



# HYLTON CASTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## Weekly newsletter 12 W/E 12th December 2025

**PLEASE NOTE: Car park gates are closed between 8.25am - 8.45am & 3.10pm - 3.35pm for safety**

### Dates for your Diary

#### Monday 15th Dec 2025

Y2 & Y4 party

#### Tuesday 16th Dec 2025

- Reception Nativity play - 9.30am
- Nur & Y6 party

**All nursery children to attend 12.30pm - 3.30pm ONLY**

- **NO KS2 Art Club**

#### Wednesday 17th Dec 2025

- Y1 & Y3 party
- **NO football club**

#### Thursday 18th Dec 2025

Whole school Sunderland Empire panto - £10.00 per child

**to be paid by 5th Dec**  
**All nursery children to attend 8.30am - 1.00pm ONLY**

#### Friday 19th Dec 2025

- Carol service - 10.00am & 2.00pm -
- Break up for Christmas
- **NO basketball club**

#### Monday 5th January 2026

**INSET—NO CHILDREN**

#### Tuesday 6th January 2026

Children return to school

#### W/B 11th May 26

KS2 SATS - all children have exams throughout May

### Safer Parking Reminder

We have received reports of unsafe parking outside school, including cars blocking crossing areas and parking on the zigzag lines. Please can we remind all parents and carers to park considerately and follow the road markings at all times.

We all need to work together to keep our children safe when arriving and leaving school. Thank you for your support in helping us maintain a safe environment for everyone.

### Football Tournaments

Year 4/5 football team took part in the annual Castle View Winter Football Tournament. It was a busy day for the team who played 8 matches on the day. The team played brilliantly in the league winning three, drawing two and only having one defeat and finishing in third place and qualifying for the semi-final. The team had five different goal scorers on the day with Vinnie and Kaelum both scoring 1, Harrison and Jenson both scoring 2 and Grayson being top scorer with 6 goals. Nathan and Mason were strong in defence for the team clearing the ball whenever they had a chance and putting non-stop pressure on the opposition attackers. Dexter made some outstanding saves throughout the tournament and even saved a penalty in the semi-final, however the team were knocked out and finished in fourth place overall. The Castle View staff and academy pupils were very impressed with the team's determination and teamwork. Well done to all the team on a fantastic fourth place finish.



Our Year 5/6 football team took part in the Foundation of Light Football Tournament on a chilly Friday morning at Ford Hub. The first fixture against Farringdon Academy, was a close battle, with both teams creating chances but neither team could get the opening goal. In the second fixture, against Dubmire Academy, our team were passing the ball around and linking up well with each other, creating chances and making the most of those chances by scoring 3 goals. Our third game we played against a competitive Fulwell Juniors team. It was a back-and-forth match with both teams playing some fantastic football and both teams getting on the scoresheet with the game finishing 1-1. Our final group game was against a very talented St. Mary's team who took advantage of our team playing 3 straight games with little rest in between. Our team defended well together but couldn't keep out an impressive St. Mary's attack in a 4-0 defeat. In the end our team finished joint second on points but missed out on a place in the semi-finals due to goal difference. Well done to the team for their attitude and their performance throughout the tournament.

### Happy Birthday to the children who have Birthdays:

- |        |        |
|--------|--------|
| Verity | Moon   |
| Aliya  | Duggan |
| Jacob  | Wynne  |
| L-Jay  | Dennis |



- |       |         |
|-------|---------|
| Bobby | Harding |
| Lenny | Jones   |
| Ellis | Ward    |

### Attendance Awards

Congratulations to the following classes for the best attendance for week ending 12th December

KS1:Y1	95.33%
KS2:Y4	96.67%



### REMINDER- -Pantomime

We will be taking all of the children to the Sunderland Empire on Thursday 18th December to watch Sleeping Beauty. The cost of admission & transport is £17.50. We are asking for a contribution from parents of **£10.00**, the remainder balance will be paid by school. Children can bring their own drink (not fizzy) and sweets for the performance. Payment to be made by Friday 5th December.



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WEBSITE: [www.hyltoncastleprimary.org.uk](http://www.hyltoncastleprimary.org.uk) Email: [info@hyltoncastleprimary.org.uk](mailto:info@hyltoncastleprimary.org.uk)

## Second OPAL Platinum Award!



We are incredibly proud to announce that Hylton Castle Primary School has been awarded its **second OPAL Platinum Award**—the highest level of accreditation within the OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) programme. This remarkable and rare achievement reflects our school's outstanding commitment to creating a rich, inclusive and empowering culture of outdoor play.



Some of the feedback we received from our OPAL mentor, Ingrid, highlighted that our approach to outdoor play at Hylton Castle continues to be both innovative and inspiring. We are delighted to share some of the exceptional features that contributed to this prestigious recognition:

### **1. Inspiring Natural Spaces**

*Our creative and thoughtfully developed grounds include access to a high-value forest area, complete with tree swings, den-building opportunities, a fire circle and extensive space for free exploration. This natural environment offers children a truly enriching outdoor experience.*

### **2. Diverse and Dynamic Play Zones**

*Children enjoy a wide range of engaging play zones including a water zone, stage, sand pit, climbing equipment, wheels zone, tinkering shed and MUGA. These spaces provide rich opportunities for skill development, social interaction, physical literacy, confidence building and appropriate risk-taking.*

### **3. A Culture of Care, Celebration and Inclusion**

*At Hylton Castle, children feel truly valued and supported. Our OPAL assemblies reinforce this by celebrating positive play behaviours and recognising children as OPAL Heroes for their acts of kindness, respect and care. This focus on interpersonal skills helps prepare our pupils for life beyond the school gates.*

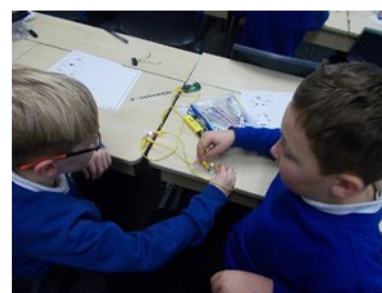
Achieving the OPAL Platinum Award for a second time is a huge honour. This could not have been possible without the enthusiasm of our children and the ongoing support of our families. I would also like to say a huge thank you to all staff involved. Together, we continue to place high-quality play at the heart of school life.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mrs Hunter 😊

## Year 6

Year 6 are learning about circuits in science and enjoyed a lesson making a range of circuits and then drawing the circuit diagrams to represent them.



## Year 4

Year 4 feeling festive in their Christmas jumpers!



## Reception

In Reception, we have enjoyed a range of Christmas crafts including making our own Christmas trees, play doh snowmen and wrapping presents in Santa's workshop!



## Christingle

Year 2, 5 and 6 enjoyed making Christingles this week. We learned all about their meaning and we were very lucky to receive a free book as well all about the Nativity story.



## Year 1

Year 1 had a great time this week finding out about the Christingle and what each of the parts represents. They found out the answer to the question 'Who is the King?' and even made their own Christingle to take home and share with their families.



## Year 6

Year 6 enjoyed investigating whether or not circuits would work from the circuit diagrams they were given. They made predictions first giving reasons then tested the circuit to see if their predictions were correct.

