



# We are Castleway.

**Be kind. Be confident. Be your best.**



Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Families,

Firstly, Happy New Year! It's been wonderful to have our school full of fun, laughter and learning once again. I'm sure that 2024 will be a wonderful year for Castleway and our community as a whole.

### **Welcome to the family!**

A new year and a new member of the Castleway family! Today, we've said a big Castleway hello to Layton who has joined us in Year 2. As you know, we love that more and more families are choosing Castleway. We're glad you're here, Layton!



### **The power of the snowdrop!**

In assembly this morning, we spoke about the beautiful snowdrop flower. We found connections with our school values of resilience and the core Castleway message of being yourself. In the case of the snowdrop, winter thinks that it's not time for flowers to grow and bloom but the snowdrop has other ideas! That's an example of 'be your best' in action right there! Please have a chat to your child about what they have taken from the story of the snowdrop. [The video we shared can be viewed by clicking here.](#)

### **Reading Café – Years 3 & 4 – This Thursday**

This term is the turn of Years 3 & 4 to welcome their families in our Reading Café each week. Families of Years 3 & 4 children are invited in to school each Thursday from 2:45pm for a brew, a chat and the chance to spend some time reading with your child. Given that we know that it's not always possible for our families to attend every session so our fabulous Year 5 & 6 Reading Buddies will be on hand to step in!

Castleway's  
**Reading Cafe**

**Be kind. Be confident. Be your best.**

**Headteacher: Mr. S. Mycroft**

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### Castleway's Spot on Time Challenge

Next week, we are challenging all children from Reception to Year 6 to take part in our 'Spot on Time' challenge. **All that children need to do to enter is be on time each day.** Each child will have their own 'spot on time' card and each day they're on time through their classroom door, they'll collect a spot. Children with 5 spots by the end of the week will go in to our THREE prize draws.

- **Individual Winner** - One winner from each class will be chosen.
- **Class Winner** – The class with the lowest 'minutes late' for the week will receive a class prize. This will be an average across the class to eliminate any discrepancies where some classes are larger than others.
- **Whole School Winner** – All cards will be put in to the draw one of **two £50 super market vouchers** for the winning family. *In the event of the same family winning twice, a different card will be drawn.*



- *Any unavoidable medical appointments should be shared with the school office along with proof of appointment.*

### Whole School Pantomime Trip – This Friday!

Children in Reception – Year 6 are off to the panto this coming Friday... oh yes they are! Please do your best to ensure that all payments are made via School Spider before Friday. As you'll be paying online, we will take your payment as your consent for your child to attend the visit. This means that a separate permission slip is not required. Our Eco-Council will be pleased that we're saving paper!

All children should wear full Castleway uniform. As always if you have any questions, including if you think you might have difficulty making the payments, please get in touch. We will do everything we can to help.

### Unavoidable Changes to PE Days

We have a couple of exciting events coming up over the next few weeks that mean our Friday PE day needs to change. Please see details of the changes below. I know how important it is for some of our children to understand the reasoning behind unavoidable timetable changes so please see a brief explanation in the table below. All other PE days will remain on Friday unless otherwise stated.

Week Beginning	Whole School PE Day	Reason for Change
WB: 08/01/24	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	• Whole School Panto Trip
WB: 15/01/24	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	• Neurodiversity Course for our community in the hall (19/01) • Mr. Davies attending sporting events with teams (17/01 & 18/01)
WB: 22/01/24	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	• Neurodiversity Course for our community in the hall (26/01)



## Dates for your Diary

Please make a note of these dates for just some of the events we have planned. Please be aware that, although we'll try our absolute best not to, these dates may be subject to change. **Bookings via School**



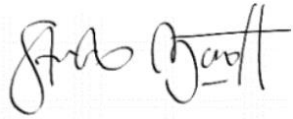
**Spider will open closer to the time for some of the later events.**

