

Castle Newsletter

Friday 11th October 2024

Headteacher Charlotte Whysall

V 20 No. 6

Dear Families,

It's hard to believe that we only have 2 weeks left till half term. Autumn has very much arrived, and it will not be long before we start to think about Christmas!

We continue to try and get outside for breaks during the morning and over the lunch period so please make sure your child has a suitable coat.

We have been made aware of some incidents in our local community over the last week. We have no reason to believe that it will have an impact on us or our learners, but staff will as always remain vigilant when they are out and about.

I hope everyone has a lovely weekend and let's hope for some dry and bright weather.

Hedgehogs Class News

It has been a fun and busy start to the new school year in Hedgehogs class, but we have all settled wonderfully into our new class. So far, we have been exploring phase 2 phonic sounds and we have started to see how they blend to make short cvc words. We have also looked at some phase 1 environmental sounds using games on the interactive board and in conjunction with our story 'The Listening Walk'. We have enjoyed listening to a sensory retelling of the story, and some of us have written our own sentences related to the story. We have been taking the listening walk on our weekly community outing to the Milton Country Park Café, listening for birds, cars, bicycles, and sometimes even sirens! For PSHE we have been investigating healthy foods through cooking, where we have been perfecting our strawberry and banana smoothie recipe!



Castle School
Cambridge



Ludlow Class News

Ludlow class had a wonderful time at the Power House games at Cambridge University.



We were divided into mixed teams with students from other local schools. Each student was given a medal, certificate, and a T-shirt for their participation. We particularly enjoyed the sit down volley ball.



In science we are learning about digestion and the body and what is good and bad for the heart. The students studied a pig's heart and looked at the chambers and ventricles.



Castle Next Steps 2024

We are excited to be hosting the 'Castle Next Steps' event on October 23rd, we have moved it to earlier in the year and changed the times: 4PM - 6PM to allow more parents and carers to come. We will have representatives from CRC, county council, NHS and various organisations who will be ready to answer all your questions about post 19 opportunities. We are inviting year 10 to year 14 pupils and their parents / carers, the pupils will be looked after by our staff for the first 45 minutes and then join in the event. If you would like to attend, please contact Clare claidler@castle.cambs.sch.uk.

Flu Vaccination

Dear All,

The flu vaccination nurses/team will be in school on the 17th of October, if there were any children/young people who missed the vaccinations last time and you would like one this time around please contact school ASAP.

Safeguarding in the morning

The morning, between 8:30 and 9:30 is an extremely busy time in school and for the office. Our absolute focus must be on Safeguarding: settling the students for the day and taking the register, carrying out checks on visitors and supply staff and securing the gates as quickly as possible. You can support our staff to focus on these important tasks by leaving site promptly after dropping your child off and saving routine queries for later in the day or sending them by email to office@castle.cambs.sch.uk.



Management Committee of Castle School Charitable Association

The Management Committee of the Castle School Charitable Association are holding an open meeting for all parents and carers who might be interested in becoming more involved in supporting the school.

- Whether you have only a little time to give or a lot.
- Whether you can come in to school and volunteer or would love to help, but need to do so from home
- Whether you have practical skills and experience that could be useful or just bags of enthusiasm

The committee would love to meet you! Please come along, find out more about how you can support our school and share your own ideas too!

The meeting will be at **10:00 am on Thursday 17th October** at the main site on Courtney Way. If you cannot attend in person, but would still like to join the meeting, please let the school office know, and we will send you a link to attend online.

Fun opportunity

There is a program taking place in November and December for Haverhill Night Hub. This for young people aged between 13 – 24-year-olds with learning disabilities and autism to come and have fun as well as socialise with others.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

By emailing to emily.perrett@leadinglives.org.uk

Youth Survey

A little reminder about the Youth Survey. It is important that young people's voices are

heard. Please can you encourage your child to complete this. At South Cambridge Youth Survey. This Surveys purpose is to have a big conversation starter to help services who support youth projects and community facilities to better understand what it is like to be a 11 – 19 years old who are living in South Cambridgeshire.

The information gathered will be used to identify what youth provision and targeted youth support are needed for each community. You have until 25th October to complete the survey. Do not miss the chance to have your say.

Football Fun Day

Location: One Leisure Huntingdon, St Peters Road, Huntingdon PE29 7DA

Date and time: Tuesday 29 October 2024, 2pm to 4:30pm.

Cost: £15 per player

We invite you to participate in an afternoon of inclusive football specifically designed for children with disabilities and additional needs. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in exciting games, develop new skills, and make lasting friendships on our popular 3v3 inflatable pitches.

Activities are available for the following age groups:

- Children with Disabilities and Additional Needs (Mixed, Boys & Girls): Ages 6-11
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing (Mixed, Boys & Girls): Ages 6-14

Our events will be led by fully qualified UEFA and FA Coaches, all of whom hold current DBS checks and First Aid certifications. With over

15 years of experience, our coaches provide a fun, safe, and inclusive learning environment that caters to children of all skill levels. Please note that spaces are limited, so we encourage you to register promptly.

Find more information and book on [Huntingdonshire Football Association event tickets from TicketSource.](#)

Play build Play Early Sessions

Wednesday 23 Oct 2024

10am to 11.30am (18 moths to 5yrs)

1pm to 2pm (0 to 18 months)

Play build and play early sessions will be running fun, hands-on, interactive activities for toddlers and pre-schoolers, inviting you to explore the galleries with us.

The morning session, 10am to 11.30am, is suitable for children aged 18 months-5 years and their parents and carers.

The afternoon session, 1pm to 2pm, is suitable for babies aged 0-18 months and their parents and carers.

You can book this now on.

[Fitz Early Years Events | University of Cambridge Museums](#)

Hormones, Puberty, and Impact on Sleep

Online

Thursday 24 October, 12noon to 1.30pm

Pinpoint Workshop: Sleep can be difficult enough during our child's life but when puberty hits, it can be even worse! Nickie Sutton can explain and help us.

You can now book this now.

[Hormones, Puberty & the Impact on Sleep Tickets, Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 12:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

Communication and Behaviour in Children

Wednesday 6 November, 7pm to 8pm

Online

Pinpoint workshop: All behaviour is communication but when our child is silent or having a meltdown, what are they trying to say? Jo Keys is here to explain.

You can now book this on.

[Communication and Behaviour in Children Tickets, Wed, Nov 6, 2024 at 7:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

Castle School Charity Shop

As the weather has begun to change, we welcome donations of the following items: clothes, coats, woolly hats, jumpers and scarfs for men, women children to support our local community for the cold and rainy months ahead.

Best wishes,

Charlotte

Charlotte Whysall – Headteacher