited to continue working alongside her in the months ahead 🥰

As we look to the New Year, we'd love more parents to join us in keeping the PTA strong and vibrant. Whether you can spare a little time or a lot, every bit of help makes a difference — and it's a wonderful way to be part of our school community. ✨

Here's to new beginnings in 2026, and to celebrating all that Stacey has achieved! 🎉

## 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

Astro the Appreciation  
Dragon



We are grateful

### **Diary Dates**

**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

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January – Year 2 Titanic Museum Trip