

We are Castleway. Be kind. Be confident. Be your best.



Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023

Dear Families,

I thoroughly enjoy writing our Friday Updates as they give me the chance to stop and reflect on the wonderful things that go on at Castleway each and every day. As usual, here's your update with news and celebrations for your reading pleasure. Here we go...

# **National School Sports Week**

It's been a busy old week at Castleway and it's not unusual for us to have a very sporty week at Castleway but this week has been sportier than usual! Mr. Smith has led Wake Up Shake Up each morning for us, well apart from Tuesday when the weather had other plans! Year Six have also been leading different sporting activities with classes across school. It's great to see our children's confidence and leadership skills shine!



## Corgi Cup Finalists

Our Year 4/5 football team represented us brilliantly in the finals of Corgi Cup this week. For our school to reach the finals is a phenomenal achievement in itself. Our team did their absolute best but it just wasn't to be this year. It was lovely to see Mr. Davies too! We're looking forward to having him back at school very soon.



We celebrated the team's achievements in assembly this morning and Mr. Kenningham reminded me of the first football event we attended shortly after I started here as Headteacher back in April 2021. One colleague from another school asked where we were from and when I answered she said, 'Castle what?'. I think it's safe to say that those days are behind us and we are well and truly back on the map. People most definitely know who we are now.

## We are Castleway and we are very proud of it.

#### Headteacher: Mr. S. Mycroft

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## Life's a Beach... Hut!

Year Two are so proud their beach huts. They studied different beach hut designs and their features. They then designed, made and evaluated their creations. Just look at the pride on those faces!



#### Golden Ticket Meetings - Welcome to Team Castleway



I loved welcoming our new families for our 'Golden Ticket' meetings yesterday. Given that all of the building work is coming to an end and that we have news members of staff adding to our talented team, it's a very exciting time to be joining our school. We shared our information packs with the families who could attend yesterday. Don't worry if you couldn't make it, we'll make sure the information gets to you. We're looking forward to welcoming families in for Stay and Play sessions and Come Dine with Us on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July. Miss Wallace is looking forward to meeting you all then too.

#### Rock Kidz – 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Save the date for another rock filled day of positivity and confidence building as Rock Kidz return to Castleway. It's a day like no other as we're all invited to rock out, showcase our individuality and have an amazing time focusing on positive relationships and what makes us special. I'm sure you won't be surprised to know that I'm already planning my outfit!



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## Attendance Update!

Attendance is really impacted by term time holidays at the moment. Whilst we understand that it is cheaper to take holidays in term time, there is a detrimental impact on children's education. We also understand that chicken pox is doing the rounds at the moment. <u>Please have a look at this NHS guidance with regards to incubation periods etc</u>.

As you know, each week we'll share our class attendance scores in the Friday Update and they'll be colour coded as follows: 100% - Gold, 96 – 99% - Green, 91 – 95% - Yellow, 90% or below – Red

Overall, school attendance this week was better than it has been in the last couple of weeks but it was not anywhere near our expectations. The table below clearly shows the attendance scores for this week. I'm looking forward to seeing a continued improvement next week.

Well done to Year 4 for a near perfect score this week.

# Attendance This Week – Week Ending 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023

Year 4	Reception	Year 2	Year 3	<u>Year 6</u>	<u>Year 1</u>	Year 5
<u>98.89%</u>	<u>95.71%</u>	<u>92.5%</u>	<u>88.26%</u>	<u>87.37%</u>	<u>85.45%</u>	<u>82.5%</u>

How does this week compare to recent weeks? Take a look...

## Week Ending 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Year 3	Year 1	Reception	Year 5	<u>Year 6</u>	Year 2	Year 4
<u>90.63%</u>	<u>88.64%</u>	<u>87.14%</u>	<u>86.60%</u>	<u>84.21%</u>	<u>85%</u>	<u>83%</u>

#### Week Ending 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Reception	Year 2	Year 4	Year 6	Year 3	Year 5	Year 1
<u>98.57%</u>	<u>96.25%</u>	<u>93.35</u>	<u>92.63%</u>	<u>88.18%</u>	<u>87.63%</u>	<u>84.86%</u>

## Week Ending 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Reception	Year 2	Year 5	Year 6	Year 3	Year 4	Year 1
<u>96.43%</u>	<u>93.75%</u>	<u>93.04%</u>	<u>93.24%</u>	<u>92.44%</u>	<u>91.25%</u>	<u>89%</u>

## Staffing 2023/24

On Wednesday this week, I shared the news that you've all been waiting for. I was pleased to announce our school organisation for 2023/24 and even more pleased to announce the arrival of some wonderful new teachers to join our team. We'll be welcoming Miss Wallace as our Reception Class teacher, Mrs. Williams as our new Year 2 teacher and Mrs. Crone as our new Year 5 teacher. I also announced the wonderful news of Mrs. McCarthy's promotion



to Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for Inclusion. If you missed the letter, you can access it here.

## Strike Update for Families



As you'll be aware, the National Education Union have scheduled further strikes in their ongoing dispute with the government over funding for schools. These strikes are scheduled to take place on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July & Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July. I shared a letter to update families with our current position yesterday. If you missed the letter, you can access it here.



