



Exceeding expectations, raising aspirations...

Clare Peat

Welcome back. It's so nice to be able to finally say that. Who would have thought in March when school closed to pupils that it would be 6 months before we could open our doors fully again. School has, at last, come back to life. It is wonderful to hear all the children laughing and playing and to see how much they have changed and grown. A very special warm welcome to our new Reception and Nursery children who haven't had the usual start to Castle View, but as ever they have all settled well and are making friends and loving learning.

Thank you to everyone for following our new systems and routines. The children have adapted brilliantly and know exactly what to do.

All of the plans we have put in place are to try to ensure we minimise the spread of COVID-19 and to keep all children, staff and families safe. Please ensure you follow our new procedures at all times for the safety of everyone.

Details of what your child will be learning, this term, will be shared through our Parent Flyers which will be finding their way to you.

Stay safe and well.

Regards  
Clare Peat

Whilst we have been in lockdown we had some wonderful news.



Mrs Tetley gave birth to a beautiful little baby girl. Welcome to the world Nell. Both mum and baby are doing well, enjoying family time and cuddles. We can't wait to see them both when they are able to visit us.



Homework books and online learning.

All children from Year 1 to Year 6 have been given homework books. Staff will be assigning pages that need completing each week.

Please ensure your child keeps their books safe, as any replacements will need to be paid for.

As lockdown measures seem to be popping up everywhere we are setting up new google classrooms just in case they are needed. Thank you to all of you who have engaged with this and Tapestry previously. It really has made a difference to helping your child retain information and minimise any lost teaching time. Learning Warriors all of you!

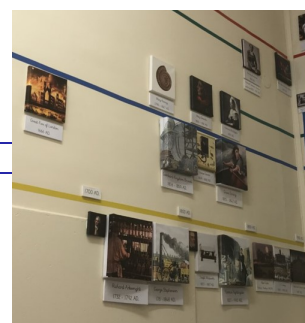
Is school the same as we know it? Yes and no.

Yes because we are back to having fun, learning lots and enjoying all being together again.

So what has changed?

A few little bits:

- Staggered drop off and pick up times (please keep to yours). Staff are not in classes before 8.50 a.m. so please do not arrive before then.
  - Staff wherever possible have to stay 2 metres apart from pupils. I'm sure there should be music playing as it looks like a dance is being performed as they move around classes.
  - Water bottles are to be brought in to school each day. Unfortunately we aren't allowed to let the children share jugs and beakers with the exception of children in Nursery and Reception.
  - Visitors and parents who come in to school must wear a face covering. Only essential visits will take place.
  - Classes have become their own bubbles and resources are not shared between other classes/bubbles.
  - More outdoor learning. Nursery and Reception are outside the majority of the time. Please make sure they have the right clothing for all weathers.
  - PE kits are worn all day on your child's designated PE day.
- And of course lots of handwashing!



Miss Lovatt and Mrs Taylor have been at it again!

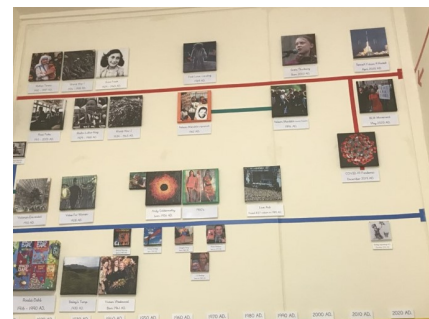
During the months of lockdown it gave Miss Lovatt and Mrs Taylor a chance to turn their very skilful hands to creating our very own, unique history timeline. Now I know we could have just purchased a timeline and displayed it, but there aren't any like this! Together they have used the Key Stage 1 and 2 building to create an international, national and local timeline, using the length of the corridor to travel through time periods. Each key event has it's own image created on canvas and displayed with key facts.



Chromecast Mini's are being set up along the corridor so that the children can ask 'google' for facts about each image and event. It's an amazing piece of work. Tom was given a guided tour after wondering where his rock formation would have come from. Mrs Taylor was only too happy to show him and take him on a journey through time (at warp speed).

If you look closely you will notice 'Black lives matter' and 'Covid-19' have been added!

Definitely defining moments.





## Staff missing in action?

You may have noticed some of the staff weren't out and about in school over the last few days because we've even more staff doing their 'Forest School' training. This time it was Mr Handley, Miss Panter and Miss Barlow's turn. I'd like to say they have been full on and busy, but it seems to be that they are making the most of being out in the open, having fun and sleeping on the job!

This will mean we have 7 members of the team who are now forest school trained practitioners...but this is just the start of what we can offer our children.

SSSH! I know we shouldn't keep secrets but this one is too wonderful not to share. Over the lockdown months Castle View was asked to be part of a new programme delivering Nursery Forest Schools in to England. Needless to say we've said yes and have worked with the Regeneration Officer (Marie Christine- Schmidt) and experts across the UK to develop the qualification and hopefully a training hub at Castle View. We'll let you know as soon as we have the qualification confirmed.



## We're out and about!



Being out in nature and enjoying the awe and wonder makes every day special. Our Year 1s are showing us just how wonderful this is! They've been exploring, den building, creating and even enjoyed a little something delicious by the fire.





## What should I do if my child is unwell?

As we head in to the winter this is always the time of colds and sniffles, even more so because children have not been together for such a long time and are now mixing. So what should you do if you think your child is unwell? You know your child best and if you feel they are unwell please keep them off school and give us a call to let us know why they are not with us. If you are at all worried please seek medical advice either via your doctor, the hospital or by calling 111.

## Should I take my child for a COVID-19 test?

Public Health England are advising parents to only take their child for a test if your child has one or more of these symptoms:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- A loss or change to sense of smell or taste - this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

As the number of cases have continued to rise more symptoms have been identified, including headaches and abdominal pain. For the latest up to date information you can check you or your child's symptoms online using:

<https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19/>

If you or your child has any of the above symptoms you and your family must stay home and self isolate. To protect others please take a coronavirus test. These can be done through drive in centres or through ordering a home kit. All of which can be ordered via the website link above or by calling 111. We know at the moment these are hard to get hold of, but a top tip that's been shared is that at 8 o'clock in an evening more time slots are made available.

If you have had confirmation of your results these must be shared with school as part of the government's track and trace programme

## How can you help?

By keeping your distance, minimising contact with others and following the government's guidance.

By following the school's one way system, keeping 2 metres apart and ensuring social distancing is adhered to both within and out of school.



Ever fancied being part of the team that continue to shape and drive the school forward ?

If so we have a vacancy for a parent governor. Full details and how to apply will be sent out next week via parent hub. Having your views as part of the team is important to us. Every new governor is given a mentor who helps them get to grips with all the acronyms used in school and is there to be a friendly, guiding hand. So if you'd like to find out more about school life and the ins and outs of what we do, want to help shape the future...please apply.

Applications close on the 8th October so please start thinking if this would be something that



## Dates for your diaries

### September

Thursday 24th Parent governor applications open

### October

Thursday 8th Parent governor applications close

Tuesday 13th Parents consultation evening 3.30-6.30

Wednesday 14th Parents consultation evening 3.30-6.00

Please note at the moment parent consultations will take place over the phone. Time slots will be arranged in advance.

Thursday 22nd School closes to pupils for October half term

Friday 23rd INSET day—school closed to pupils

### November

Monday 2nd School opens to pupils for Autumn Term 2

### December

Tuesday 8th Key Stage 2 Christmas Carol performance

Thursday 10th Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance

We're hoping Christmas carols and performances can go ahead 🙌

We've an updated website please take a look at:

<https://castleviewmatlock.com/>

