

Newsletter 4: Friday 30th September 2022

Dear Families

The weather is certainly changing as the winter approaches. All the staff are very lucky because Mrs Hickey made each and every one of us a fabulous chunky knit. We call them our Hickey hugs! As well as reminding us all of her warmth, they also are doing a good job of keeping out the cold. Please could you ensure your child has a named coat in school for the colder days. Also, having their jumper in school will help us all survive a little longer without having to put the heating on.

Big Write

On Monday the children will be writing about:-

Adventure!

This could be based on a book they have read, or their very own adventure story. Please find time to talk through some ideas with your child. This helps them understand the benefits of preparation. It is lovely to see how many children are so excited about this opportunity to write.

Year 1 Reading Event

Thank you to everyone attending the reading event. I know you would have found it very worthwhile. For more information about how we teach reading please see our school website. The importance of reading cannot be stressed enough. Please ensure you read with your child every day.

Football News

This week the girls' football fixture against Elmbridge was unfortunately cancelled. However, the girls participated in an intensive training session and impressed both Mr. Enon and Mrs. Gibbs with their excellent attitude.

There was no boys' fixture this week, but the A team have a match away against Birdlip on Monday 3rd October. We wish them luck!

Protecting Your Child in the Digital World

We are aware of parents having social media related issues with their child when it is in fact against the law to allow any child under 13 to be using social media sites. Did you know the legal age for being on Whatsapp is 16? We want to give you back the power to safeguard your child. You might want to think about-

- Did you know you can set up parental controls on your child's phone?
- Do you allow your child to use a mobile device in their bedroom?
- Is this affecting their sleep?
- Do you know that you are breaking the law by enabling your child to use a social networking site that has a minimum age of 13 - e.g. Facebook, Snapchat?
- If your child is having friendship issues, have you considered the impact of social media in this?
- If everyone has similar rules, it makes it much easier. What could you do to support each other?
- We suggest you get together and protect your child.
- The school wants to give you the ammunition to take charge at home.

Please read parentzone.org.uk/article/whatsapp

Digital Leaders

Mrs Richards organises the Digital Lead Ambassadors in our school.

We have leaders in each year group.

Soon she will be inviting Year 3 children for an interview to become a Digital Lead. The role requires good computing knowledge to support other pupils as well as staff. This helps us ensure lessons are efficient and learning maximised.



Key Dates - Autumn Term-2022

Wednesday 12th October

9.15am-10.15am - Reception Parents' Coffee Morning (Change of date)

Tuesday 11th October

Bedtime Story Event for Years 2 and 3 - 5pm-6pm

Wednesday 12th October

Flu immunisation in school

Tuesday 18th October

4-7pm - Face to face Parents' Evening

Wednesday 19th October

3.20pm-6pm - Online Parents' Evening

Wednesday 19th October

Harvest Festival - 9.15am

Friday 21st October

Staff INSET day

Monday 24th October - Friday 29th October - Half Term

Monday 31st October Staff INSET day

Tuesday 1st November - School starts

Thursday 10th November

Year 6 Trip to Houses of Parliament and Lion King

Wednesday 16th November

Individual photos

Wednesday 23rd November

1.30pm-2.30pm Open afternoon for New Reception 2022

Wednesday 23th November

2.30pm-3.30pm- Work Celebration Event

Friday 9th December

PAWS in

Friday 9th December

Reception Nativity and FRIENDS Christmas Fayre

Tuesday 13th December

Christmas Dinner and party

Friday 16th December

Sing a long 1pm-2pm

Friday 16th December - Term finishes at 2pm

All our school policies are available on our website at: https://www.castlehill.gloucs.sch.uk/



Online safety at home:

parents and carers newsletter

Friday 30th September 2022

With the majority of children still learning from home, they will be spending more time online doing their school work, playing games or watching videos. Technology is hugely valuable for education, as well as a way to keep in touch with friends and family. However, it's important we all consider how we can support children's online safety. Here's some information about what your child may enjoy online and what you can do to help keep them safer:

Sharing pictures

Using devices like phones and tablets to share pictures and videos can be a great way for children to have fun and stay in touch with friends and family. It's really important your child knows what's ok to share online and what they should check with you first.

Read <u>younger children</u>
<u>sharing pictures or videos</u>
<u>online</u> for more information
on the risks and how to
support safer sharing.

Watching videos

Children love to watch videos and YouTube is always a firm favourite! But sometimes children can be exposed to videos that are not meant for them. YouTube Kids is a safer way for children to explore their interests. You can find more information about this on YouTube: what parents need to know.

Remember, primary-age children should be supervised at all times when online.

More information?

Thinkuknow is the education programme from the National Crime Agency's Child Protection Command CEOP (NCA-CEOP) whose aim is to protect children and young people from sexual abuse online.

For more information, advice and guidance, visit their <u>parent's website</u> and download their <u>home activity worksheets</u> for fun, online safety activities to do with your family.

Steps you can take to help keep your child safer online

Parental controls: Parental controls have been designed to help you manage your child's online activities. There are various types, some of which are free but others which can be bought. However, nothing is totally fool proof so this shouldn't replace the support and guidance you give your child to help keep them safer. For more information and step by step instructions on setting up parental controls, visit Parental Controls & Privacy Settings Guides - Internet Matters.

Supervise their online activity: Keep the devices your child uses in communal areas of the house such as the living room or kitchen, where an adult is able to supervise. Primary-age children should not access the internet in private spaces alone, such as in a bedroom or bathroom.

Explore together and chat little and often: Ask your child to show you their favourite apps, games and sites and encourage them to teach you how to use these. Ask them if anything ever worries them online. Make sure they know they won't be in trouble and can get help by talking to you or another adult they trust if anything happens online that makes them feel worried, sad or scared.

OFFICIAL