

Parent Newsletter



December 2023



Castle Hill School

Newsletter 2

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Welcome to our second parent/carer newsletter and welcome to all new families to the school. We all know that navigating the Special Educational scene can be challenging. Helping each other can really make a real difference, because friends and extended family don't always know or fully understand how day-to-day life can be with a child with complex special needs.

As a group of parents, we would like to produce a regular newsletter where we can all share our knowledge and experience – providing information about upcoming events and giving details of charities and other organisations that can offer help.

We welcome as much feedback as possible, so please contact us with anything you feel could benefit the children or parents/carers of Castle Hill. We look forward to hearing from you!

You can contact

Victoria Lee at victoria.lee@castlehillschool.org.uk

Alison Ainley at alison_ainley01@icloud.com

Laura Dodds at ljdoddles@hotmail.co.uk

Upcoming Events

SEND SESSIONS

FREE +1 PLACES!

DARE 2 AIR!
INFLATABLE TRAMPOLINE PARK

Saturday 09:30am

Sunday 10:30am

TAG

Visit www.yeahdaysout.co.uk/ for more info

Shabang! & PCAN invite you to...

"Drawing Breath"

FREE!
(but booking essential)

A friendly creative session for parents and carers of children with additional needs.

Arts, crafts, wellbeing...but mostly **FUN!**

5 Tuesdays from April 25th
10.30am - 12.30pm
Get in touch!
info@shabang.org.uk
01484 308260

Old Providence Chapel
Hollins Row
Slaithwaite
HD7 5LA
(easy bus route from Huddersfield)

[HURRAY BOOKINGS TAKEN FOR THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS]

KIRKLEES SCHOOLS OUT!

SENSORY WORLD
OLD WESTGATE
DEWSBURY
WF13 1NB

To book
07801065589

FREE
for send children
with Tea

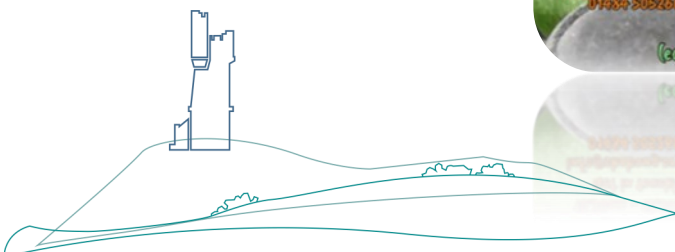
Free for children on the free School meals register.

Games
out door play

Karaoke
And much more.

Cooking

Family Holiday Activities
2nd 3rd 4th 5th January
2.00 - 6.00



**USEFUL
INFORMATION**

PARENT GROUP CUPPA AND CHAT

We regularly hold cuppa and chat meetings at school which gives parents/carers the chance to chat, ask advice and discuss fundraising. This has traditionally been held on a morning but we are asking for feedback about the times, would mixing the times be helpful for some parents such as holding an afternoon meeting or even organising a social evening zoom chat? Would this allow more parents to be available? We would welcome feedback so we can reach as many families as possible.

Christmas events in school:

Wednesday 13th December – Christmas Assembly, Christmas Café and parent group tombola

Thursday 14th December – EYFS and Primary Christmas party (*for students only*)

Monday 18th December – Secondary and Sixth Form Christmas party (*for students only*)

Wednesday 20th December – Christmas jumper day (*for students only*)

Friday 22nd December – Father Christmas visit (*for students only*)

USEFUL INFORMATION

FACEBOOK

On Facebook there is a group called 'Castle Hill Parent Group' this is a group for only parents/carers of the school, where we can share supportive information with each other, sell/give away equipment and receive updates on events happening in school and the local community. Once found you just need to click join and wait to be accepted.

KIRKLEES SEND LOCAL OFFER

www.kirkleeslocaloffer.org.uk

This is a local site aimed at parents/carers and young people with special educational needs and disabilities in Kirklees. The site helps parents/carers to find information, support, and local events.

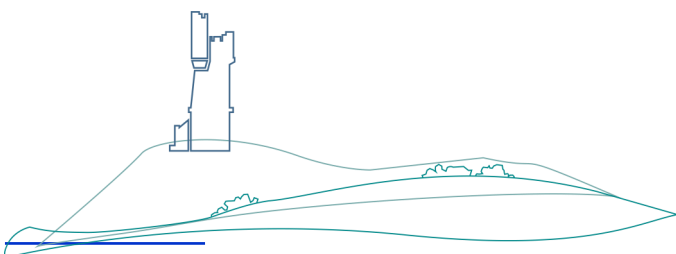
PCAN

www.pcankirklees.org

PCAN is an independent, parent led forum for all parents and carers of children/young people (aged 0-25 years) with additional needs in Kirklees. PCAN welcomes any parent or carer, whether they are just becoming aware that their child may have additional needs, or whether they have a child with a confirmed diagnosis.