When?	What?	Who?
09/01/24	First #CastleTots session of 2024 – Every Tuesday!	Community Parent & Toddler Group
11/01/24	Reading Café for Years 3 & 4 – Every Thursday in Spring Term!	Families of Years 3 & 4 Children
12/01/24	Whole School Trip to Floral Pavilion <b>*Payments via School Spider Please*</b>	Primary School Children
15/01/24	<b>Start of 'Spot on Time' week!</b>	<b>All Primary School Children</b>
17/01/24	Perform4Schools Drama Workshops – Free!	Primary School Children
24/01/24	Come Dine with Year 3 – <b>Bookings open now</b>	Families of Year 3 Children
31/01/24	Come Dine with Year 4 – <b>Bookings open now</b>	Families of Year 4 Children
04/02/24	Years 4 & 5 Residential Visit	Years 4 & 5 children
05/02/24	Start of Children's Mental Health Week	Primary & Nursery School Children
07/02/24	Come Dine with Year 5 – <b>Bookings open now</b>	Families of Year 5 Children
09/02/24	Dress to Express Day – Non-Uniform Day	All children and staff
14/02/24	Come Dine with Year 6 – <b>Bookings open now</b>	Families of Year 6 Children
15/02/24	Cool to be Kind – EYFS Theme Day	Reception & Nursery School Children
15/02/24	Valentine's Disco	Primary & Nursery School Children
15/02/24	<b>Close for Half Term Break</b>	<b>All children and staff</b>
06/03/24	Mothers and Significant Others Morning Brunch – 10:30am	Nursery School Families <b>*Bookings via School Spider*</b>
07/03/24	World Book Day <b>*Costume Swap Shop to be arranged*</b>	Primary & Nursery School Children
07/03/24	Brew, book and bagel – Family Coffee Morning	Primary School Families
08/03/24	Mothers and Significant Others Afternoon Tea – 2:30pm	Primary School Families <b>*Bookings via School Spider*</b>
11/03/24	Mothers and Significant Others Afternoon Tea – 2:30pm	Primary & Nursery School Families <b>*Bookings via School Spider*</b>
18/03/24	<b>Years 3 &amp; 4 to Floral Pavilion – Pinocchio</b> <b>*More information to follow via School Spider*</b>	<b>Years 3 &amp; 4 Children</b>
18/03/24	Reception Curriculum Celebration Afternoon – 2:30pm	Families of Reception Class Children
19/03/24	Year 6 Curriculum Celebration Afternoon – 2:30pm	Families of Year 6 Class Children
20/03/24	EYFS Easter Fun Day – Non-Uniform	Nursery & Reception Children
21/03/24	World Down Syndrome Day – Full Uniform & Odd Socks	All children and staff
22/03/24	Year 5 Curriculum Celebration Afternoon – 2:30pm	Families of Year 5 Class Children
25/03/24	Year 4 Curriculum Celebration Afternoon – 2:30pm	Families of Year 4 Class Children
26/03/24	Year 3 Curriculum Celebration Afternoon – 2:30pm	Families of Year 3 Class Children
27/03/24	Year 2 Curriculum Celebration Afternoon – 2:30pm	Families of Year 2 Class Children
28/03/24	Easter Bonnet Parade – Family Assembly – 9:30am	Families of Primary School Children
28/03/24	Year 1 Curriculum Celebration Afternoon – 2:30pm	Families of Year 1 Class Children
28/03/24	<b>Close for Easter Break</b>	<b>All children and staff</b>
23/05/24	Year 6 Residential Visit to Gulliver's World	Year 6 children



As you can see, it's going to be another classic Castleway term with plenty for the whole community to get involved with and even more reasons for our children to be excited about coming to school. Our 'spot on time' challenge starts on Monday and runs for the whole week, we're excited to see how this challenge improves our attendance

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Mycroft', written in a cursive style.

Mr. S. Mycroft  
Headteacher

