



We are Castleway.

Be kind. Be confident. Be your best.



Friday, 2nd December 2022

Dear Families,

Well, this has been a rather busy week! We've welcomed Ofsted in to the Primary School to let them see just how wonderful our children are. Even with our special visitors, it has been business as usual for our two schools. As always, here's your Friday update full of news and celebrations for Team Castleway.

We're so proud of our school!



As you'll be aware, our Primary School was visited by one of His Majesty's Inspectors and her team this week. Believe it or not, it's been over 6 years since the last Primary School inspection and as a result I've been waiting for the phone call since I took up post in April 2021.

Our children were, as you'd expect, nothing short of incredible and the Inspector commented twice that our 'children are delightful' and that our children are 'lovers of reading'. It was lovely to hear the positive feedback from our parents too. The Lead Inspector commented specifically on the fact that 100% of the parents who completed the survey would recommend our school. Simply incredible!

We are now awaiting the draft report to come through, this will be reviewed by our school leadership team before being sent back to Ofsted. Once the final report has been published, the judgements will be shared with staff and families. Until then, please be assured that we're really pleased with the many positives that the inspection has highlighted (and there are many) and, as always, there are things that have been highlighted for us to improve. Those of you who know me quite well now will know that this is absolutely fine too as I will settle for nothing less than the best for our children.

We are Castleway and we are incredibly proud of it!



We are Grateful

Huge thanks to Birkenhead Lions for the very generous donation of £200 for equipment for our school. Our Y6 children were more than happy to accept the giant cheque on behalf of our school!

Book Post!

Reading really matters at Castleway and our children developing a love of reading and our children look forward to their regular 'book post' deliveries. This week, Year 1, Year 3 and Year 5 got something special in the post! These special deliveries contain more than books. They have special notes from the author, some additional merchandise and occasionally some sweets too! Reading is important but it's even better with a treat or two!



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Castleway's Food Forest!

Some of you have asked me about the unusual development at the side of our mobile classroom this week. Well, all will become clear! Our Year 5 pupils have started to create Castleway's very own 'Food Forest' area with Paula from Earth Moves. They created a willow circle as a base for growing some fruit and vegetables. Over the next academic year, every class will be working on the development of this area making sure that there is plenty of food to share with our community. So, keep an eye on how we're getting on. The fruits of our labour could be on your dinner table very soon!



Fabulous Fun in Forest School!

Reception Class had a wonderful afternoon in our amazing Forest School, exploring their environment and creating natural art. They even enjoyed a hot chocolate and a biscuit to warm them up. We even took one of our inspectors over to the Forest School, he was very impressed. Just look at those smiles, that's what it's all about!



Fabulous Footballers

Wow, what a team we have here! Our Castleway core values of resilience, kindness and respect shone through in our Local Derby against our friends from Leasowe Primary School on Monday.

An amazing 9-0 win for our team as Team Castleway proudly march on to the next round!

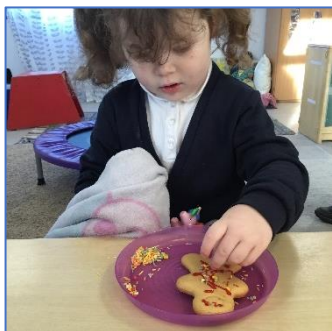
'We're from Castleway, mighty mighty Castleway!'

Proud to be part of
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Run, run as fast as you can! You can't catch us we're the Castleway clan!

Children have enjoyed role playing, mark making and baking. But most of all, they have loved learning and reciting the classic story 'The gingerbread man'. This week our wonderful two-year olds explored all things ginger. They used their fine motor skills in the ginger play dough, made marks in the flour and role played in their bakery. They even 'ran ran' as fast as they could and ended up tasting gingerbread biscuits!



A 'g g g g great' time in Nurture Class!

This week our Nurture Class children have met the Sound Train character 'Gus Goat' and have had great fun making the 'g' sound as they played. They have looked at different green things and they have been learning the sign for green too!

Things got even better in our Nurture Classroom as they gingerbread men and played with ginger playdough too! Learning really is delicious in our wonderful school.

We looked super smart, let's keep it up!

We asked children to wear their Castleway sweatshirt or cardigan with their PE kit this week and they looked wonderful! Given how smart everyone looked, we're asking that continues going forward. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone looking just as smart on their PE days next week. A reminder of our agreed PE days is below for your reference.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Y2	Reception Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6	Y1	Reception, Y5, Y6	Y3, Y4



Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner Day

Please remember that this coming Thursday is our Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day. We're taking donations for Save the Children. We're looking forward to eating our delicious Christmas meal in our festive finery!



Thursday 8th December

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY



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Save the Children

Christmas Fayre

We hope that you're able to join us for our Christmas Fayre this coming Thursday after school. This event is all about bringing our community together with the focus of raising much needed funds for school. We're looking forward to it!



Castleway's
Christmas Fayre

Thursday 8th December from 3:25pm

Contact the school office
for further information.



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We're off to the Panto... oh yes we are!

We're continuing the tradition started last year and we're off to the panto! All children in the Primary School (F2 to Y6) will be going to the Floral Pavilion on the morning of Friday, 6th January. We're asking for contributions of £8 per child via ParentMail. As always, please let us know if you think you may struggle with making this payment.



Dates for your Diary

Please take a moment to look at the dates for your diary to make sure you're up to date with what's coming up at Castleway.

When?	What?	Who?
07/12/22	Elf Run	Primary & Nursery Schools
08/12/22	Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children	All children and staff of both schools
08/12/22	Christmas Dinner Day	All children and staff of both schools
08/12/22	Christmas Fayre	All children, staff and families of both schools
14/12/22	A very Castleway Christmas! (9:00am & 2:00pm)	Nursery School Families
15/12/22	Reception & Year 1 Nativity (9:30am & 2:00pm)	Families of Reception & Year 1
16/12/22	Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6 Carol Concert (9:30am & 2:00pm)	Families of Years 2- 6
19/12/22	A visit from someone special!	All children from both schools.
20/12/22	Christmas Parties & Non-uniform Day	All children from both schools.
20/12/22	Finish for Christmas Break	All children and staff of both schools
04/01/23	Return to School	All children and staff of both schools
06/01/23	Primary School Trip to the Panto!	All Primary School Children

It really has been a fantastic week with lots to celebrate!

Have a lovely weekend and I'll see you all, safe and well, on Monday morning.

Kind regards,

Mr. S. Mycroft
Headteacher

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