



# We are Castleway.

Be kind. Be confident. Be your best.



Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023

Dear Families,

It's hard to believe that it's already the end of our first week back and that Friday is here. As always, here's your Friday Update to celebrate another wonderful week in our fabulous schools. Here we go...

## Castle Tots

What an amazing start for our Castle Tots group this week! We loved welcoming some of the youngest members our community in to our school. Remember that everyone is welcome at our parent and toddler group each and every Tuesday during term time. We're already looking forward to next week!



## Black History Month

We loved welcoming a true Castleway (S)legend back again yesterday! As always, it's brilliant to see Mr. Sledge and share his enthusiasm and love of learning. In a special assembly, Year 6 shared what they've been learning about the Kingdom of Benin. Then it was the turn of the rest of the school to share what they've been learning about different significant black woman under the theme 'Celebrating Our Sisters'. From Mel B and Rosa Parks to Aretha Franklin and Michelle Obama, we certainly were inspired! Well done to our children for showcasing and highlighting the achievements of these significant figures from Black History as part of their learning across Black History Month.



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### Car Park and Speed Awareness Reminder



Families have raised concerns around the speed at which some of you are choosing to enter our school car park and grounds at pick up and drop off times. I am asking that you take care as you enter our school site and observe the 5mph speed limit that we are enforcing. I know that, despite sometimes being in a rush, we all have the safety and well being of our children at heart.

If the problem continues, we will have to look at restricting access to the site at key times. I'm aware that this would cause inconvenience to many of you but, as you know, the safety of our children will always be at the forefront of any decisions I make. In order to stop this happening, let's work together to ensure we're driving with caution and care around our site.

### Therapeutic Schools Award

We were excited to start our Therapeutic School Award journey after school on Wednesday with a special whole staff training session. Thanks to our ever-wonderful Mrs. Smith for leading us through this valuable programme. Our first session was all about childhood trauma and the brain. We're proud of our wonderful team for being so open and reflective tonight. It was brilliant to hear our team discussing such important topics with a focus on how we can further improve what we do for our children. We are trauma informed. We are Castleway.



### Year Six in Forest School

Year Six are loving their weekly Forest School sessions. It's great to see that our oldest children benefit from this magical space just as much as our younger children do. We really are always learning at Castleway.



# Castleway will be supporting **CHILDREN IN NEED** Friday, 17th November

Once again, we're showing that Castleway cares! We're holding a non-uniform day and cake sale to support the BBC Children in Need appeal on Friday 17th November. As always, all donations are welcome.



## Years 3 & 4 Violin Tuition

As you know, Years 3 & 4 have weekly violin tuition with a visiting expert. This week they have started learning some Christmas classics ahead of their performance for families on 14th December at 9:30am. They're sounding brilliant already so you're in for a treat! We love that, at our school, our children get to nurture talents and gifts that they didn't even know they had!





### **Birthday Non-Uniform Reminder**

Please remember that all children (and staff for that matter) are welcome to have their own non-uniform day to celebrate their birthday! If their birthday falls at the weekend (or on a day that we're already having a non-uniform day or celebration) they're welcome to choose a day close to their special day. Doing this means that all children who aren't in uniform will get the big 'Happy Birthday' greeting from all members of Team Castleway.

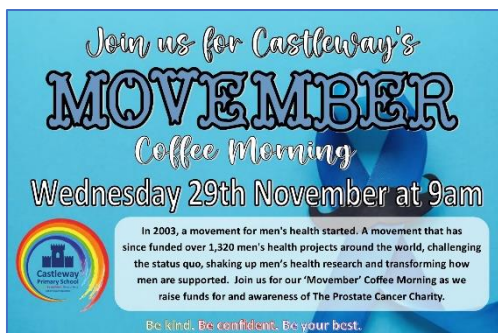
### **Castle Choir**

Our children loved attending the first Castle Choir rehearsal of the academic year yesterday with Mrs. Kay. The expression and emotion in their faces shows just how much fun they had! They already have performances in our local area booked in too. Castle Choir on tour... coming soon. How exciting is that!



### **Team Points Challenge**

All children in the Primary School are grouped in to 'teams' named after different inspirational people. Children are awarded 'Team Points' when they go over and above or show our school core values in day to day life. This term, our teams are working together for the prize of a non-uniform day before we finish for Christmas. The team with the most points will have a non-uniform day that's just for them! We have ensured that siblings are in the same teams to avoid any sibling rivalry! Team point totals are shared each week in our celebration assembly.



### **November Coffee Morning**

Save the date for our Movember Coffee Morning in aid of Prostate Cancer UK. We'll also be holding a charity cake sale for this wonderful cause too!

If you're able to donate any cakes for our sale, please see Miss McDonough.

As always, all are welcome to join us.



## 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.

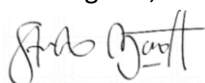
When?	What?	Who?
07/11/23	Parents' Evening One (only book one appointment) *Bookings are now live via School Spider*	Primary & Nursery families
08/11/23	Come Dine with Foundation 2 (Reception Class) – 11:30am	Reception Class families
09/11/23	Parents' Evening Two (only book one appointment) *Bookings are now live via School Spider*	Primary & Nursery families
15/11/23	Come Dine with Year One – 11:30am	Year One families
17/11/23	Children in Need – Non-uniform Day – Donations welcome	All children and staff
22/11/23	Year One to Liverpool Museum	Year One children
27/11/23	Open Day – Second date added due to popular demand	All potential families
27/11/23	Final Year 1 & 2 Reading Cafe	Years 1 & 2 families
28/11/23	Individual Photographs	Primary & Nursery children
29/11/23	Movember Coffee Morning for Prostate Cancer UK	All families
29/11/23	Come Dine with Year Two – 11:30am	Year Two families
WB: 11/12/23	Curriculum Celebration Afternoons	Years 1 – 6 Families
12/01/24	Whole School Panto Visit – Aladdin (Payments now available on School Spider)	Primary School children
04/02/24	Years 4 & 5 Residential Visit	Years 4 & 5 children
23/05/24	Year 6 Residential Visit to Gulliver's World	Year 6 children

## Christmas Events and Activities

When?	What?	Who?
01/12/23	Christmas Tree Decorating Assembly	Primary School Children
06/12/23	A Very Castleway Christmas Festive Arts & Crafts Stay and Play – 10:45 & 14:30	Nursery School Children
07/12/23	Christmas Jumper Day <i>There will be a 'jumper swap' event in November.</i>	Primary School & Nursery School Children
07/12/23	Community Christmas Fayre	Our whole community!
08/12/23	Y2 – Y6 Christmas Concert – 9:30 & 14:30	Years 2 – 6 Families
14/12/23	Years 3 & 4 Violin Performance for Families	Years 3 & 4 Families
18/12/23	Reception & Year 1 Nativity – 9:30 & 14:30	Reception Class & Year 1 Families
19/12/23	Early Years Winter Fun Day – Non-uniform (winter themed)	Nursery & Reception Class Children
19/12/23	Winter Discos	Nursery – Year 6
20/12/23	Songs Around the Christmas Tree – 10:30 & 14:30	Nursery School Families
20/12/23	Christmas Dinner Day	Nursery – Year 6
21/12/23	End of Term	Primary & Nursery School Children
08/01/24	Return to School – Happy New Year	Primary & Nursery School Children

Have a fabulous weekend and we'll see you all on Monday.

Kind regards,



Mr. S. Mycroft  
Headteacher

