

Classroom News



PSHE

Term 2 2024-2025

What we have been doing this term:

At the Castle School, we work really hard in PSHE, and have some celebrations to share with you:

It has been wonderful to see students working really hard on their play and turn taking skills.

Skipton class have been sharing and taking turns with duplo and the play kitchen.

Wallingford class have also been taking turns, whilst playing board games. Blaise students have been reaching out to hold hands, when listening to music together.

Tiverton class have been learning to look after animals. They visited Pets at home and had a brilliant workshop about animal care and heard about what it is like to work at Pets at Home and held some animals and reptiles, including a Guinea pig and a bearded dragon!

Tiverton have been very busy, they have also been learning about being a fire fighter, and how they help us. Tiverton visited the fire station. They had a tour of the station and got to see the offices, living quarters and the gym that the firefighters use to train and keep fit. They also got to go inside the fire engine and even use the hose! They learned about a day in the life of a fire fighter, asked lots of questions and learned about fire safety (including how and when to call the emergency services). Tiverton had so much fun during their visit and came back to school full of smiles.

Chillingham class have been doing lots of fab work with selfies this term, to understand the parts of their face and what they look like. One lesson, they took their own selfies on the ipad, the adult then changed it to black and white and printed them for the students to make their own collage designs.

Dover class went on a food hygiene course so that they could sell food to staff, to fund their trips.

Thank you for your kind donations for the food bank. We collected 280 meals worth of food, which apparently weighs the same amount as an adult jaguar (133.4kg!) School council delivered the donations, and were concerned that there was not a lot of food left on the shelves, so have signed up for lots of other initiatives to help.

Some photos of us!



School council have also received their badges, and are very proud to be representing the school, whilst wearing them.

School council are thinking about how to improve our community areas in school, and have lots of exciting ideas about what they would like in the playground, which leadership are now thinking about.

One of our school council members has already been using her initiative to make playtime better and has organised a colouring club – fabulous work! As is that wasn't enough, she also made an amazing puppet show, which she shared in Share and Shine and to parents visiting the school!

Just a reminder about Annual health checks. GPs are working with Berkshire special schools, to let everyone know all about health checks.

Windsor class have been Learning about Annual health checks this term, and have written letters to their GP, telling them about any adaptations they may need, and who they would like to take with them to the appointment.

Here is some information from Dr Heather Howells , who is the GP Clinical Lead for Mental Health and Learning Disabilities, for Berkshire West:

You may be aware that from the age of 14, everyone in a special needs school, is eligible for an Annual Health Check at their GP surgery. All people with a Learning Disability aged 14 and over should receive a check every year.

The Annual Health check covers all aspects of health and wellbeing, you can learn more about Annual Health Checks here:

<https://www.mencap.org.uk/advice-and-support/health/annual-health-checks>





The Castle School is a National Online safety certified school. Thank you to the parents who signed up or completed a course last year.

You can see our plaque in reception, along with some internet safety guides, which you can also download from the National Online Safety workshop, or pick up from the display in the pastoral room. There are also some guides on our school website, in We now have National online safety logins for all staff, so that everyone can complete their annual certificate for online safety this year, so that we can help keep our pupils safe online. Many staff have also accessed other courses and seminars. Teachers are able to use the resources and planning to ensure that we are giving our students relevant and up to date online safety lessons, throughout the year. Some parents and carers have signed up, and have completed courses have accessed important internet safety guides for their child. We are hoping that more parents will sign up soon. If you would like to sign up to help your child stay safe online, please do. We have put some useful courses in the watch list, once you log on.

We are sure that you will agree that online safety is so important to keep everyone safe, which is why we are committed to training our staff and giving our pupils the best possible lessons and care. We are looking forward to more parents joining us with our National Online safety journey.

We would like to achieve the award again this year, as online safety is a big priority at The Castle school. We need parents to complete courses too. If you would like a parent login, for National Online safety, to make use of the brilliant training and resources, please contact Hayley.

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