## Year Six and their Lasting Legacy

I'm always proud of our children but I'm especially proud of our Year Six children this week as they've worked hard to make a difference to our school environment. They've been working hard to further improve our Forest School environment to benefit all of our children. Well done and thank you Year Six. Your work will leave a lasting legacy at Castleway. I'm incredibly proud of them for this.



# Come Dine with... your New Teacher!

We know that our 'Come Dine with Us' events are always popular so I thought that we'd put a little transition twist on the event. We're inviting families in to dine with their child and to have the chance to have an informal chat with their new teacher too. Please see the table below and book your place via the School Spider app.

Current	Current	Current	Current	Current	Current
Reception Class	Year 1 Class	Year 2 Class	Year 3 Class	Year 4 Class	Year 5 Class
(Next Y1)	(Next Y2)	(Next Y3)	(Next Y4)	(Next Y5)	(Next Y6)
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> July at
at 11:30am.	at 11:30am.	at 11:30am.	July at 11:30am.	at 11:30am.	11:30am.



#### Wirral FUSS – Donation Point

We're pleased to partner with Wirral FUSS to further support our families. You'll notice the collection drum in our main entrance for you to donate any clean uniform for reuse and recycling. If you've got any uniform (for any school, not just ours) that could be used again, please send it in to school and it'll be able to live again and support another family.

Thanks to those of you who have already donated items. You're all amazing!

#### **Forest School**

Would it even be a Friday Update without some Forest School photos! This week, Reception Class have welcomed some of their friends from Nursery to Forest School. Our Nursery children will be spending time in Reception Class in small groups over the coming weeks as part of our transition activities. We really do love our Forest School at Castleway.









## Farewell Chicks!

We said a find farewell to our chicks today as they returned to the farm where they'll be living. I'm proud that we pair with an ethical provider to ensure that our children get this experience but also that the chicks are looked after too. Just look at the joy on the faces of our Reception Class children. We'll be welcoming more chicks to hatch next year.





#### Summer Time Raffle Winner

Huge well done to the winner of our Summer Time raffle. This lucky person has won a bumper hamper full of summer essentials and even a bottle of Prime. Thanks to all who supported our raffle and thanks to our wonderful Captains for their efforts in selling the raffle tickets.

All money raised goes towards providing our children will all of the wonderful activities and events you've come to expect from Castleway.



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## Every Little Helps

From 1<sup>st</sup> July, you can vote for our 'Sensory Space' project to receive funding from Tesco in any of the stores listed below on the flyer. Don't forget, every little helps!



## **Class Photographs**

The photographer will be in school on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June to take class and group photographs of all children from both schools. Please ensure that all children are in full Castleway uniform on the day. If your child has PE on this day, please send them in to school in uniform with their PE kit to change in to.



## **Dates for your Diary**

Please see the revised 'dates for your diary' below. Any changes, updates or amendments are detailed in yellow.

When?	What?	Who?
WB: 26/06/23	Year 1 Swimming	Year 1 children
<mark>28/06/23</mark>	Class Photographs	All Nursery & Primary children
29/06/23	Come as You Are Day	All Nursery & Primary children
29/06/23	Pride Picnic at 12 noon	Primary School Families
30/06/23	Year 4 Forest School	Year 4 children
WB: 03/07/23	Reception Class Swimming	Reception Class children
05/07/23	Year 4 trip to World Museum	Year 4 Children
<mark>06/07/23</mark>	Transition Day – A Day with your next teacher!	All children
<mark>06/07/23</mark>	Stay & Play Sessions for new Reception Families	New to Reception Families
06/07/23	CDW Current Y2 Class – 11:30am	Year 2 Children & Families
<mark>06/08/23</mark>	New to Reception Class 'Come Dine with Us' – 1:30pm	New to Reception Families
07/07/23	CDW Current Year 5 Class – 11:30am	Year 5 Class & Families
07/07/23	Year 4 Forest School	Year 4 children
07/07/23	Big Year Six Sleepover	Year 6 Children
10/07/23	Year 2 Residential Visit	Year 2 children
11/07/23	CDW Current Year 4 Class – 11:30am	Year 4 Class & Families
12/07/23	Nursery School Family Picnic & Sports Day	Nursery School Children & Families
13/07/23	Primary School Sports Day	Primary School Children & Families
13/07/23	CDW Current Year 3 Class – 11:30am	Year 3 Class & Families
14/07/23	CDW Current Year 1 Class – 11:30am	Year 1 Class & Families
14/07/23	End of Year Reports Out to Families	All Nursery & Primary children
<mark>17/07/23</mark>	CDW Current Reception Class – 11:30am	Reception Class children & families
17/07/23	Year Six Leavers' Disco – 5 – 7pm	Year 6 Children
18/07/23	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly – 9am	Year 6 Children and their Families
18/07/23	School's Out for Summer!	All Nursery & Primary children
04/09/23	Return to School	All Nursery & Primary children
<mark>08/09/23</mark>	Rock Kidz Day	All Nursery & Primary children

It's been a wonderful week at Castleway and it just keeps getting better! This week, we've had more families express an interest in joining our school family. It's definitely an exciting time to be part of Team Castleway!

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

Kind regards,

Mr. S. Mycroft Headteacher



