



# The Herald

12<sup>th</sup> February 2026

What a busy week in school! Thank you for the fantastic support at the project outcomes. The children have thoroughly enjoyed sharing their learning with you. It was also great to have some parents at the Internet Safety talk on Tuesday. Paul Hay, who came to talk to the school, has reviewed our e-safety information on the website and confirmed that it has a wealth of information to support you as parents. It has the key parts from his presentation on it:

<https://castlehillinfantschool.org/key-information/e-safety>

This week has been Children's Mental Health Week. The children have been talking about belonging and how we can work together as a community, reinforcing our value of Community (Cosmo dragon). The choir have identified that singing helps them to feel happy and so they have sung in assembly today to the whole school. Can I remind you that we have access to the My Happy Mind Parent app. On exterior doors there are QR codes and the access code for this app. It will give you a huge range of strategies and videos to support your children at home.

Just a quick reminder that tomorrow is an INSET day. Staff will be either renewing their paediatric first aid or working on the curriculum.

Thank you for all of your support this, very rainy, half term. We look forward to seeing the children back after the half term break.

Mrs Fitz

## National Year of Reading



Part of the  
National Year of Reading 2026

GO  
ALL  
IN.

Our National Year of Reading continues to gather momentum this month and moving into March. This year World Book Day is on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March. We will be holding a number of events across the week, starting on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Please read the letter attached to find out more information about the week.

**Reading Shed update** – Our sheds are in the final stages of organisation and I look forward to sharing news about the opening of them as part of our Book Week celebrations.

**Story time** – At the end of each day, classes enjoy a story together. After half term, we will be introducing a story time voting system where the children will be able to look at 2 books in their class book corners and vote for which one they would like to hear in story time. This will give the children some ownership over the stories shared across the week and develop their understanding of the British Value of democracy.

## LIBRARY NEWS!

Don't forget that **from Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February** I will be opening **the school library every Friday from 3.15pm to 4pm** for you to come and visit with your child. It would be lovely to see you and is a great

opportunity to encourage a love of reading for pleasure. **Entry to the library can be made through the school office once you have picked up your child.**

Mrs Cameron

**Up-coming events:**

Story time voting in class  
Friday Library Opening– 3.15pm – 4pm every Friday (visit with your child)  
Week beginning 2<sup>nd</sup> March – Book Week Activities  
5<sup>th</sup> March - World Book Day – Dress up as your favourite character from a book

**Early Years**

Early Years have had a busy week practicing their dragon dance and getting ready for our project outcome. Thank you so much to those who could make it, the children were thrilled to share their hard work with you.

After half term, we will be starting our new project 'Old MacDonald Had a Farm' and will have a very exciting delivery in Early Years!

Over half term, please could you continue to practice keywords with your child, as the children continue to progress in their sounds, they will encounter more keywords (tricky words) in the books they are reading.

Have a lovely half term and we look forward to seeing you soon.

The Early Years Team

**Year 1**

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Project Outcome! The children were so excited to show their puppets and share the story with you! Thank you also for all your support with the home learning, it's so lovely to see the effort and hard work put into them. After half term we will be starting our new Project 'Wonderful Winklebury' which focuses on the Geography and History of Winklebury. In preparation for this please talk to your child about the area you live in and your address, as part of the project is a piece of writing about where they live! More information will be sent out in our first week back in the parent overview.

In maths this week the children have completed more addition to 20 using part-whole models and number lines. After half term we will be moving onto taking away with numbers to 10.

Just a reminder there is home learning on Purple Mash and Oxford Owl, we have sent the logins home again in case you are unsure of them. We will be sending home some activities for the children to complete over half term in which your children could even challenge themselves to use question marks, exclamation marks or apostrophes.

After half term we are lucky enough to have a cricket instructor in for one PE lesson a week. This will take place on a Wednesday afternoon as well as our usual lesson on Friday afternoon.

Have a wonderful half term!

The Year 1 Team

## Year 2

This term the children have really enjoyed the Iceberg Ahead! Project. They have really got stuck in to the history of the disaster. The children have grown in independence with their writing using expanded noun phrases and a range of conjunctions.

We enjoyed seeing so many of you for our project outcome and hope that you enjoyed seeing and hearing about all the learning that has taken place this term.

In maths, we have continued with multiplication and division, counting in 2's and using this to develop the use of the multiplication symbol 'x'. After half term, we will continue with this unit, moving on to counting in 5's and 10's.

After half term we are lucky enough to have a cricket instructor in for one PE lesson a week. This will take place on a Wednesday morning as well as our usual lesson on Monday afternoon.

We hope that you have a wonderful half term!

Kind regards,

**The Year 2 Team**

## Castle Hill Friends

We hope the children enjoy the disco today! Thank you to all the parents that volunteered to help also, we couldn't do it without you ❤️ We hope you have a lovely half term and thank you for supporting the

PTA ❤️

## Parents evening

Please can we remind you that parents evening is now live on Arbor. If you are finding it difficult booking a parents evening appointment for your child, please contact the school office.

## 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

## Diary Dates

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February – INSET Day

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February – Half term holiday

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February – Children return to school

### **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Book Week**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March Dress ready for bed (Pyjamas, dressing gowns)

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March Sharing our reading Year 2

- Sycamore 09:00
- Maple 14:50

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March Sharing our reading Year 1

- Birch 09:00
- Rowan 14:50

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March World book day! Whole school – children to come to school dressed as their favourite book character

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March Sharing our reading Early Years

- Ash 09:00
- Fir 14:50