Castleview School

Autumn Term **Newsletter 4** **Friday 2nd October 2026**

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

The children have had a very busy week at **Nursery**. The teachers have been so impressed with how the children are playing together and forming beautiful friendships. We started reading 'How to Catch a Rainbow' and the children conducted various activities based around the story. They also practised their hand-eye coordination and fine-motor skills by using their fingers and paint to cover small circles within a rainbow image.

What a fantastic week it has been! **Reception** have enjoyed a wonderful range of activities and have had lots of opportunities to learn, explore and have fun together. We have spent lots of time outdoors, making the most of the lovely weather. The children enjoyed exploring their surroundings and developing their confidence through outdoor activities. It has also been lovely to see how familiar the children are becoming with our classroom routines. They are settling in beautifully and are becoming more confident and independent each day.

In English lessons this week, **Year 1** have been learning about the key features of instructional writing. They worked in pairs to order a set of instructions, thinking carefully about the importance of sequencing and clear language. The children then planned and wrote their own instructions on how to grow a plant, using a checklist to make sure they included all the important features. They will soon be publishing their work to create a class book all about how to grow a plant, which they are very excited about!

In Science this week, **Year 2** have been learning about habitats and how they provide plants and animals with everything they need to survive, including food, water, shelter and space. As part of our working scientific learning, we carried out research to answer questions about woodland animals. We enjoyed exploring the school field and carefully observing our surroundings to see if we could spot any woodland animals or signs that they had been there. The children showed great curiosity and enthusiasm as they investigated different habitats and discussed how living things depend on their environment to meet their needs.

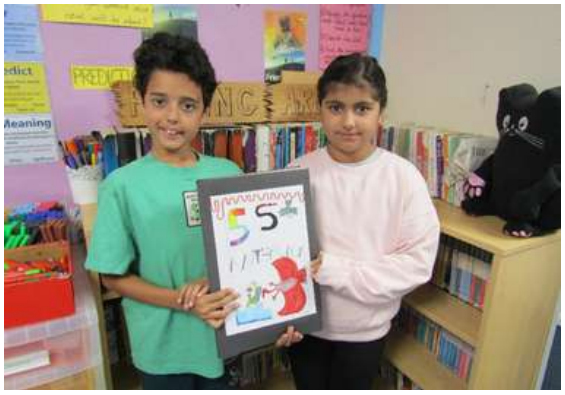
"All our dreams can come true if we have the courage to pursue them."

-Walt Disney

This week in Dance, **Year 3** continued developing their movement and performance skills. Following Get Set 4 PE, the children worked on creating and performing sequences, focusing on rhythm, coordination and expressive movements. They enjoyed working together and confidently sharing their performances with others. The theme is machines and children have been using their bodies and performing to show how machine parts move together, such as cogs, pistons and levers.

What an exciting start to English in **Year 4**! The children have finished their first English unit, inspired by Joe Todd-Stanton's Arthur and the Golden Rope. They became authors and illustrators, writing their own imaginative stories and creating fantastic graphic novels inspired by the original text. To celebrate their amazing work, they brought their creations together and proudly published their very own class book! We are so proud of our budding Year 4 authors!

This week in English, **Year 5** have been putting the finishing touches to their non-chronological reports by publishing and illustrating their own imaginative monster creations. After carefully designing their monsters and considering features such as appearance, habitat, diet, and unique abilities, the children crafted detailed illustrations to bring their ideas to life. Throughout the unit, pupils have developed their ability to present information clearly and effectively, using ambitious vocabulary, factual language, and well-organised sections to engage their readers. This creative project has allowed the children to showcase both their artistic talents and their growing confidence as informative writers.



On Monday, **Year 6** stepped back in time and became Victorians for the day during our exciting visit to the Rural Life Living Museum! The children experienced what life was really like during the Victorian era, from sitting in a traditional schoolroom to taking part in Wash Day Mondays, where they discovered just how hard household chores could be without modern appliances. We also explored Country Childhood, investigating and handling objects from the Victorian era and considering what they could tell us about children's lives in the past. It was a fantastic opportunity for the children to bring our history learning to life and compare Victorian life with our lives today. A brilliant day of learning, discovery and stepping back in time!

"The secret of getting ahead is getting started."

-Mark Twain

Online Safety

Please Visit Our Online Safety Page for Parents.

https://www.castleview.slough.sch.uk/Parents/Online-Safety-for-parents/

You will find the Alan Mackenzie updates, on the Parent's page, by clicking the button shown below on our page.

This week, Alan shares two valuable updates!

If your child uses an iPhone or iPad, Apple's latest software includes a number of new parental control and safety features. These include improved screen time controls, limits across categories of apps, website controls and additional communication safety protections. The short video, linked on our website, provides a useful overview, while Apple's own guidance explains how parents can set up and manage the controls in more detail.

Children with additional needs may not always recognise when an online situation has become unsafe, or they may find it difficult to explain what has happened. They may also communicate distress differently, become overwhelmed by questions or worry about losing access to a device or online activity that is particularly important to them.
This short video, linked on our website, gives parents practical advice on supporting a child calmly when something has gone wrong online and helping them feel able to share what has happened.

We have uploaded the #WakeUpWednesday features from The National College. Please click below to see the highly useful guide on our website. This online safety guide explores looksmaxxing, its impact on boys' body image, and the risks of extreme appearance advice and online communities

Click here :-

Please visitour website to find out more about the these and other valuable updates!

