



The Herald

4th October 2024

Next week I am holding a 'Nurturing Neurodiversity' support group. This is for anyone who has a child with or suspected to have a neurodiversity. You are very welcome to join if this does not apply to you but you just want to find out more or are neurodiverse yourself. The idea is to pool experiences and help each other. This half term is a get to know you and planning the sessions for the rest of the year. Please join us on Tuesday afternoon at 2:15.

I wanted to share with you that we have moved to a maths scheme called White Rose Maths. This is used by many schools in Basingstoke and across the country. It has lovely interactive resources to engage the children and a big emphasis on reasoning skills alongside usual mathematics learning. There is an interactive resource called 'White Rose One Minute Maths'. This focuses on rapid recall of maths facts and links well with Rainbow Maths challenges in Years 1 and 2. It can go on tablets and phones as an app or be accessed on a computer via this link: <https://whiteroseeducation.com/digital-tools>
On a computer you will then need to put in the code rib – tin – did

We have made the decision to stop using Education City. We are aware that many families found it difficult to access on a tablet and that the resources for Years R and 1 are limited. Access will stop at the end of October. We are looking at a range of options but, as a school, we firmly believe that reading with and to your child is the most important homework. Being able to read opens up their learning and independence.

Next week, assemblies will be focusing on our value of Learning. We have chosen our thought of the week to be 'I learn through my mistakes'.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Fitz
Headteacher

Early Years

This week, the children have enjoyed reading the book 'Marvellous Me' and exploring how each of us and our families are unique.

Next week, we will continue to look at our extended families, and will be learning about family trees. As part of looking at extended families, we would like to welcome any grandparents into school, in the week beginning 14th October, to talk about their role in the family. Please speak to your child's teacher if a grandparent would like to volunteer for this.

'Time to talk' books have come home this week and our topics for talking are around our values and family trees. Please can you ensure that the 'Time to Talk' books are in the children's bags, to assist with our lessons next week. We will be sharing them with each other on Tuesday and will keep them in school until the following week.

We have continued to share our 'All About Me' boxes this week. If your child has not made one, don't panic there is still time to bring it in to share with the class.

In maths next week, we will be looking at mass, capacity and length.

You will notice that there is a zippy wallet in your child's book bag, this contains the sounds we have been learning this week. This will be updated every Friday. If you are unsure of any pronunciations, please see the links to phonics pronunciation videos on our website, on the Early Years Page. The new sounds the children will be learning next week are i, n, m and d.

We hope you have a great weekend and thank you for your continued support,

Early Years Team

Year 1

This week we have finished writing about the sea creatures in our story. We have explored different materials and discussed the strength of plastic and paper bags. The children were very excited to watch as the teachers tested bags with bricks and water! Please ask them about these experiments.

In maths we have begun our unit of addition and subtraction. We have looked at the part-whole model and the symbols + and =. The children have used the symbols to make their own number sentences with number facts within 10.

On our craft table we will be using junk modelling to create sea creatures. Please could you send in any clean, recycled items that you may have such as cereal boxes, egg cartons, plastic bottles or paper tubes.

Our P.E. days will be **Thursday and Friday**. This may occasionally change, so we would ask that children leave their P.E. kits in school. They will be sent home at the end of each half term.

Thank you for your continued support.

We hope that you have a wonderful weekend,

Year 1 Team

Year 2

The children have completed their story planners and are now well into their first 'big write'. We are looking forward to sharing their story recounts with you at our end of project event.

We had a very exciting day at QMC where the children increased their knowledge on food chains and habitats.

We are continuing to work on place value and partitioning in maths and have also looked at < > = symbols.

Other

Our P.E. days will be **Mondays and Tuesdays**. This may occasionally change, so we would ask that children leave their P.E. kits in school. They will be sent home at the end of each half term.

In order to increase independence, please could we ask that children walk up to school with their teacher on their own in the morning.

Homework has been set on Purple Mash this week. Please choose activities, don't do them all!

School Notices

Nasal Flu Vaccine

You would now have received an email regarding your child's Nasal Flu Vaccination which will take place on **Monday 4th November**. Please can you read the email and complete the online consent form.

Year R – Vision screening

We have sent home vision screening consent forms to all Year R parents. Please can these be completed and returned to us so we can pass these onto our school nursing team. If you have not received a consent form or have misplaced it, please contact the school office and we will provide you with a new one.

Harvest Collection

Our Harvest Festival is on Wednesday 9th October. We would like to collect tinned or dried food (unfortunately fresh food will not be suitable). We are collecting for the Basingstoke Food Bank which distributes food to local families when they are in need.

Any contributions will be greatly appreciated.

School Photos

On Wednesday 16th October our school photographer will be taking individual and sibling photos. The sibling photos are for children who attend here and Castle Hill Primary across the way. If you would like a sibling photo taken, please can you email the admin office at admin@castlehill-inf.hants.sch.uk stating both your children's full names, years and classes.

Sibling photos will only be taken on the request of the parents, if we do not receive an email from you, we will assume you do not want a sibling photo taken.

Castle Hill Friends

Keep an eye on our socials for updates on upcoming events

www.facebook.com/castlehillfriends

www.instagram.com/castlehillfriends

castlehillfriends@outlook.com

Stars of the Week



Jacob
Prajnaya
Waiyan
Grace
Frazer F
Rana



Diary Dates

Tuesday 8th October - Nurturing Neurodiversity Support Group 2:15pm

Wednesday 9th October - Harvest Festival (children only)

Wednesday 16th October - School photos - **individual & sibling photos**

Thursday 17th October - Year 1 project outcome – 2:45 (Parents invited)

Friday 18th October - Year 2 Project outcome – 2:45 (Parents invited)