



[Castle Hill News: 13.02.26](#)

[‘Moments matter, attendance counts’](#)

Dear Parents/Carers,

This half-term seems to have flown by. The children have, as always, been working very hard in class and learning lots of new things. We have had a lot of rain, which we need of course, but we hope that next half-term sees a little bit more sunshine!

[Caretaker](#)

Today, we say goodbye to our current caretaker, Mr. Beckwith who is retiring. We want to thank him for his service and we wish him well.

Mr. Ward, who many of you will know as a former teacher here at Castle Hill, has successfully been appointed as his replacement and will take up the post in half-term.

We are delighted to welcome him back in this new capacity.

[Y6 news](#)

After half-term, we are also delighted to welcome back Mrs. King. She is going to be working alongside Mrs. Davidson so that we can offer smaller group teaching ahead of the SATS in May.

[Year 1 and Year 2 Local Area Walk](#)

Thank you to all the parents who volunteered to help with this walk and braved the rain.

[Football news](#)

[Girls’ team – match report by Mr. Enon](#)

Barnwood 3-2 Castle Hill

‘A great effort from the team! The girls were losing 2-0 with ten minutes to go, but they fought back and scored the equalizer in the very last kick of the game. As it was a cup game, this meant we had to play golden goal and unfortunately, Barnwood scored.’

The girls showed great resilience and determination – well done.

[Boys’ team](#)

Congratulations to our boys’ A team who are league champions!!

They were crowned champions of the GPSFA League C at the end of last month. A fantastic achievement and fully deserved after the effort the boys have put in this year.

Last night, they played Longford Park (away) in a cup match. We won 4-1 – an amazing result. Goals came from Will, Tyler and Dexter and Henry was player of the match. This now means that Castle Hill are through to the semi-finals at Barnwood on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March.

What a season they are having!

#### [Year 4 – Multiplication Tables Check workshop for parents](#)

On Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February, Year 4 parents are warmly invited to attend a workshop. Mr. Telford, as year 4 teacher and Maths lead, will run this workshop in the main hall. It will start at 9am, so if you are able to attend, please come round to the main entrance.

#### [Food and Drink Policy](#)

Castle Hill's new food and drink policy has recently been ratified by the governors' standards committee. This means that we will be ensuring its implementation after half-term.

Like most primary schools, Castle Hill only allows children to have plain water in their water bottles (if your child would prefer a little flavour then a slice of fruit would be fine).

This is in line with government and health recommendations as the biggest cause of hospitalisation in children aged 5-9 years old is tooth decay which is preventable.

The following comes from an article from The Royal College of Surgeons:

- 25 Sep 2025
- New figures published today have revealed that tooth decay outpaces other common childhood conditions, including acute tonsillitis, as the leading cause of hospital admissions among 5- to 9-year-olds in England.

The NHS website states:

The best drinks to give children are water and milk.

Diet or reduced-sugar drinks are not recommended for babies and young children.

Even low-calorie drinks and no-added-sugar drinks can encourage children to develop a sweet tooth.

Therefore, if your child's water bottle does contain something other than plain water, then your child will be offered plain water in a cup instead. Thank you for your support in this.

#### [Breakfast Club menu changes](#)

This has also led to us reviewing our breakfast club menu, alongside parental feedback, to ensure that we are giving children a healthy start to their day. ***The menu marks some changes on the previous options so please make sure that if you child attend breakfast club, they know the options available to them after half term.*** Please find a sample breakfast club menu attached.

#### [Snacks in KS2: reminder](#)

Snacks are provided in KS1, but in KS2 children need to bring their own. These must be fruit, vegetables or cheese. Sweet snacks, pastries or processed foods are not permitted.

#### [World Book Day – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March](#)

More details will follow after half-term, but we wanted to give parents (especially Reception parents who have not been with us for a World Book Day before) advance notice that we do not dress up for this day. Instead we focus on the power and love of reading rather than on costumes. We hope that this means that you will not have to worry about cost or the stress of finding an outfit.

Have a wonderful half-term and we look forward to seeing you all back on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. Mrs. Ettrick

### Key upcoming dates

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February – Back to school

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 9.30-11.30 – KS1 'Look Who's Talking' heats at Castle Hill (by invitation for winner of previous round)

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2.15pm – Reception parents – reading workshop

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 9.30.- 11.30 – LKS2 'Look Who's Talking' heats at Hempsted Primary School (by invitation for winner of previous round)

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 9am – Y4 parent workshop – Multiplication Tables Check

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February – Young Voices!

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February 9.30.- 11.30 – UKS2 'Look Who's Talking' heats at Meadowside Primary School Castle Hill (by invitation for winner of previous round)

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day