



# The Herald

10<sup>th</sup> October 2025

The Harvest Festival on Monday was really lovely. The children all sang beautifully and it was lovely to have our Early Years children with us. Thank you so much for all of the harvest donations. As you can see in the photograph, we have had lots in and the foodbank have been to collect everything.



Please can I remind you that children should not be bringing toys into school as they get upset if another child plays with them or they go missing.

Today is World Mental Health Day. We have used our 'My Happy Mind' resources across the school as well-being is a key part of our values. There is a parent app for this programme and we have put posters on the windows with login in details for parents. If you would like this sent to you, please email the office.

I have started tours for parents who have children starting school in September 2026. If you have a child starting school in September, please book onto one of our tours via the office. It would be lovely to see you.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Fitz

## Class Stars of the Week



Envy  
Indigo  
Murari  
Carter  
Ivy J  
Teddy



## Mrs Fitz's Star of the Week



Elliot



## **Early Years**

This week in Early Years, the children have been introduced to the phonics sounds *i*, *m*, *n*, and *d*. They continue to demonstrate wonderful resilience and a positive attitude towards their new learning, which is a pleasure to see.

In handwriting, the children have begun forming letters as part of our handwriting scheme. They are becoming increasingly confident in using their 'three friends hold' and are developing greater independence with their pencil control.

In mathematics, our focus has been on exploring the concepts of **length** and **mass**. The children enjoyed comparing ribbons of various lengths and predicting which everyday objects would be heavier or lighter. Their curiosity and reasoning skills are really beginning to flourish.

During our project sessions, we have been learning about **wider family relationships**. The children shared information about their families and have been taking part in creating family trees, sparking thoughtful discussions about the **past and present**. As part of this, we created a class timeline to help children begin to understand the sequence of events in their own lives.

Next week in maths, we will be focusing on the number **1**, encouraging children to explore what the number represents and how it can be shown in different ways. In our project sessions, we will continue to explore the importance of family and begin our '**Handy Helpers**' initiative. This will involve children taking on small responsibilities within the classroom, supporting their development of teamwork and community values.

## **A Special Request**

As part of our ongoing exploration of family, we would love to invite any **Grandparents** who may be interested in coming in to talk to the children about their special role in the family. If you or a family member would be willing to participate, please speak to a member of the Early Years Team—we would be delighted to welcome you in!

## **Reminders**

- **Climbing Equipment:** A gentle reminder that children should not use the climbing equipment before or after school. This is to ensure their safety.
- **Time to Talk Books:** Please ensure your child's *Time to Talk* book is brought into school by **Monday, 13th October**. These will support our work on family trees and personal timelines.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We hope you have a lovely weekend.

## **The Early Years Team**

## **Year 1**

On Monday, the children were lucky enough to join in with a drama workshop! They really enjoyed taking part in this and we were very impressed with their acting skills.

In project lessons this week we completed our final piece of writing about the ending to 'Somebody Swallowed Stanley' using adjectives and the conjunction 'and'. We also created some collage artwork similar to artist Jane Perkins, who uses recycled materials to create collages. The children explored cutting and ripping up different materials to create artwork of Stanley in the sea. Lastly, we conducted our final science experiment to find out which materials float and which sink.

In maths, we have been focusing on number bonds up to 10. The children have used practical resources such as counters and tens frames to help work out number bonds and write corresponding number sentences.

Just to inform you we have sent out new Purple Mash logins as they have changed from last year.

On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> of October 2:45-3:15 we have our first Project Outcome for 'Stanley Saves the Seas'! We are excited to showcase your children's work and hope that you can join us to find out more about what they have been learning.

For the outcome there is some information we want to give you so you are aware of what to expect:

- All parents must enter the hall through reception.
- Birch class will be outside on the no-mo between 2:45-2:55 to show parents their kites. They will then come back into the hall to show parents some of their work at stations.
- Rowan class will start inside to show their work at stations and then head out to the no-mo between 2:55-3:05 to show their kites.
- When inside the hall your child will need to stay at their station so that teachers can keep track of where their class is.
- There will be a quiz for parents to take part in (feel free to ask the children for help)!

