



December 2017

Welcome to the first Castle Community newsletter.
You will be updated with all our latest news and achievements.

Our 2017-2018 journey so far...

Reading:

In September, our new reading scheme, Accelerated Reader, was launched. It has been a huge hit with the children. We are able to track how many words the children have read, and in Term 3 we will begin some 'friendly' competition with the other communities at Iwade to see who is reading the most words.

The children have enjoyed having some inspiring visitors and learning opportunities this term.

Author visit—Eamonn Reilly read extracts of his books and shared his writing ideas. He signed copies of his books for the children.

Our children enjoyed the visit, saying:

"I learnt how important it is to edit my own work".
"I loved him reading his own stories; he was so funny!"

In the classrooms we have had some really exciting WOW days to begin our topics in Term 1 and 2.

Year 1:

Year 1 have learnt about their local area in their CLJ topic, 'All Around Us' where they went for a walk around their local environment and used Google Earth to explore the local area.



"The best bit was finding our homes".
"I liked using the little man to have a street view".



Year 2:

As part of their topic, 'From England to Madagascar', Year 2 were visited by *The Creepy Claws Workshop*, who brought along a variety of different creatures from Madagascar.

The children really enjoyed this, with one child saying -

"I had an awesome time holding all of the animals".



Mrs Knight said, "I was very glad that of all the children took the opportunity to get up close with animals."

Challenge Champion

Hall of Fame:

Well done to all the children who have earned Challenge Champion so far this year:

Dover Class: Kyle, Hayley, Autumn, Jack, Ellie, Toby, Sune, Harley, Keelan,, Maxwell, Tia, Nate and Loui.

Leeds Class: Archie T, Scarlett, Iris, Adam, Fifi, Joshua, Oliver, Archie O, Ciaran, Destiny, Hollie, Kyle and Sofia.

Walmer Class: Sophie, Lucas

Niall, Lexi, Leon, Amie, Harrison, Ciara, Jaimee, Olli, Olivia, Finlay and Jasmine.

Scotney Class: Lewis, Caitlin, Tegan, Amelia, Ruald, Liam, Lewis, Joseph, Isaac, Mia, Luca and Matthew.

Hever Class: Joanne, Ruby M, Ruby C, Mattias, Tade, Karis, James, Paige, Oliver L, Harvey, Samuel, Shannon and Dylan.

Rochester Class: Afolabi, Boyd, Danielle, Ella-May, Isabel, Josie, Kitty, Lillie, Lily, Lisa, Mollie, Ryan and Stephanie.

PE Champions: Toby, Faye, Jasmine, Mollie, Kitty, Liam, Ciara, Erin and Lola.

Year 3

In term 1, Year 3 were visited by an 'archaeologist' who taught them all about the Stone and Bronze Ages.

In term 2 they have learnt about geographical features across the world in their topic of 'River Deep, Mountain High'.



"I enjoyed making the mountains because it was very sticky".

Year 4:

Year 4 have looked at contrasting climates. In term 1, they were learning about Rainforests and then in Term 2 temperatures dropped to find out about 'Shackleton's adventure' in the Arctic. As part of this they built igloos using marshmallows as part of their WOW day.

"This was the best day ever".

"It was really challenging and I had to be resilient".

"It was so hard not to eat the marshmallows!"



Year 5:

Year 5 were visited by an 'Ancient Greek' who taught them about Myths and Legends as part of their topic about the Ancient Greeks.

"It was a good way to start the topic – the man knows a lot and some fun facts".



Year 6:

In their CLJ topic, Year 6 has learnt about the counties and cities of England.

As part of this topic they also completed an in-depth study of Dover Castle; finding out about the war tunnels and what it may have been like working there during the war.



"We had to research the castles in Kent. There are more castles than I realised".

Other news:

Years 2—6 took part in an interactive National Big First Aid Lesson; teaching them some basic skills of first aid.

Year 5 and 6 took part in the K'NEX challenge where we found some budding engineers. Two children competed against other schools at BAE Rochester, in the final.



Children In Need

We were also lucky enough to get a visit from Pudsey Bear for Children in Need. We raised £640.



What's coming up:

At the beginning of Term 3 a new member of our P.E team, Mr Wybraniec, will be joining us.

Science Days for all year groups on 4th and 5th January.

Parent assemblies: Term 3—Year 5, Term 4—Year 2.

Safer internet day will be taking place in February.

Years 3 –6 will take part in a dance competition.

Each year group will be having WOW days for their next topic.

Sport relief is also coming up at the end of term 4.

Easter parade and activities – Term 4.

Special Achievements:

Karis – aged 9 (Year 5) recently competed in an under 17's diving competition: achieving great success. This is the first time the shield has both a mother and a daughter's name on it. Well done Karis.

Choir:

Our school choir has been very busy rehearsing Christmas songs and singing in the Care Homes in our local community. We have received some lovely feedback.

Bikeability Training:

Year 5 and 6 pupils have received training about being safe on the road while riding their bikes: achieving level 1 and 2.

PE Competitions we have competed in:

Year 4, 5, 6 Oasis Cross Country – Oliver Knight 3rd place

Year 5 and 6 Minterne 7's Football

Year 3 and 4 Sportshall Athletics – 5th place.

Year 5 and 6 Sportshall Athletics – 2nd place.

Year 1 and 2 Infant Agility.

Year 5 and 6 Oasis Football.

Year 1—6 Thrill the Island Dance Event.

Year 5 and 6 Basketball.

As part of our Christmas celebrations we have enjoyed: an amazing pantomime; had a visit from Father Christmas; had a delicious Christmas dinner and enjoyed parties in our classrooms.

May we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

