

# Castle Newsletter



Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021  
Headteacher Chris Baker  
V 17 No. 14

Castle School  
Cambridge

Dear Families

We had an amazing Christmas Jumper Day today – everyone looked very festive and brought plenty of colour and cheer into school.

We are thrilled by the success of our Christmas Pop-up Shop. Thank you so much for all your wonderful donations and hard work in supporting us to keep it well stocked. The shop will be open on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December between 10am and 2pm please do come and see us.

We have seen a rise in Covid cases in school and staffing has been tight, but our aim is to reach the end of term as safely as we can. Thank you so much for your incredible continued support to help us achieve this.

## Assessment Booklets

To support the tracking of progress in Maths and English, we have developed our own Castle assessment levels. We have called these the Rainbow and Gemstone levels.

These booklets will give you an overview of each Rainbow and Gemstone level, share the strategies we use to support learning in school, and make some suggestions about how you can support your child with their learning at home.

<https://www.castleschool.info/assessmentbooklets>

## Independent Travel with National Star

*My name is Callum and I have just achieved independent travel, with help from Jessica who*

*works for the independent travel team run by the National Star charity. This achievement, with help from Anne, my class team in Churchill and Jessica, my confidence has grown considerably.*

*Over the past few weeks, I have gone from being fully supported in using public buses to now being 100% independent and doing it all by myself. This involves getting the ticket and changing two buses to get from home to school every day. I am very grateful for everything and extremely happy to now have a student travel card which enables me to travel by local buses for free.*

*From Callum in Churchill*



Congratulations to Callum who is the first student in Cambridge to be signed off as part of this project. The National Star College has appointed three staff to work across Cambridge. They will support our pupils to travel from home to school until they are confident that they can do it

independently. If other families are interested in exploring this project, please contact [ahaberfield@castle.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:ahaberfield@castle.cambs.sch.uk)

### Butterflies Class News

Butterflies have been enjoying themselves and getting ready for Christmas. We have made some glittery Christmas trees and some bright stars to hang in the hall. They all look different, but beautiful. We are now practicing our Christmas songs with lots of bells and colourful scarves. Great fun!



### Circus Starr

We are fortunate to have been given a number of complimentary tickets to the Circus Starr show at West Road Concert Hall, University of Cambridge, 11 West Road, Cambridge CB3 9DP on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January.

Please contact the school office for your free tickets stating how many tickets you would like (maximum 4 per family) and whether you would like to attend the 4.45pm or 7.00pm performance. Every member of the party aged 4 or over requires a ticket to enter the show. Tickets are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Once you have your tickets please contact the organisers (on 01260 288690) to let them know if you require a wheelchair space as there is limited availability.

### Fair Weather Campers

The Kings and Wolfson courtyard campers



transferred their skills to the classroom this week as they worked together to safely take turns using the equipment to put up our tent.

We then worked upon our communication and interaction skills as we played Hurrah for the Star!

“Whoop whoop!” for those stars in Kings and Wolfson.



Best wishes

*Chris*

Chris Baker  
Headteacher