



# We are Castleway.

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



Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Dear Families,

It was lovely to welcome you all back to school yesterday after half term. Our school really isn't the same when it's not filled with learning, laughter and memory making. Although it's not Friday, I wanted to start this half term by sharing some updates with you because, as always, there's a busy old time coming up for us!

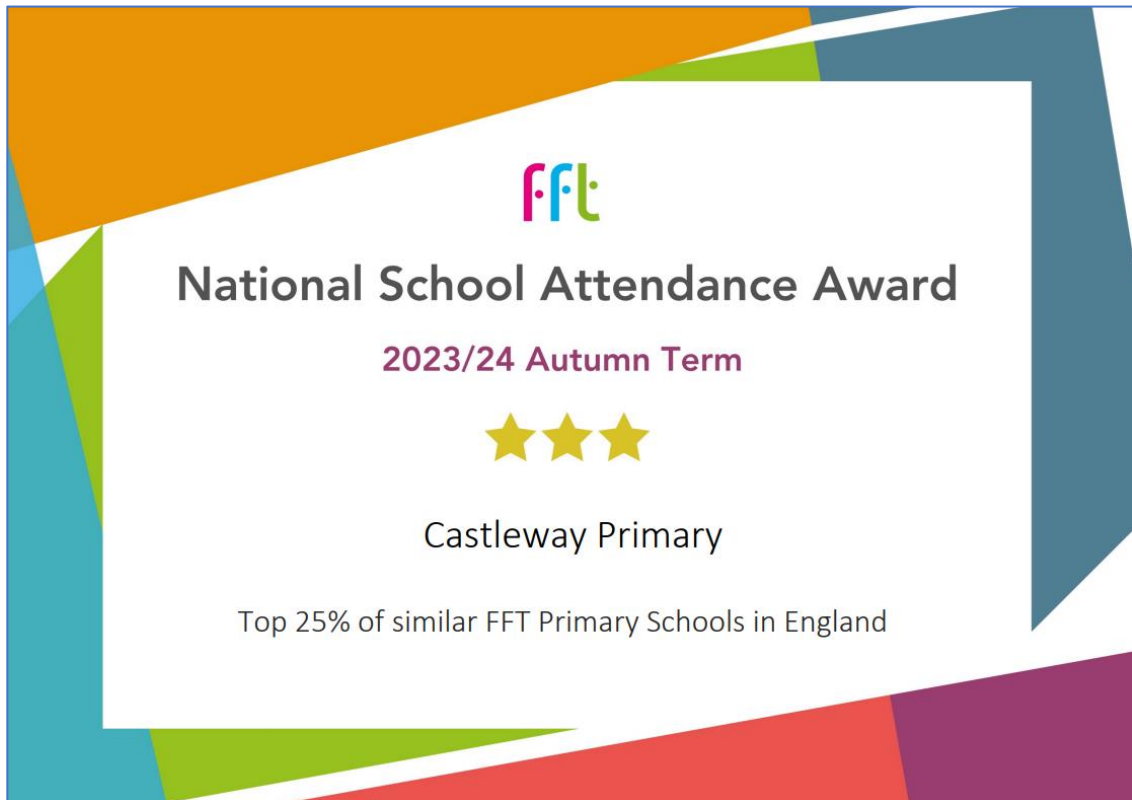
### Welcome to Team Castleway!

In addition to welcoming everyone back to school yesterday, we also welcomed five new children and their families to our school. We're delighted to welcome Rayne, Evie, Jacob, Charlie and Oliver to Team Castleway. It's the start of a really exciting journey for us all. I always say it but I do mean it, families choosing our school means so much to us. It's such a big decision to change schools and seeing more and more families place their trust in what our school does is the greatest honour. We are thrilled you're here. We are Castleway.

**Welcome**  
to the Family

### National Attendance Award

We are thrilled to share that we've received the prestigious National School Attendance Award from the Fischer Family Trust. This recognises our school's amazing attendance during Autumn Term 2023, positioning us in the top 25% of similar schools nationally. We have been working incredibly hard to raise the profile of attendance and ensure that all of our children and families know that attendance matters at Castleway. We are so proud of each and every one of Team Castleway. Let's see if we can make it in to the top 10% of similar schools for the Spring Term. The only way is up!



**Headteacher: Mr. S. Mycroft**

Castleway Primary School & Castleway Nursery School, Castleway North, Moreton, Wirral, CH46 1RN

☎: (0151) 677 2953 ✉: [schooloffice@castleway.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@castleway.wirral.sch.uk) 🌐: [www.castleway.wirral.sch.uk](http://www.castleway.wirral.sch.uk)

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## Nursery School Audit



Yesterday, we welcomed Kelly Butler to school to lead an audit of our Nursery School provision. We really are incredibly proud of the improvements made in our Nursery School since the last Ofsted inspection. We were able to confidently explain how we feel we have met each of the action points and how significantly improved our provision is. We'll share some highlights from the report when it has been shared with school, our governors and the local authority. Our Nursery School provision really is something to be proud of and our waiting list proves that our school community thinks so too!

