



Exceeding expectations, raising aspirations...



Dear all,

Hope you are all safe and well. As we move in to the next phase of lockdown we are very aware this means that the children are not having the same experiences they would normally have outside of school. So over this term we are aiming, wherever is safe and practical to do so, to do what we can in school. Enriching the children's lives is so much part of what we want to offer the children...

#30ThingsToDoAtCastleView. So we're looking at ways to make this happen. Ukulele lessons have begun and will take place each week for years 3 and 4. We're also having a party! As the children will not be able to have friends round for their birthday this month, we have decided we'll have their birthday party in school instead. So on Friday 27th November we will be having a 'Birthday party' in each class; celebrating any child who has had a birthday this month.

We're also looking at events and activities that can be brought in to school and enjoyed in and around the local area. Early years and Year 1s have started by enjoying Forest Schools (thank you to Gwen's mum for joining us and offering her help). Year 2s are going to be out and about in Matlock looking at how the Victorians shaped our town and Years 5 and 6 have a special adventure coming their way. Lockdown may be here, but it's not going to stop us having fun! We'll keep you posted of the what and when.

Regards  
Clare Peat

I over heard a parent yesterday saying how much they miss being able to come in to school and see their child's work. We miss this too. I know it's not quite the same, but each week you will receive a message with a photo of some of the learning that has been taking place in your child's class. We hope this will give you a little snapshot of some of the magic moments happening.



Yesterday marked a special moment in which to remember and reflect. The children have had a special assembly which has focussed on understanding what remembrance is and how we use symbols to help us remember significant times.



In Key Stage 2 the children considered the difference between service and sacrifice. At 11 o'clock we all showed our respect by joining others in 2 minutes silence. Throughout school children made a range of poppies and poems to mark the occasion.



Thank you to all of you who have started wearing masks on the school site. Some of them are very stylish! Our aim is to make sure we stay safe and stay OPEN. You may have heard on the news that children have regressed in their learning due to schools being closed. We don't want this to happen again, so we are going to try our very best to stay open. Your help matters. So please if you can wear a mask please do, stay 2 metres apart and arrive and collect your child/ren at your allocated time slot. I will be asking staff to wear a mask or visor at drop off and pick up times to help keep you all safe too. Needless to say the staff want matching ones and animal print ones for Thursdays—as this seems to be a thing now!

It is important that we all do what we can to keep everyone safe. As guidance is changing all the time, trying to keep up with what you can and can't do can be a full time job. So if you are not sure what you can and can't do outside of school Fiona, our friendly PCSO, will be around and about and only too willing to help and offer advice..

You may recall we had two governor vacancies (one parent and one staff). We're very pleased to welcome to the governing body Mrs Sainsbury who will be your new parent representative and Miss Stanyard who will be the staff's representative. We are looking forward to welcoming them to the team and thank them for offering their time freely to support the school in continuing to drive forward.



It's finally here. Tomorrow children are invited to come in to school in non-uniform and to wear something yellow in aid of Children in Need. Parent pay has been updated and any donations can be given via this. Please give as much or as little as you can—every penny will go directly to this cause. After all no child should be in need, so please help us do our bit.

Well we know it won't be the same this year, as it looks very unlikely that we will be able to open our doors to parents in December, so in true Castle View style we are going to be doing something a little bit different. Over the month of December the children will be sharing a special Christmas story, with songs, activities and a bit of fun, all of which will find their way in to your homes via the powers of film. We even have a little surprise planned for the last day of term for all the children to enjoy. They may not be able to get out and about, but we are going to do everything we can to make it as magical as possible, after all there is no more magical time in school than at Christmas. Please see 'dates for your diaries' for a few events planned.





Thank you to everyone who is updating your child's meal choices via parent pay. Just a quick reminder the deadline for Monday's order is Saturday evening. All other orders need to be placed 48 hours before the day. If you need any help please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

### Is your child due to start school in September 2021?

If so it's that time already. Online and telephone admissions open for anyone who has a child that was born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017. Applications can be made via: <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/school-places/apply-for-a-school-place.aspx> or by ringing 01629 533190

Applications close at midnight on January 15th.

If you haven't visited the school and would like to we are inviting anyone to arrange a visit, outside of normal school hours, in a COVID safe way. If you'd like to take up this opportunity just give the office a ring and they will be only too happy to help.



Congratulations and well done to Miss Stanyard who joined us as a Business Administration Apprentice, undertaking her Level 3 qualification. We're delighted to announce that she has not just passed it; she has been awarded the highest grade possible—a distinction. Well done Miss Stanyard, fantastic work, we are all so proud of you.

Last term we had to say a fond farewell to Miss Cunningham, who made the decision to no longer work at lunchtimes. The children and staff loved having her with us. We want to thank her for all her hard work and commitment. We are sad to see her go, but know she will go on to great things. Thankfully we still get chance to catch up with her everyday, as she drops off and picks up her children.

You may have noticed we have had more children join us and we've had even more applications this week, so we needed to further strengthen the teaching team in both the Early Years and Year 5 and 6. Mrs Rawas will be joining us from next week and will be supporting in Year 5 and 6 and Miss Parker has increased her hours to support teaching and learning in Early Years. We're also looking at appointing an apprentice to work in Early Years with a specialism in outdoor learning—exciting times!



## Dates for your diaries

### November

Friday 13th

Children in Need—non uniform day and wear something yellow. Any donations can be made by Parent Pay—thank you.

Ukulele lessons begin fully for Year 3 and 4 pupils.

### December

Tuesday 1st

Our Christmas story begins.

14th-18th

Year 2s will take part in the phonic test (which they were unable to take in June).

Tuesday 15th

Movie night for children from Reception to Year 6, 3.30-5.30. Children are invited to stay for a class movie and popcorn night. Ticket only event at a cost of £1.50

Thursday 17th

Christmas party day—pupils invited to come in to school in non uniform or party clothes.

Friday 18th

School closes for the Christmas break.

### January

Monday 4th

School opens to pupils

### February

Friday 12th

School closes for the half term break

Monday 22nd

School opens to pupils

### March

Thursday 4th

World Book Day

INSET Days:

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

