



Exceeding expectations, raising aspirations...



Dear all,

It's been a challenging start to the term what with a potential gas leak and then all the rain and flooding. Thank you to everyone who ensured the message got through that the main school was closed on our first day back. Thankfully it was easily sorted and we were soon back to normal. It's usually snow that causes us to close so the last two weeks have definitely not been expected.

This is always one of my favourite terms in school as the lead up to Christmas means so many opportunities for family and friends to join us for concerts and the Christmas fair, but also to hear the children singing carols and practising for performances around school is magical.

Thursday 21st November is our next Friends of Castle View (FoCV) parents meeting (9.15-10.15 in the activity room by the main reception. If you can spare a little time to help out with events or would just like to get to know other parents this is a great opportunity. Please free to join us—I can guarantee there will be tea, coffee and biscuits flowing.

We all hope to see you over the next few weeks for one or all of our upcoming events.
Regards
Clare Peat

Staffing news.

Mr Murphy has secured a full time post in a school supporting pupils with special needs. He left a beautiful card and letter thanking all the staff and children for what he had learnt and how much they had all meant to him. We wish him all the best in his next adventure—we know he'll be great. Mr Knowles has been recruited to work alongside the Year 3 and 4 team and we're looking forward to welcoming him over the next few weeks. You may remember him from before the Summer break.

Miss Spencer is starting her maternity leave in a few weeks, but know we'll see her around and about each day. Wishing you all the very best.

We have advertised for a mid-day supervisor post and have some strong candidates so look forward to recruiting in the next few weeks.

There also might be talk of a crossing patrol candidate for Chesterfield Road—keep all fingers crossed!

If the flooding continues and or snow decides to flourish please keep an eye open on our Facebook page and Parent Hub posts. As ever we will try and get a message to you before 7.30 so that you have enough time to make alternative arrangements.
Fingers crossed this won't be needed!





Parent Questionnaires

Thank you to all of you who took the time to share your thoughts and views with us. We had a superb number of responses and there were some lovely comments made about the learning that is taking place and how happy the children are. It's important for us to know what we are doing well and what we can do even better.

From feedback in Nursery it was evident that parents love the new 'Tapestry' up dates on what your child is learning and the time taken to share the long observations. However parents would also like the opportunity to have a parents meeting with staff to have longer to chat about how their child is doing and any worries they may have. With this in mind have organised three parents afternoons. Monday 25th, Tuesday 26th and Wednesday 27th November 1.00-3.30.

Sign up sheets will be going up next Tuesday - please choose a time slot with your child's key worker.

Slips have been sent out with the name of your child's 'key worker' the person you can go to if you have any worries or concerns. If you are unsure of who your child's key worker is please do not hesitate to ask.

To help:

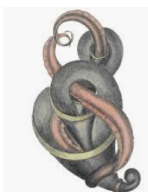
2 year old specialists (key workers) Miss Parsley and Miss Parker

3 and 4 year old specialists (key workers) Mrs Bedford, Mrs Taylor and Mr Handley.

Please note: Mrs Bedford has taken on the lead for planning the provision in Nursery. If you have any queries please chat with Mrs Bedford, I know she will be only too willing to help.

We've been chosen!

Cornucopia TV will be in filming another dance session in November as part of teacher training videos for the BBC. We are one of three schools in the country who have been chosen to work with the TV company in showcasing 'good practice', and developing 'teaching videos' for other schools and teachers. This time they will be in for two days, working with the Year 5s and 6s.



Once completed the videos will be shared with schools across the country—so exciting!

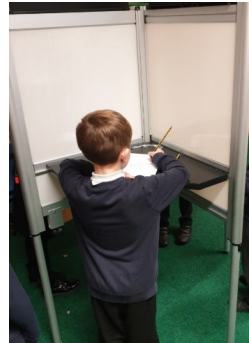
Castle View democracy!

It's that time again; for the children to decide who they want to represent them as their school councillors. Children from Year 1 to Year 6 put themselves forward to be the chosen ones (it was a record number). The votes were then taken and the counts were in. However there were equal votes in two classes so we had to go to another vote; Castle View's own referendum! It became very tense.

It was a great opportunity to talk about the forthcoming elections and the importance of the right to vote and how this has changed over time.

The children were horrified to think that previously people in Britain didn't have the right to vote due to the colour of their skin, status or gender. Thankfully we were able to demonstrate democracy in action in today's society.

Our new school councillors will be announced next week—watch out for a Facebook post!



Do you know what's happening or about to happen with the regeneration project?

If not or you would like to find out more there is a launch and celebration event planned for Wednesday 27th November, 6.00-7.30p.m. in the social club. Please come and join us to find out what the vision for Matlock is and what plans, people and funding is behind the whole project. Believe you me it is very exciting. This really could put Hurst Farm on the map!



For those in need of child care plans are in place to ensure a crèche is available. Please let us know if you need this and we can organise. This will be free but will need to be booked ahead of the event so that we have the correct number of staff according to the number of children.

Dates for your diaries

November

Friday 15th

Children in Need—Pupils invited to come to school wearing spots!

Thursday 21st

Friends of Castle View parents meeting 9.15-10.15
all invited to join for tea and coffee in the activity room

Wednesday 27th

6-7.30 Regeneration Launch event

Thursday 28th

Cornucopia TV in to film for the BBC

Friday 29th

Cornucopia TV in to film for the BBC

Friday 29th

3.30-5.00 Christmas Fair

December

Tuesday 10th

KS2 Christmas Concert 2.30-3.30 and 5.00-6.00

Thursday 12th

KS1 Performances 9.30-10.30 and 2.30-3.30
(please note the time change due to a previous error)

Wednesday 18th

Christmas Dinner Day

Friday 20th

School closes to pupils.

January

Wednesday 15th

FoCV 'Film and Popcorn night' - details out soon.

Reminder: 'Stay and Play' for parents with younger children is on every Monday 9.00-11.00, in school, and Wednesday 9.00-11.00, in the community centre. Feel free to pop along. I know Leanne would love to welcome you.

INSET Days

June 1st-4th (please note all back in school on Friday the 5th)

