

Castle Hill News: 31.01.25



Dear Parents,

This week, has included some extra special events for the children both in and out of school. Many of our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils attended the Young Voices 2025 concert in Birmingham and Years 1 and 2 had a special afternoon learning all about Chinese New Year as part of their World Kitchen topic.

It was also a busy day for our friends over in Busy Bees playgroup on Thursday as they had OFSTED visit them for the day.

I think everyone is looking forward to some rest this weekend!

[School communication app name correction](#)

A correction to last week's newsletter regarding the school communication system:

Please note that the app is actually called 'School Gateway' not 'Schoolcomms Gateway'. Apologies for any confusion.

For android phone link is following

[School Gateway – Apps on Google Play](#)

For Apple phone

[School Gateway on the App Store](#)

[Young Voices](#)

Wow! What a fantastic experience on Thursday evening for the children in Years 5 and 6 who attended Young Voices 2025. They had a long day culminating in a fabulous concert watched by their families. The video clip that Mrs. Ward sent to me from the end of the concert with the children singing 'Lean on Me' made me so proud and more than a little emotional. To see their happy faces and hear their voices lifted in song was very special.

A huge thank you to Mrs. Ward, Mrs. Blake (who came back especially to accompany the children), Mr. Ward and Mr. Enon for escorting the Young Voices choir and looking after them so well all day and all evening. Without you all giving up your time, the children would not have experienced such a magical night.

Also, of course, an especially huge thank you to Mrs. Ward for organising the whole event and giving up every one of her Wednesday lunchtimes since September to practise with the Young Voices choir.

[Oracy competition](#)

Good luck to Albert and Colby for next week's inter-school oracy heats. We know that you will do us proud.

[TT Rockstars](#)

Today, your children should be bringing home a letter from Mr. Ward, our Maths subject lead, about TT Rockstars which is a programme to help support children with learning their times tables. This will be launched to the children in a special assembly on Monday.

[Appeal from our Reception team](#)

Mrs. Warren and Mrs. Houslton have asked if any parents have any space themed small world toys that they do not want any more. If so, please see one of our Reception team. Thank you.

[SEND coffee morning](#)

On Tuesday 4th February, Mrs. Bradford is holding a drop in coffee morning from 9 – 10 am for any parents whose children are **not** already on the SEND register and may have concerns or questions about their child.

[Gates/registration](#)

Please note that we do need to close the gates promptly at 8.50 in the mornings in order that children are in the classrooms for registration. If they are late for registration, they must be taken round to the school's main reception area and be marked in by the office. This is for safeguarding purposes.

[Absence](#)

Please call the office if your child is absent from school even if you have had a conversation with a member of the staff in the playground. This is, again, for safeguarding purposes and to ensure that the message gets through to the correct people.

[Big Write](#)

This week's title is based on a video. The class teacher's will talk to the children about possible ideas for writing after watching.

The One for All. <https://www.literacyshed.com/beans.html>

[Key dates for next week](#)

Tuesday 4th February – SENDCO coffee morning – 9am – 10am

[Key upcoming dates](#)

Wednesday 12th February – Y3/4 Gymnastics competition – invitation only from Severn Valley Gymnastics club

[Amazon Wishlist links](#)

English <https://amzn.eu/bnNWVET> Forest School <https://amzn.eu/fkxiP5O>

Have a wonderful weekend - Mrs. Ettrick