



Celebrations of our learning this term:

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

Everyone has been settling into the new school year new school year, and have been communicating with each other and building connections. Blaise class have done some amazing work in their Let's Connect sessions and have been using switches and eye pointing to make choices.

Many classes have been communicating their likes and dislikes. Skipton have been using symbols, and thumbs up and down gestures, to communicate their preferences. Staff have now had two training sessions on how to use the Chailey Heritage RSHE programme, which is designed to support our learners with severe and profound learning difficulties, to be able to access RSHE (Relationships, Sex and Health Education,) using sensory stories, props, and anatomically correct dolls.

The third and final training session will take part after half term. Lots of classes have been using the dolls, and the stories, and teachers have found that they really help to improve students understanding of complex topics, including periods.

Classes have been learning to recognise body parts. Conway have been matching body parts. Windsor have been remembering the importance of deodorant and have been doing experiments about the importance of clean hands.

Whittington class have been learning healthy eating routines, with the Eatwell plate.

Tiverton have been learning about what bullying is, and what to do if someone is being bullied.

Wallingford road have been learning to cross the road safety.

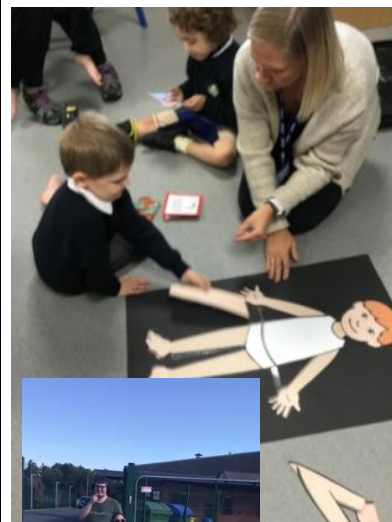
School Council have been very busy planning their project to improve the sensory garden.

They have chosen paint colours and plants.

The site team have already restored the raised beds, fences and other structures. We hope the rest of the work can be completed soon. We are very proud of how considerate the school council have been to their peers, ensuring everyone is included and has something that they will enjoy, at playtime.

Well done and thank you to all involved.. We are very excited about our sensory garden and will keep you updated on its progress!

Some photos of our learning



Post 16 School council representatives will also be meeting this year, to discuss specific Post 16 issues, that they want to work on.

Just a reminder that everyone with an EHCP, age 14 plus, is eligible for an annual health check.

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>



School Council are having a food bank collection again, and will be delivering food to the food bank after half term. If you are able to make a donation, please do give them to your child's class teacher. The food bank are particularly looking for the following:

- Fruit Squash
- Baked Beans
- Dried Pasta
- Tins Tomatoes/Passata
- Tea Bags (small boxes)
- Tinned Custard
- Tinned Soup
- Sweet Biscuits
- Confectionary
- Deodorant

Any other non perishable food items, will also be much appreciated. Thank you.



I am pleased to say that The Castle School is a National Online Safety certified school again this year (2024-25). Well done to all involved.

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 have National Online Safety logins for all staff, so that everyone can help keep our pupils safe. All teachers, Tas and safeguarding leads have 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 will now be working on our 25-26 certification. Teachers, Tas and leadership will all be having their annual, online safety training, after half term.

If you would like a parent login, for National Online safety, (now called Wake up Wednesdays) to make use of the brilliant training and resources, please contact Hayley.

Hodonnell@castle.w-berks.sch.uk