Castle Hill Primary
Reception letter

Welcome to Reception!

We have had a fantastic first couple of weeks in Reception. The children have settled into school life and new routines and are enjoying exploring their new environment. They have begun to build new friendships with their peers and build relationships with staff. It has been lovely to the see the children engaged in their learning and developing their self-help and independence skills.

Our Staff

Miss Routledge (class teacher)
Tuesday – Friday

Miss Smith (class teacher)
Monday

Mrs Sutcliffe (support assistant)
Monday – Friday

Mrs Emmott (support assistant)
Monday - Thursday

Reminders

Our start and finish times are 8:50am – 3:15pm. Children will come in independently through our classroom door.

Please continue to send your child with a filled water bottle and book bag, not a backpack. Please ensure they have their reading book and record with them each day.

Please ensure that your child has a bag of spare clothes in school. Please also ensure that all school uniform is labelled. This is so we can ensure children return home with their clothing.

Please send your child to school dressed appropriately for the weather, i.e. waterproof coat, hat, gloves. We play out in all weathers.

Evidence Me

You can see what we have been up to each week on Evidence Me. You can add to this learning journey at home by uploading your own pictures, this can be achievements or any exciting news.

We will ask for pictures over the year. We enjoy sharing these as part of our curriculum.

PE

Our PE day is **Monday. This will begin after half term.**

Please send your child to school in their PE kit on their PE days. PE kit is a white t-shirt, black/navy shorts, leggings or joggers, black/navy zip up hoodie/fleece and black trainers.

Forest School

Our Forest School day is **Thursday.** Children will get muddy!

On these days, please send your child to school wearing their appropriate forest school clothing, waterproof coat and wellies. Please send them to school with a bag of spare uniform and school shoes to change into afterwards.

Contact

You can contact me via email at m.routledge@castlehillprimary.co.uk. Your emails will be responded to outside of teaching hours. Should you need to contact me urgently, please contact the school office on 01706 813163.

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<table>
<tr><th colspan="3">Reception Autumn Term Topic Web 2026</th></tr>
<tr><td>How we learn
Each day the children will take part in a range of focus carpet sessions, small group work and 1:1 work. They will also initiate their own learning through our continuous provision. Their learning is embedded and extended through modelling and questioning by our staff.</td><td>Phonics
Phase 1 phonics (listening for sounds)

We will begin to:
spot and suggest rhyme
clap syllables
recognise words with the same initial sound
continue a rhyming string
identify alliteration
Floppy Phonics
Level 1+
Read individual letters by saying the sounds for them
Begin to recognise some written names – Mum, Dad, peers/ siblings</td><td>Maths
White Rose Maths
We will begin by focusing on key vocabulary involving matching and sorting. We will look at difference.

We will also focus on numbers 1-5 including the composition of these numbers.

We will identify and make simple patterns</td></tr>
<tr><td>Writing

We will focus on developing our pencil grip through lots of fine motor activities. Once we are confident with this, we will move on to forming pre-writing shapes and letters.</td><td rowspan="3">Reception curriculum coverage

Autumn term 2026

Topics:
Autumn 1 - Marvellous Me

Autumn 2 – Look at us Glow!</td><td>English
Reading

We will learn to describe main story settings, events and principal characters in increasing detail.
We will predict key events in stories, engage in extended conversations about stories and learn new vocabulary.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Music

Exploring sounds

Celebration music

P.E.

Locomotor skills, moving our body from one place to another.</td><td>Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will begin to talk about our feelings – sad, happy and begin to understand gradually how others might feel.
We will share our class rules and children will begin to understand and follow these in our environment.
We will begin to build friendships with our peers and learn to share our resources.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Communication and Language

Listen carefully to songs and rhymes, paying attention to how they sound.
We will use this to sing familiar songs and rhymes.
We will focus on developing social phases – please, thank you, can I?
This will support turn taking and building relationships.</td><td>Understanding the World

We will be celebrating ourselves, understanding what makes me 'me'.
We will look at our families and homes and compare similarities and differences.

We will look at the change of season, religious celebrations and explore light/dark.

We will learn about different religions, exploring places which are special to members of our community and why some objects are special.</td><td>Expressive Arts

The children will have the opportunity to explore different materials. They will explore how to join different materials and explore textures.
They will practise skills to draw with increasing complexity and detail.
We will explore colour and colour mixing.</td></tr>
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