



We are Castleway.

Be kind. Be confident. Be your best.



Friday, 8th September 2023

Dear Families,

What a wonderful start to our new academic year we've had! It's been amazing to welcome all of our children back and, in true Castleway style, we haven't started quietly! From our first whole school PE day with Mr. Davies to rocking out with the amazing Rock Kidz – we've had a ball! The best bit is, this is just the beginning!

We are happy to be back. We are Castleway.

It was so good to reopen our doors on Tuesday and welcome everyone back. Smiles all round at Castleway in our calm, beautifully refurbished classrooms and building!



Rock Star Day 2023

It's hard to believe that today is our third Rock Star Day with the incredible Rock Kidz visiting and transforming our hall into an arena! Please ask your children what the new word 'YASBA' means. I'll give you a clue, we're all pretty awesome...



Headteacher: Mr. S. Mycroft

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Welcome to Reception!

Our new Foundation Two children have made an amazing start to their Primary School career. We've been so impressed with their confidence and independence already. This class really are going to be one to watch, they're amazing!



Whole School PE with Mr. Davies

Our first PE day with Mr. Davies was a great success. From our youngest children in Nursery School to our oldest children in Year Six, each and every class had a great session with progressive skills evident throughout. Please remember that from next week, our whole school PE day is Friday. All children will need to wear their Castleway kit on Fridays.



Castleway are celebrating
**National
Fitness Day**
Wednesday 20th September

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National Fitness Day – Wednesday 20th September

Wednesday 20th September is National Fitness Day and, as you'd expect, we'll be getting involved at Castleway!

Our day will start with a special Wake Up Shake Up at 8:45am on the playground followed by an assembly about the importance of fitness before each class (including Nursery School) will have a fitness session with our very own Mr. Davies!

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The Unity Federation



Come Dine with Us

As we know, our Come Dine with Us lunches are always very popular so you'll be pleased to know they're back for this academic year. We're sharing our dates for Reception, Year One and Year Two with dates for Key Stage Two to follow. Please ensure that all bookings are made via School Spider so that we can make sure we've got enough school cake to go around!



Advance Notice – We're off to the Panto!

As is now tradition at Castleway, we'll be heading off to the Floral Pavilion in January 2024. We've made the payment live on School Spider now so that we're giving plenty of notice for families. For our families with more than two children at Castleway, please contact us and we'll discuss how to make sure this payment is manageable for you all.

Breakfast & After School Club Bookings

Huge thanks to you all for your patience with our booking system while we fully moved over to the School Spider app. All families should now be able to book on Breakfast and After School Club via the app.

Please get in touch with our wonderful office team if you have any issues getting sorted.

Attendance Matters at Castleway

As you'll be aware, improving attendance is a huge priority for us at Castleway. Attendance was flagged up as an area for improvement by OFSTED when we were visited in November 2022. Part of Mrs. McCarthy's new role as Assistant Headteacher is to work with families to improve our attendance. We will be writing to all families soon to share our revised attendance procedures, including our rewards and incentives. As we know, instilling the importance of attending school every day now will benefit them when they enter the world of work as adults.



A rainbow of opportunity

Reception Class 2024 – Apply Now!

Believe it or not, it's already time for families to be thinking about making their application for primary school places for Reception Class 2024. To see so many first-choice applications on the portal already is sheer testament to how hard our school team work each and every day to make sure that Castleway is the best that it can be!

If you'd like to have a look around the new and improved Castleway (or know someone who might) then please do get in touch. Applications for Reception Class 2024 need to be made through the Wirral Portal. The portal can be accessed here: [Castleway Applications](#).

Meet the Teacher Meetings – Years 1 – 6

I'm delighted to invite you to join us in school next week for 'Meet the Teacher' meetings. The aim of these short meetings is to have a chance to chat with your child's new teacher whilst also finding out the expectations for this new academic year. Meetings will start in the school hall (with the chance for a brew and biscuit included too of course) and will finish with the chance to have a look in your child's new classroom and around school. We hope you can join us.

