

### **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October - Planting & Eco Day**

Dear Parents and Friends of Castle Hill,

We are excited to welcome you back onto our school grounds for our traditional bulb planting event – albeit with a slight twist! Each year group has a designated area and time slot when they will be going onto the school grounds to do some planting, which we can then look forward to watching grow and flower! If you would like to join your child’s class to plant some bulbs/ seeds, then please see the times below.

This year, our planting (and Eco Day) will be held during our school’s Art week, which ties in well with the sustainability theme for the week. On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October, the children will be carrying out Eco activities including birdwatching and planting. As part of this, Early Years and KS1 will be carrying out workshops to create poppy and wildflower ‘seed bombs’ with Craig Whitelock from Hampshire and IOW Wildlife trust. Early Years Parents and KS1 parents are invited in to plant the ‘seed bombs’ which the children will have created in their workshop. KS2 will be planting bulbs as usual, however we are going for a theme for our bulb planting this year, which is going to be **bluebells** and **snowdrops**. We would appreciate any bulb donations – large or small – towards this event, or alternatively any donations towards funding the cost of the bulbs would also be greatly welcomed. We are looking for donations for native (rather than Spanish) bluebell and snowdrops bulbs - if these could please be brought into school by the **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October**, that will allow us enough time to check how many bulbs we have and purchase any more that may be needed.

Can we please ask you to provide your child/children with a change of shoes and appropriate clothing i.e. wellington boots or spare trainers, as the school grounds may be damp on the day. As this is a whole school activity, we would like to ask each family if possible to bring in their own safe tools. These should be labelled with the child’s name on them, so that we can return them to you. The school will provide some tools, but as you can imagine there will only be a limited amount available.

Please find below the bulb planting details for your child’s class. The gates will be unlocked 5 minutes before the start time to allow you to come onto our school grounds.

<b>Class</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Area to meet</b>
EYFS (Reception)	18/10/2023	10.55 – 11.25	Park gate
Year 1	18/10/2023	13.20 – 13.50	Park gate
Year 2	18/10/2023	14.20 – 14.50	Main front school gate
Year 3	18/10/2023	09.15 – 09.45	Park gate
Year 4	18/10/2023	09.50 – 10.20	Lower gate on service road
Year 5	18/10/2023	13.45 – 14.15	Main front school gate
Year 6	18/10/2023	14.20 – 14.50	Park gate

Thank you in advance for your support.

The Castle Hill Team