

Newsletter 1: Friday 9th September 2022

Dear Families

Welcome back everyone. It was so lovely to see you all on Tuesday. The term has started really well and we are all enjoying the journey of 2022-2023! Hopefully, you will be able to come and join your child's teacher at the meeting times we have arranged. This is an opportunity to share the early experiences of being in a new class with your child. Your child's teacher will be able to tell you more about the routines and expectations for the year ahead. The teacher will not be discussing individual children at this meeting. Don't worry if you are unable to attend. Remember, you will find a letter from your child's teacher as well as a topic plan of the learning that will be covered, on our website.

Friday 9th September Year 1 Tuesday 13th September Year 5

Monday 14th September Year 4 Wednesday 14th September Year 2

Thursday 15th September Year 3

WEDNESDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER 6pm-SECONDARY TRANSFER MEETING- Year 5 and 6 parents welcome.

Big Write

We will continue to encourage our pupils to have ownership of their writing and the freedom to express themselves regularly. The first Big Write title to prepare for is 'My New Class'. Please support your child by talking about ideas that will spark their creativity.

Community Hub

Last year, we successfully introduced the Community Hub as a place for your children to freely exchange books. This helps them to establish a habit of regular reading and have pleasure in doing so. Please continue to use this facility. It is there for your enjoyment.

Permission Slips and Data Collection

Every year we ask you to complete the forms your child will be bringing home today. This ensures we have up to date information in the office. Please return all forms by Friday 16th September.

Attendance

It is really important that your child is in school, everyday, on time. We are strongly encouraging all Key Stage 2 pupils to be in their classrooms at 8.50am. This ensures we can maximise the school day and the opportunities for learning. If you have a child also in Key Stage 1, it gives you an opportunity to say goodbye before going to the Key stage 1 playground and waiting with your child until the bell at 9am. During this time we ask you to ensure your child stands quietly with you. Scooters are parked or pushed and no dogs come into the grounds- even if carried.

PAWS Homework

Pupils will be starting their PAWS homework soon. They will be given a PAWS folder next Friday. We encourage every child from Year 1 onwards to complete 8 activities during the term. Folders must be in school every Monday so that the teacher can share progress made and also the pupils can share ideas and celebrate their learning. Please value this experience as a time when pupils can see the value of the Purposeful Activities they can do Without School.

<u>Lateness</u> We are starting the new school year

by returning to our policy for late arrivals. Here is a reminder of what we have agreed. The bell rings at 9am. Pupils are expected to be in school for registration. The teacher will record any child arriving after this time as late. They will close the register at 9.05am and return it to the school office. Any child arriving after 9.05am will need to go via the school office to sign in the late book. All classroom doors will be locked. The caretaker will lock the playground gates at 9.05am. Please help your child to be settled in the morning by arriving in good time. Did you know that if your child is regularly late it will seriously affect their long term life opportunities and their ability to reach their full potential. Actually, you are guilty of a criminal offence under Section 444 of the Education Act and this can lead in a fixed penalty notice being issued.

100% Attendance

Well done to everyone who prioritises being in school everyday. This year, we will resume awards and certificates.

Uniform

Thank you for sending your child back to school looking so smart. Any hair accessories should be discreet and school colours. Please remember that stud earrings and watches are the only jewellery permitted. Smart watches should not be connected to any phone device. Any phone brought to school must be switched off and handed in to the school office.

These are the topics your children will be studying this term:

Reception: Rhythm and Rhyme
Year 1 and Year 2: Treasure
Year 3 and Year 4: Rocking Through
the Ages
Year 5 and Year 6: Trading Places

We are planning to visit places that are connected to the topic. We are grateful to the FRIENDS for their contribution of £3 to every pupil to help reduce the costs of these visits. We are conscious of money being tight and will ensure we keep costs to a minimum.

New Staff

We are delighted to welcome new staff to our team. They have settled in well and are getting to know all your children.

Mrs Benzie will be working as an additional support assistant in Reception.

Mrs Churton will be working as a support assistant in Reception and Year 1.

Mrs Gibbs will be working as a support assistant in Years 2 and 3. She will also be providing activities at lunchtime to encourage the children to enjoy their activity.

Miss Sugden is teaching in Year 2 and loving her new class!



A big thank you to Gemma Arnoldmum to Harry and Daisy- for her amazing donation of resources to the school that we can use throughout the year for presents and prizes. You help and support is so valuable.

The children enjoyed the football trials and getting messy outside! Well done to all that took part.

All our School Policies are available on our school websitecastlehill.gloucs.sch.uk

Key Dates for Spring Term 2022

Key Dates - Autumn Term-2022

Monday 12th September- New Reception Pupils start

Friday 9th September- Meet the Teacher in Year 1 at 2.30pm-3pm

Monday 12th September- Meet the Teacher in Year 4 at 2.30pm-3pm

Tuesday 13th September- Meet the Teacher in Year 5 at 2.30pm-3pm

Wednesday 14th September-Meet the Teachers in Year 2 at 2.30pm-3pm

Thursday 15th September-Meet the Teachers in Year 3 at 2.30pm-3pm

Saturday 17th September-Grammar School Entrance Exam

Wednesday 14th September-6pm-Year 5/6 Parents- Secondary Transfer Information

Tuesday 20th September-9.15am- Year 2 and Year 3 parents invited to join the class to find out more about reading.

Wednesday 28th September -9.15am- Year 1 parents invited to join the class to find out more about reading. Please come!

Tuesday 11th October-9.15am-10.15am-Reception Parents Coffee Morning

Tuesday 11th October- Bedtime Story Event for Years 2 and 3 -5pm-6pm

Wednesday 12th October- Flu immunisation in school

Tuesday 18th 4-7pm / Wednesday 19th October 3.20-6pm-Online Parents' Evening

Wednesday 19th October- Harvest Festival- 9.15am

Friday 21st October- Staff INSET day

Monday 25th 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 25th November- 2.30pm-3.30pm- Work Celebration Event for all existing parents to

come and see their child's work.

Friday 9th December - PAWS in

Friday 9th December-Reception Nativity

Tuesday 13th December-Christmas Dinner and party

Friday 16th December-Sing a long 1pm-2pm

Friday 16th December- Term finishes at 2pm