## Special Moment in Football... and for Castleway too!

The English Football League (EFL) and Official Match Ball partners, PUMA have marked LGBTQ+ History Month by unveiling the very first Rainbow match ball which will be used by all 72 Clubs across Sky Bet Championship, League One and League Two matches from February 16-24. But guess what the best bit is, we have one!

The PUMA ORBITA Rainbow Ball design includes the rainbow and progress colours, symbolising that football is for everyone and representing the League's active support for inclusion throughout the game. For every goal scored with the Rainbow Ball across the Championship, League One and League Two PUMA will make a donation to an LGBTQ+ Fans for Diversity Fund. The money raised will be utilised to support LGBTQ+ supporters and their projects which may include initiatives to raise awareness about inclusion in football, events promoting diversity, or providing resources for LGBTQ+ fans within the football community. We're incredibly proud to have been donated one of these landmark balls. What an honour for us!



## Dress to Express

*dress to*  
~~IMPRESS~~  
*express*

Dress to Express at Castleway is taking place this Friday. Please remember that this is a non-uniform day with a difference. Children and staff are encouraged to come to school wearing whatever helps them to express their personality and their unique self! We're looking forward to seeing our children's individuality shine on Friday! We'll be holding a cake sale on Friday so, as usual, all donations are very welcome.

## Spring Term Parents' Evening

Parents' Evenings are pencilled in for Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> (3:30pm – 6:30pm) and Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March (3:30pm – 5:00pm). As usual bookings will be available via School Spider and will be open shortly. Following feedback from families, we'll be offering phone calls in place of in person appointments. Please book your appointment as usual and then contact us via email to request your phone call.



## Words Matter at Castleway

It was a brilliant return to school yesterday, especially for Year 5. I joined them for a special session all about challenging our thinking around stereotypes and a real focus on the power of our words. Year 5 responded in a mature and sensible manner, even when faced with some challenging conversations. I'm really proud that we have these conversations with our children once again proving that we don't just laminate our values at Castleway, we live them.



### **Mothers and Significant Others Afternoon Tea**

We're looking forward to welcoming our 'mothers and significant others' in to Castleway once again this year. We're thrilled that this is becoming a tradition that we all look forward to. As you know, we do our best to keep all events free but we would welcome donations, if you can, when you book your place. Bookings will be open shortly.

- 6<sup>th</sup> March – 10:30am
- 8<sup>th</sup> March – 2:30pm
- 11<sup>th</sup> March – 2:30pm

### **Year 2 Residential Visit**

We're looking forward to our Year 2 children taking part in their first ever residential visit this coming July.

- Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July, returning to school on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July
- £95 per child – this cost has increased since last year due to reasons beyond our control.
- Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Bell and Miss Dalby (Deputy Headteacher) will be accompanying them.

Miss Dalby and Mrs. Williams are inviting parents in to a meeting to discuss the finer details and answer any questions on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm. If you can't make it, please contact us and a member of staff will arrange to go through all relevant details with you.

### **Reception Class Forest School**

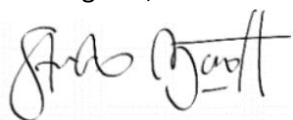
Apologies if any children were upset for not heading over to Forest School yesterday. We have had to readjust our timetable to respond to the ever-changing needs of our school. Don't worry, they won't be missing out. Forest School sessions for Reception Class will be each Wednesday. This starts tomorrow so no Forest School fun has been lost!

As you can see, it's been a busy start to the new half term but... #ThatsTheCastleWay!

Your Friday Update will be with you, as usual, at the end of the week. The dates for your diary are on the next page.

Here's to the rest of this wonderful week at the increasingly fabulous Castleway!

Kind regards,



Mr. S. Mycroft  
Headteacher



## 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?
28/02/24	Come Dine with Year 5 – Bookings open now	Families of Year 5 Children
01/03/24	Dress to Express Day – Non-Uniform Day <b>*Plus Cake Sale – Donations are welcome!*</b>	All children and staff
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	<del>Scooter Stars – Scooter Training</del> <b>*to be rearranged*</b>	Year 1 & Year 2 Children
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>
13/03/24	<b>Year 2 Residential – Families Meeting – 3:00pm</b>	<b>Year 2 Families</b>
15/03/24	Red Nose Day – Non-Uniform Day & Cake Sale - #CastleYey	Primary & Nursery School Children
18/03/24	Years 3 & 4 to Floral Pavilion – Pinocchio <b>*More information to follow via School Spider*</b>	Years 3 & 4 Children
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
20/03/24	<b>Parents' Evening 1 - 3:30pm – 6:30pm</b>	<b>Primary &amp; Nursery School Families</b> <b>*Bookings via School Spider*</b>
21/03/24	<b>Parents' Evening 2 - 3:30pm – 5:00pm</b>	<b>Primary &amp; Nursery School Families</b> <b>*Bookings via School Spider*</b>
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	Close for Easter Break	All children and staff
23/05/24	Year 6 Residential Visit to Gulliver's World	Year 6 Children
09/07/24	Year 2 Residential Visit	Year 2 Children



