



April/ May 2019

CASTLE HILL PRIMARY NEWSLETTER



Mid Pennine Arts Workshop

Anahata Katkin was born in 1978 in Alaska.
She lives and works in Atlanta, Georgia.



Year 6 worked with artist Cath Ford from Mid Pennine Arts to produce some beautiful artwork in the style of the Alaskan artist Anahata Katkin. The children explored and depicted the positive characteristics from the book we had been studying "Rose Blanche". They then created portraits based on compassion, love, strength and courage. The finished collages were superb and are hanging in Class 6GP.



3F Zoolab Visit

To start off their new topic of "The Tin Forest", Class 3F had a visit from Zoolab. They were introduced to snakes, lizards and a tarantula. All of the children were completely unphased by handling the creatures and the excitement on their faces was a joy to see.



Congratulations Ryan!

Class 5/6M entered a competition against all other schools in Calderdale. The theme was "Design a Planet". Ryan's design of his planet Stendore was so brilliant he won first prize. He was presented with a Spider robot for coming first!



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European Elections

The European Parliamentary Elections are going ahead on 23rd May 2019. As you are aware, Castle Hill is a polling station. **THE SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED.** The year 4 residential that has been booked will still take place. Please bring your child into the playground at 8.50 and Mr Hobbs, Miss Clarke and Mrs Hullett will then take them into the new building to register. Pick up will be normal time on Friday.

Reception Craft Morning



Thank you to all the parents and grandparents who attended our craft morning in Reception. The room was packed and it was a hive of activity. It was lovely to see the children working alongside the adults.

Class 4/5C stage an Opera!



Todmorden schools, including Castle Hill worked very hard with a vocal specialist to prepare for a performance called 'The Curse of The MacCabbra Opera House'. It was performed at the Hippodrome and the final performance was outstanding. Well done to all involved!

KS1 Trip to Bankfield Museum



Key Stage one had a fabulous start to their new topic of Space with a trip to Bankfield museum in Halifax. They took part in a workshop where they dressed up as astronauts and blasted rockets into space. The children also enjoyed exploring the grounds of this Victorian Mansion.



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Battery Recycling

The whole school has been very busy recycling batteries. We've already filled the big battery box once and have arranged our first collection - we've counted over 2100 batteries so far! Year 1 even weighed them and found out we have 69.5 kilograms of batteries ready to be recycled - that's more than Mrs Cook weighs!

Children from Reception, KS1 and KS2 have helped to find the running total, but to be in with a chance of winning, we need more batteries. They don't need to be brought in the special boxes, just emptied into the big container. Here is the link to the Big Battery Hunt website for more information.

<https://www.bigbatteryhunt.co.uk/>



Castle Hill was rated GOOD in all the following areas:

Leadership and management
Behaviour and safety of pupils
Quality of teaching
Achievement of pupils
Early years provision

If you haven't had a chance to read the full report, there are some key statements below. Any areas for improvement will be in our next school improvement plan.

- Staff are totally committed to providing the pupils in their care with high-quality education.
- Work to support pupils' social and emotional needs is a strength of the school.
- Teachers carefully check pupils' work and use their findings to plan future lessons.
- Tasks are well matched to pupils' varying needs and abilities.
- Work in pupils' books shows that they are making good progress.
- Governors have a thorough knowledge of the strengths and weaknesses of the school
- Pupils have lots of opportunities to take on additional responsibilities.
- Pupils spoke with enthusiasm about a range of different subjects that they enjoy in the school. They were particularly keen to tell me about the visits and visitors that are used to enhance their learning.
- One parent said: 'Children are thriving thanks to the hard work and support of the staff.'
- Pupils who made their views known say that they feel safe in the school and that there is a trusted adult at the school they can talk to if something is worrying them.



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Dates for your Diary

Monday 20 th May	Year 6 Art Exhibition at Platform One opens
Monday 20 th May	Pm Year 5 Safe Travel
Thursday 23rd May	SCHOOL CLOSED EUROPEAN ELECTIONS
Thursday 23 rd May - Friday 24 th May	Year 4 Residential
Friday 24 th May	3.30pm Break for Half term
Monday 3 rd June	Back to school
Thursday 6 th June	6.00pm New Reception intake open evening
Monday 10 th June	6.00pm New Nursery intake open evening
Thursday 13 th June	U11s Football - Walsden playing field
Monday 17 th June	1.30pm Open Afternoon for parents
Monday 24 th June	3F Trip - Tropical World
Thursday 27 th June	4.00pm Choir performance for parents (school hall)
Sunday 30 th June	11.00am -1.00pm PFA Summer Fair
Monday 1 st July	Year 4 visiting Todmorden High School
Wednesday 3 rd July	6.00pm Castle Hill's Got Talent (Hippodrome Theatre)
Thursday 4 th July	Year 6 Transition evening - Todmorden High School
Friday 5 th July	Year 6 Transition Day
Thursday 11 th July	Reports out today
Thursday 16 th July	3.30pm - 4.30pm Parents' Drop in re reports
Wednesday 17 th July	9.10 Year 5 Violin Assembly - Parents welcome
Thursday 18 th July	2.00pm Year 6 Leaving Assembly
Friday 19 th July	School closes for Summer Holidays

World Book Day Winners

	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Runner up</u>
Nursery	Ted Hughes	Tristian Marshall
Rec	Betty Mitchell	Ellis Cook
1	Ebon Darcy	Scarlett Powell
1/2	Oliver Dolan	Amelie Marchant
2	Lyla Dibb	Alina Newton
3	Eddie Taylor	Isla Cook - Caidie Dibb
3/4	Melody John	Sukie Roscoe
4/5	Sybil Taylor	Stanley Dibb
5/6	Cherry Royal	Liam Byrne - Annabelle Lemon
6	Poppy Marshall Maisie Plaister Molly Walsh	

Chess Club Helper?

Due to the popularity of our Chess club (which is held on Mondays 3.30 - 4.30), John Kerrane has asked if there are any parents willing to help out to support the children with their chess skills. Please let the office know if you are available.