

Newsletter 16 Friday 14th January 2022

Dear Families,

This has been a very busy week in school with lots of success stories. It has been particularly lovely to see the progress that the pupils are making now they have had a settled time back in school. The teachers brought all their pupils topic books from last term to the staff meeting last week. I can assure you that you can be secure in knowing your child is receiving a great education. All class books demonstrated the development of knowledge and understanding. They certainly have produced books that they can be very proud of. You will be able to gain an overview of this term's topic on SeeSaw. This is very useful as a basis for discussion and visits.

Topics for the Spring Term

Reception: Fairytales

Year 1/2: Megastructures

Year 3/4: Who's the King of the Castle

Year 5/6: Leaving a

Legacy

Staffing

We have had four staff absent this week, two with COVID. We will continue to do everything to ensure your child receives the education they deserve. However, we are grateful for your support in trusting us to do the best in very difficult circumstance.

Pupil Absence- COVID

Please see the website for an updated Risk Assessment. The main change made to it is to reflect that pupils no longer need to self isolate if in close contact with Covid. Also, that they can return to school on day 6 following two negative LFT done 24 hours apart on Day 4 and 5.

Remote Learning

Because pupils are in school, unless they are ill with COVID, it is no longer a responsibility of the teacher to provide work to do at home. We consider all children absent from school to be ill and support them in resting until they are fully recovered. Should you feel your child is fit to work before the date they can return to school please reference the following support activities: Daily reading, PAWS, Big Write, Topic Web, Big Maths online.

Local Authority School Improvement Annual Visit

On Tuesday, our School Improvement Partner (SIP) visited the school to ascertain how well the school was performing and to collate a report about the quality of education your children are receiving.

We are awaiting the published report but I can share with you how delighted they were by their findings. A big thank you to our young Curriculum Leads who enthusiastically led a tour of the school explaining why and how we learn what we do and effectively they think it is delivered. They were amazing. Our SIP said that she was in awe of what she had seen and heard whilst in school. Well done everybody.

Big Write this week is: The Legend of.....

Our new Office Apprentice has settled in brilliantly. Her name is Lauren Wheatley. We are very pleased to have her working in our team.

Swap Shop

Thank you to all those that supported the School Council's Swap Shop. It proved very popular and a great success. This is the first of many projects they have organised to help us all think of things we can do that are more environmentally friendly. Now, each class is choosing a theme to promote for the month before sharing it in assembly. For example, Year 5 are ensuring the correct waste bins are used for paper and general waste by labelling all the bins visibly.

Key Dates for Spring Term 2022

Monday 21st February- Friday 25th February- Half Term

Tuesday 15th March-Parents' Evening- 3.20pm-6pm - Face to Face if possible

Wednesday 16th March-Parents' Evening-4pm-7pm - change of date

Friday 25th March-PAWS in

Friday 8th April - Easter Service 1pm-2pm

Friday 8th April - Term finishes at 2pm- Easter Holiday

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