



# We are Castleway.

Be kind. Be confident. Be your best.



Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Families,

December has certainly made sure we know it is here this week! It may have been frostier than usual but that hasn't stopped Castleway being the vibrant heart of the community that we know it is! As always, there's so much to celebrate at Castleway and this week is no different. Here's your Friday Update with all of the celebrations, news and information you've come to expect from us...



## Years 2 – 6 Christmas Concert... done the CastleWay!

Well, if you were lucky enough to be able to attend our concerts today you'll know just how phenomenal our children were. From shining stars and Christmas specs to glow sticks and rocking out, it really all was covered. When we talk about what makes our school special, performances like this really highlight how we celebrate our differences and do things... the CastleWay! Thank you to all who joined us, it's safe to say that if we weren't already we are now definitely in the Christmas spirit. As usual, there will be lots of photos and videos shared on our social media pages later today!



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### **Christmas Fayre – What a community event!**

Well, despite the rain our Christmas Fayre was a huge success! Huge thanks to everyone who came along to support our special community event. Thanks also to our amazing staff team and parent volunteers who gave their time so freely to run stalls and escort elves around! A very special thanks to the absolute #CastleStar that is Miss McDonough who does so much for our school. We literally would be lost without her!



### **Join us for a Hot Chocolate & See Santa!**

The amazing [Birkenhead Lions](#) will be starting their Christmas Parade with Father Christmas from our school on 13th December at 4:45pm. You're all welcome to join us at the front of our school from 4:30pm and some trademark Castleway Christmas Spirit! We're proud to be a school at the heart of our community so, I'm sure this won't surprise you, this offer extends to all children and families across the whole Leasowe Estate.





### A Very Castleway Christmas – Nursery’s Festive Arts & Crafts Sessions

We loved welcoming our Nursery School families in to join us for ‘A Very Castleway Christmas’ this week. A special Stay & Play with a festive twist. Huge thanks to everyone who joined us, both sessions were very busy and our children loved having the chance to get Christmassy with their families!



### Festively Musical

Yesterday’s violin tuition for Years 3 & 4 was fabulously festive to say the least. With preparations for their concert next week well underway, you’re all in for a treat on 14<sup>th</sup> December!





### **Mince Pie Monday**

Whilst we're not quite there yet, save the date for our final Coffee Morning of 2023. Join us, straight from drop off, for our Mince Pie Monday on 18<sup>th</sup> December. As always, everyone is welcome! We hope to see you there.



### **Fabulous Footballers!**

We are incredibly proud of this wonderful team. They played in torrential rain but didn't let this dampen their spirits. Teamwork, determination and skill were out in force for Team Castleway. With a spectacular victory under their belts, onwards we march in the Hoolihan Cup!





**Who loves Castleway? You do!**

In our most recent Family Feedback Survey (November 2023), 100% of families agreed or strongly agreed with 'The CastleWay' of doing things. This means that our parents agree that we have happy children who feel safe. Our families think we are a school with good behaviour that is led and managed well. We have approachable staff who make families feel comfortable about asking questions and most of all 100% of parents surveyed would recommend us to another parent! The letter I shared this week can be read here if you missed it: <https://bit.ly/Castleway20231205>. We are thrilled that our families feel so positively about our school. Thank you to all who responded.



**CastleTots**

Our weekly CastleTots group really is going from strength to strength. We love that we're able to offer this group to our community and seeing more people join us each week is amazing. Please remember that all ages are welcome (up to school age of course) each Tuesday during term-time from 9:30am.



### Wirral Hospice St. John's Rudolph Run

After the INCREDIBLE amount raised in last year's Elf Run, this year we're donning our antlers in aid of Wirral Hospice St. John's. If they haven't already, children from both schools will be bringing their sponsor forms home ahead of our Rudolph Run next Friday! Cash only sponsorship please or, if you prefer, via the Wirral Hospice St. John's own Just Giving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/castlewayprimaryrudolphrun>.



### Castleway's Christmas Tree Plea

When the festive season is over, please consider donating your real Christmas tree to Castleway's Forest School. Our creative children would be able to use your old Christmas trees for providing shelter, to make spaces for birds to nest in and they are great for children to practice tool use! Plus once they are properly dead, they make great firewood for our campfires. We'll be accepting donations straight after the Christmas break!

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### Dates for your Diary

Please make a note of these dates for just some of the events we have planned. These dates may be subject to change.

When?	What?	Who?
WB: 11/12/23	Curriculum Celebration Afternoons – Y1-Y6	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

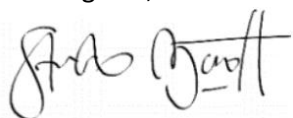
### Christmas Events and Activities

When?	What?	Who?
13/12/23	Birkenhead Lions Christmas Parade – STARTING AT CASTLEWAY Join us from 4:30pm, parade at 4:45pm.	All of our community are welcome!
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 <i>Please book your FREE tickets via School spider</i>	Reception Class & Year 1 Families
19/12/23	Early Years Winter Fun Day – Non-uniform (winter themed) <i>Donations via School Spider please.</i>	Nursery & Reception Class Children
19/12/23	Winter Discos <i>Tickets to be purchased via School Spider please.</i>	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

I know I say this kind of thing a lot but it really has been a fabulous week for all at Castleway. The opportunities our children and families have at our school really are second to none.

Thank you all, as always, for your continued help and support.

Kind regards,



Mr. S. Mycroft  
Headteacher

