

# Castle Hill News: 14.03.25



Dear Parents,

This week, school has been rather quiet without our Year 6s who have been away on their residential at Viney Hill Adventure Centre in the Forest of Dean. When I went out to join them on Thursday night, they were having a fantastic time having taken part in many different activities from tunneling, to climbing and archery to name but a few. A huge thank you to the staff who have given up their time to accompany and support the children, so that they could have such a wonderful experience. As one of our 10 opportunities, it is something they will never forget and they will come away with memories to last a lifetime.

## Art Exhibition – 5<sup>th</sup> March

Please see the attachment for some photographs of our fabulous Art exhibition from last week.

## Attendance and Lates

We are very proud of our school community in working together to ensure that our pupils are in school on time every day. Thank you so much for your support in this. We are delighted to share with you that our percentage of late pupils has reduced from 11% to 1.89% in our latest figures. Each week, in Platinum assembly, we will be celebrating a class for a variety of attendance themes.

## Big Write

This week's Big Write title is '**First Flight**' and is based on a picture.



How are the owls related?  
Which owl is about to take its first flight? How do you know?  
How does the young owl feel about flying?  
What might it be thinking?  
Is the older owl worried?  
What advice might the older owl give to the younger one?  
Think of the first time you did something new. How did you feel about it?  
If trying new things is scary, does that mean you should never try them?

## [Ducklings](#)

Our eggs have now all hatched and we have 7 adorable little ducklings. The children have been so excited about watching them hatch and develop as part of the British Science Week theme 'Change and Adapt'. Thank you for being creative 'Hounds' in coming up with some excellent duckling names. The names selected from the hat were: Lucky, Flipper, Puddles, Bucky, Sunny, Momo and Donald.

Here are some photos of our fluffy friends.



## [Breakfast Club – new booking system](#)

A reminder that the new system for booking breakfast club will hopefully be going live on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March. This means that there will be a requirement to book, and pay for, sessions in advance. If you have any outstanding breakfast club debt, please settle this by Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March in order to ensure that you are able to book breakfast club sessions for your child/children under the new system. Many thanks.

## [Parents' Evenings](#)

You should have been sent a link, via email, to book a Parents' Evening appointment for your child/children.

The dates for these are: Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April for online appointments and Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April for in person appointments.

Please note that every class still has availability for online appointments on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April. If you have any issues, please contact Mrs. Sharma in the school office.

## [School Disco](#)

The Spring Disco is next Friday (21<sup>st</sup> March) so make sure that you have got your disco tickets from the FRIENDS. You can usually find one of our FRIENDS in the school playground selling tickets. Please bring the children to the main office entrance at the beginning of their disco.

## IMPORTANT:

Please note that KS1 children (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) need to be collected at the end of the disco from their classroom doors. We will ensure that we have opened the KS1 gate for parent access to the playground.

KS2 children need to be collected from the main school entrance.

## Polite reminders

Start of the day: Please remember that the teachers are there to welcome the children into school in the morning and that the gate will be locked promptly after the bell ringing in order to safeguard our pupils. If you have any urgent messages to pass on, please call the office.

## Key dates for next week

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March – Y5 Parents – 6.30pm** - meeting about Y6 residential 2026 and Y5 camping trip 2025

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March – COMIC RELIEF** please see poster for information

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March – Spring Disco KS1: 4.15pm – 5.15pm**

**KS2: 5.30 – 6.30 pm**

## Key upcoming dates

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March – Walk and Wheel to school week** please see poster for information

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March – Y5 – trip to Skillzone**

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March – FRIENDS meeting – 6pm – school hall – all welcome**

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March – whole school – B. Ware author visit**

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March – FRIENDS EVENT – Special someone cream tea** (see FRIENDS March newsletter on the website for further details)

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April – Parents' Evening – online appointments**

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April – Parents' Evening – in person appointments**

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April – PAWS due in**

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April – TERM ENDS – 2pm finish – NO KEEP**

## Amazon Wishlist links

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

Have a wonderful weekend - Mrs. Ettrick



# CASTLE HILL SCULPTURE





## We're taking part in the Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel 2025 challenge.

Join in by walking, wheeling,  
scooting or cycling to school  
between 24 March-4 April.

- ✓ Be active and feel more energised
- ✓ Help the environment by replacing a car journey
- ✓ Help us win some fantastic prizes

[www.BigWalkAndWheel.org.uk](http://www.BigWalkAndWheel.org.uk)

Headline sponsor:

**SCHWALBE** ➤

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