Tuesday 12 th September	Wednesday 13 th September	Thursday 14 th September
Year 1 & Year 2 at 15:25	Year 3 & Year 4 at 15:25	Year 5 & Year 6 at 15:25

We're not holding Early Years meetings just yet as families had the chance to meet Miss Wallace in small groups as part of transition and our focus at the moment is settling our youngest children in to school life. Mrs. Morris (Assistant Headteacher) and I will be sharing details of our Early Years Stay and Play sessions soon.

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Uniform Reminder

We take a huge pride in our appearance at Castleway. Children wearing uniform promotes togetherness and removes any kind of competition with brands and labels etc. We've also consulted heavily on our uniform with families to ensure that it is affordable and easy to access.



All children should wear their Castleway Uniform each day, this includes the agreed

PE kit. Where children are not wearing correct uniform, we will be in touch to discuss this with you. If you have trouble accessing or affording any items of our uniform, please get in touch with Miss McDonough. As you know, she loves nothing more than helping out.

Please note: During this hot weather, it is entirely fine for children to wear the 'summer term variation' of uniform which includes summer dresses, short trousers etc. If you have any questions about uniform and our expectations, please don't hesitate to get in touch.



School Spider

If you haven't already, please ensure that you have downloaded the School Spider app. We will no longer be using Parent Mail and School Spider will be your point of contact for updates, news and events. Also, all bookings for Breakfast and After School Clubs will only be available through School Spider. For this week, cash payments are accepted. We would prefer that all payments are cashless going forward unless otherwise stated.

Parents of Year 4, 5 & 6

If your child is in Year 4, 5 or 6 you may now be thinking about high school choices. Secondary schools will be inviting young people and their parents or carers in to have a look around and get a feel for their school. The team at Family Toolbox have prepared some dates from various local schools that you may wish to visit in the next couple of months. [Click here.](#)

'We are Castleway' – Our School Principles

At Castleway, we don't have 'school rules' we have a set of principles that we all live by each and every day. These principles haven't changed from last year and they also include our Nursery School children too. Our Castleway Principles cover all members of our school community from children to families and from staff to governors.

We are proud of our community and we are proud of how we look after each other. We are Castleway.



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The Unity Federation



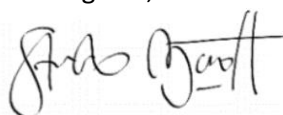
Dates for your Diary

Please make a note of these initial dates for just some of the events we have planned for this term at Castleway. As always, these dates may be subject to change. Where events are in the future (such as discos and Parents' Evening) we will share further information in due course.

When?	What?	Who?
12/09/23	Year 1 & Year 2 – Meet the Teacher Meeting – 15:25	Y1 & Y2 Families
13/09/23	Year 3 & Year 4 – Meet the Teacher Meeting – 15:25	Y3 & Y4 Families
14/09/23	Year 5 & Year 6 – Meet the Teacher Meeting – 15:25	Y5 & Y6 Families
15/09/23	Roald Dahl Day – Brew, Book and a Bagel for Families	All Families
15/09/23	Whole School PE Day – Primary (Each Friday from today)	Primary School children
20/09/23	National Fitness Day <i>All children to wear Castleway PE kit today</i>	Primary School children
29/09/23	Macmillan Coffee Morning for Families	All Families
29/09/23	Cake Sale for Macmillan – Donations welcome!	Primary & Nursery children
17/10/23	Spooky Discos	Primary & Nursery children
07/11/23	Parents' Evening One (only book one appointment)	Primary & Nursery families
08/11/23	Come Dine with Foundation Two – 11:30am	Reception Class families
09/11/23	Parents' Evening Two (only book one appointment)	Primary & Nursery families
15/11/23	Come Dine with Year One – 11:30am	Year One families
29/11/23	Come Dine with Year Two – 11:30am	Year Two families
12/01/24	Whole School Panto Visit – Aladdin <i>(Payments now available on School Spider)</i>	Primary School children

What an amazing start to this new academic year. Here we go!

Kind regards,



Mr. S. Mycroft
Headteacher