We look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you and have a great weekend!

The Year 1 Team

## **Year 2**

This week, the children have worked hard researching and finding out about orangutans. They have produced some great fact files which will be shared in our project outcome.

Next week, we are continuing with our Journey Home project and will plot the rest of the journey the animals take on a map. They will also begin to use time adverbials such as 'first', 'next', 'later on', 'after that' and 'finally' to create a recount of the 'Journey Home' story.

In maths, they will use their number bonds to 10 to help solve problems. Please can you practice this with your child over the weekend. They will also be adding three 1-digit numbers. For example,  $2 + 4 + 6 = 12$

Please check all clothing is named as children are missing some clothing items and we would like to return them to the correct family.

Rainbow maths sheets are part of their homework and it is for them to practice at home. We will see the progress when we do rainbow maths in class so sheets can stay at home.

Thank you to those who have brought in their animal habitats. They look great!

Have a wonderful weekend,

The Year 2 Team.

## **Forest School**

We had great fun this week in our Forest School sessions! On Wednesday the children in year 1 enjoyed making paint by crushing chalks into powder and mixing in water. On Thursday year 2 enjoyed making a den with tarpaulin.

We have finished our forest school sessions for this half term, but we will be restarting again in November. We hope that your child has enjoyed joining in with forest school so far and we have lots of fun activities planned for the future sessions!

Thank you

Mrs Fulbrook



### **Castle Hill Friends**

#### **🎃 Non-Uniform Day Alert! 🎃**

On Thursday 7th November, ditch the school uniform and dress to impress! Just bring £1 or a chocolate donation for our festive Christmas Fair 🍷🎄

Let's make it a sweet success—your outfit and your treats are both welcome! 😊

#### **👻 Halloween Disco Alert – 23rd October! 🎃**

2 WEEKS TO GO! Get your kids costumes ready and their dancing shoes on—tickets are now live on our website! 🗨️👧👦 Link is on our socials & below also for you and more detail on timings etc is there too!

Reminder to Join us over at “Castle Hill Friends PTA - Parents” on Facebook socials for the new secure & private page ✨

Have a wonderful weekend and thank you for supporting the PTA! 💙

### **Office Notices**

#### **Individual Photos**

Please note that on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October the school photographer will be in school to take individual photos of the children.

#### **Sibling Photos**

We are pleased to offer an opportunity for sibling photographs on **Tuesday 14th October from 08:00 to 08:45am** in the Castle Hill Infant School Hall.

This session is for siblings where only one child attends Castle Hill Infant School and the others attend another school. Unfortunately, we are unable to accommodate sibling photos during school hours.

Please note:

- This is the only time we are able to offer sibling photographs,
- The session will run on a first come, first served basis, so we encourage families to arrive promptly,
- Siblings who both attend Castle Hill Infant School will have their photographs taken during the school day and do not need to attend this morning session.

#### **Uniform Reminder**

A gentle reminder to please ensure that all items of school uniform are clearly named. This helps us greatly in returning lost items to the correct children and keeps our lost property to a minimum.

#### **Missing scooter**

We've also had a parent ask about a missing purple scooter. It may have been taken home by accident, as we know there are a few scooters of the same style in the playground. If you do find an extra one at home, we'd be very grateful if you could return it to school.

### **INSET Days**

#### **2025/2026**

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025  
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**

Take Pride in your work

(This links with our Excellence Value)



### **Diary Dates**

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October – Individual Photos  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October – Great Athlete Visit  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October – Year 1 Project Outcome – 2:45pm (Parents Invited)  
Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – Early Years Project Outcome – 2:45pm (Parents Invited)  
Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October - Year 2 Project Outcome – 9:05am (Parents Invited)  
Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October – Castle Hill Friends Disco  
    Early Years - 4:00 – 4:45pm  
    Year 1 and 2 – 5:00 – 5:45pm  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October - INSET Day (school closed)

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October – Half-Term**