PCAN provides information to help parents and their children, a chance to meet and network with other parents through events and social media, and works with local service providers to ensure that parents have their say in the design and delivery of local services for their children.

Their website and closed Facebook group is updated regularly with information and updates about events and activities relevant to parent carers and their children. Members of PCAN will receive a quarterly newsletter. It is free to join - just follow the link on the website. We are a voluntary organisation run by Trustees who are all parents of children with additional needs.



MAX CARDS

info@pcankirklees.org To apply for a max card (small charge applies).

For example, for a fee you can apply for a max card that gives you special offers at attractions across the UK, for example Eureka have an offer on now of 1 adult free entry and 1 child under the age of 11 free when max card presented. For further information visit the Max card www.Mymaxcard.co.uk where there is a list of venues/attractions and their current offers (these change frequently with new attractions added all the time).

CAREFREE

<https://carefreespace.org>

Carefree provides vital breaks for unpaid carers at a cost of £25 to cover admin fees, to book you just need to register on the site above. Recently a parent stayed in a lovely hotel in Leeds (lots of other locations available) which included a delicious breakfast. You do need to arrange your own respite for the child.

SHABANG

Shabang inclusive learning is a child and young person-centered organisation where the needs of participants with additional needs are paramount to our provision. A place, both real and virtual, where participants feel valued, included, and supported. A place of empathy, understanding and love where participants can explore and develop their potential whatever their abilities. A place where participants are not disabled by the physical environment or preconceptions of ability.

FULFIL THE WISH

Fulfilthewish.org

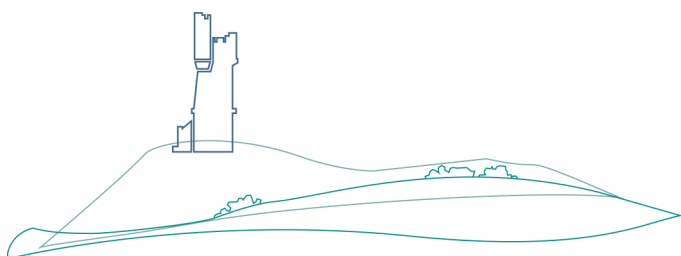
Fulfil the Wish offers fun, friendship and companionship through bespoke group holidays, days out and fun adventures for all the family.

They provide families with the opportunity to enjoy experiences together, to set aside the pressure of caring for a special needs child and enjoy quality family time together where disability is not a barrier to participation, fun or friendship. Some recent days out included Sailing at Windermere and learning circus skills.

PUPIL INDIVIDUAL PHOTOS

Purple Cow Photography are visiting school on 11th, 12th and 13th March.

Pupil photographs will be on sale with a variety of different options. More details will be sent out nearer the time.



SAFE PLACE TRAVEL BED

www.safeplacebedseu.com



Thick material with double welded seams and double stitched zips
Easy-to-clean floor made of comfortable felted plastic
Zipper locks for added security if required



Safe place beds are portable, inflatable safety beds for children with additional needs.

Lightweight, compact, and easy to set up, Safe Place Beds can be used for a night away or much longer. Get peace of mind that your child can have a safe sleeping environment anywhere they go. They can be used on top of a mattress or can have a camping inflatable mattress inside or even the Ikea soft play mats, they go up in minutes with an inflatable pump. They are currently £285 and £15 postage and packaging. If you want any more information you can contact Lucy Todd on safeplacebedseu@gmail.com

The date of the next Parent Group is: -

Friday 8th December 2023 at 9:30am

Monday 15th January 2024 at 1:30pm

All welcome, this is a chance to meet other parents/carers in school, enjoy refreshments and a chat.

Don't forget you can help raise funds for Castle Hill School whenever you shop online!

Use easyfundraising to shop with over 3,500 big name retailers including Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, and Booking.com – and when you shop, you'll raise a free donation for us every time.

It's that easy!

Help support us: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/castlehillhuddersfield/>



Please can you complete this section (or on extra paper) your views about the parent group. What would you like to happen at them? We are wanting ideas on what we can spend the fundraising money on and ideas for fundraising.