Latest on Castleview

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"Don't limit yourself. Many people limit themselves to what they think they can do. You can go as far as your mind lets you. What you believe, remember, you can achieve."

- Mark Kay Ash

Head Teacher's Awards

Kiyaan and Karim, 4DG, Eesa 4S and Annabeth 2B were awarded for doing fantastic reading and writing this half-term! Well done all of you!

Neeraja, 5AG, took her learning home from our Year 5 Computing lesson. She wrote her own mountain poem, which she turned into an animated piece of black-out poetry using PowerPoint. It incorporated over 80 slides! Amazing effort!

Head Teacher's Message

It has been a great week at Castleview, with a real buzz around writing across the school. Year 6 have been creating mystery stories, with tealights and eerie music helping to set the atmosphere. Year 1's writing has been particularly impressive, especially so early in the school year.

Mr Macgill and I spent time with Year 4, who were enthusiastic about their work and explained their ideas so articulately. In Year 2, the children are working hard and making excellent progress.

This is a testament to our staff, who plan and deliver engaging, meaningful and exciting lessons. We are incredibly proud of the learning opportunities we provide and the enthusiasm with which our children embrace them.

We also had a successful census day. Thank you to everyone for their efforts; it was lovely to see so many children and staff dressed up! The school census collects information used to calculate important funding, including funding for infant school meals. Your support helps us ensure that the information submitted accurately reflects our school.

Have a great weekend!

Miss Austin

"Life has no remote. Get up and change it yourself."

-Mark A. Cooper

DT learning in Year 6!

Inspired by our current DT learning journey, where pupils have been redesigning a Victorian classroom and playground, our Year 6s took on an exciting enrichment challenge: redesigning our local Upton Court Park!

The creativity and attention to detail is outstanding! We are incredibly proud to see our pupils consolidating their skills in designing, planning and building structures and bringing their ideas to life. Well done Year 6! 👏

Fundraising Opportunity

Don't miss out on this funding opportunity for your school!

easyfundraising has launched the Big Grocery Bonus. Five good causes across the UK will win a £500 bonus donation, and your school could be one of them.

How our school could receive a £500 bonus:-

This month, if parents, staff and our wider school community order their groceries via one of easyfundraising's participating supermarkets, our school will be in the draw to win a £500 donation!

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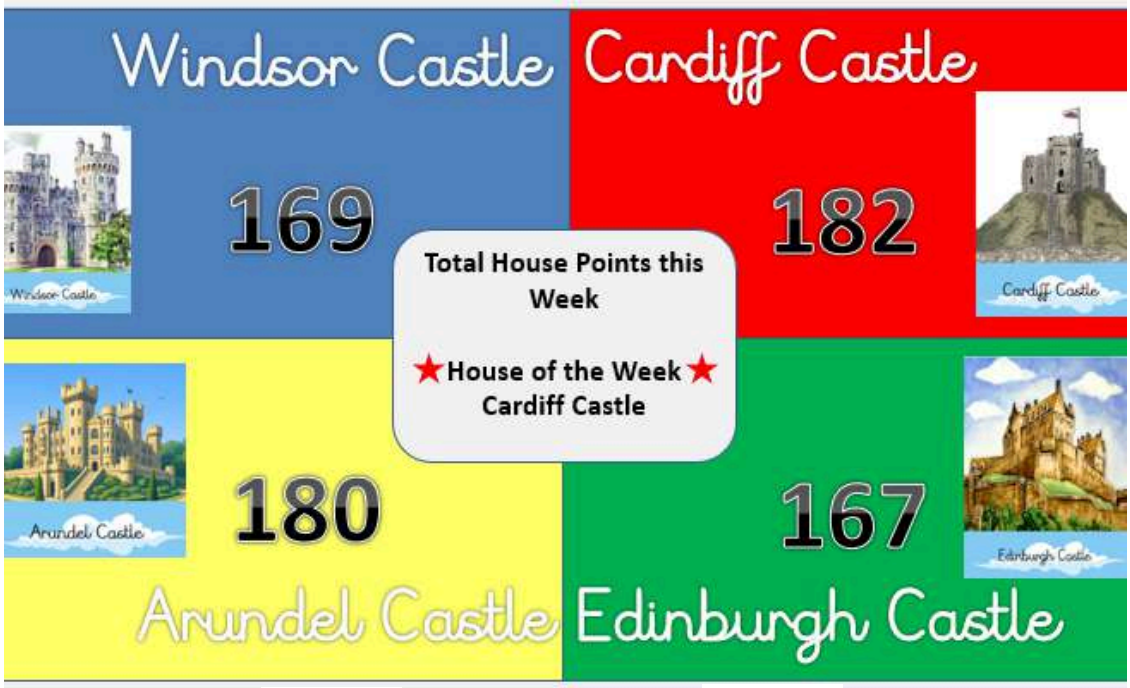
Star of the Week Awards

The proud Stars of the Week are Ahad (1G), Dominic (1R), Arshveer (2B), Jannatul (2YK), Viraj (3F), Ibrahim (3Y), Amaya (4DG), Jasveen (4S), Arham (5A), Shahraan (5S), Yixiu (6B), Aadhith (6R)

House Announcements



A BIG SHOUT OUT TO Mrs Shingadia, (Mrs Bansal's mum for her annual biscuit donation to the school! THANK YOU SO MUCH! We really appreciate it!

Have a lovely weekend!

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Compiled and Edited by Mrs Ahmed

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