



Dear Families,

It's hard to believe that we are at the end of the Autumn term and almost the end of another year!

I want to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful pupils for the joy they bring to the school on a daily basis - while it's not always straight forwards and its certainly always interesting and busy there is no place I would rather work.

I huge thank you must also go to all our staff - they work incredibly hard supporting our learners, often behind the scenes to make school the wonderful place it is.

Finally thank you to you, our parents and carers for your continued support and for engaging and working with us.

I wish you a very Merry Christmas and look forwards to another New year at Castle.

## Parent Governor Elections

You will be aware that we have recently invited application for a new parent Governor for Castle. We had an amazing response, and we are very grateful to those parents that came forwards to offer their time and support -we were very lucky to have a very strong field of nominees. It is an incredibly important role in the leadership and governance of the school, especially as we continue to navigate the challenges of the current financial climate and impact of the national SEND issues.

Thank you to those parents who voted I am pleased to announce that Alex Williamson will

join our Governing Board as our newly elected Parent Governor - welcome to the team Alex!

## Cambridge Manor Care Home Visit - 19<sup>th</sup> December

15 students from KS3, KS4 and 6th form visited Cambridge Manor Care Home to spread some Christmas joy by singing to the residents. As ever, the students sang with enthusiasm and energy, and they had an amazing time too. The care home residents joined us by singing along and playing instruments and they even learned some Makaton signing. After the performance, students gave out some homemade gifts to the residents to wish them a happy Christmas and were treated to some juice and biscuits. Everyone involved had a wonderful time, and we are planning to build further links with the care home in the New Year.



## Triathlon

CONGRATUALATIONS to all the students for taking part in the school triathlon. This event looked at three of the ways we keep ourselves fit and healthy in school.

Data was recorded, logging each of the cycling, swimming, running, walking and distances achieved in wheelchairs.

Everyone received a medal, two certificates and a meerkat. The event was sponsored by Compare the Market.

Next year we will look at running another whole school event. A GREAT ACHIEVEMENT EVERYONE, WELL DONE



## Christmas Card Competition

Thank you to all the pupils who took part in my annual Christmas Card Competition.

Every year I really enjoy looking at all the fantastic festive entries that make my MP's Office look like a winter wonderland!

There are many creative, talented artists at your school and across Cambridge.

I hope that you and your family have a good time this Christmas and a successful 2025.

Best wishes,

Daniel Zeichner, Member of Parliament for Cambridge



**JUSTHELPING**  
Registered with the Fundraising Regulator

# RECYCLE YOUR TREE



Arthur Rank Hospice Charity



- Registration Opens 15th Nov 2024
- Registration Closes 5th Jan 2025
- Collecting 9-11th January 2025

*giftaid it*



After costs, Arthur Rank Hospice Charity receive 90% and up to 10% will be distributed by Just Helping to other local charities. More information on where your donation goes can be found on our website.

Just Helping supports volunteers, businesses, and charities to contribute to their community and the environment. Our national Christmas tree collection raises essential funds for charities in the local community.



Best wishes










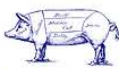



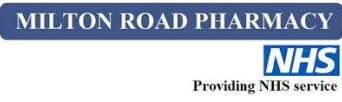



*Charlotte*





Charlotte Whysall – Headteacher

## Christmas Bazaar & Raffle

We made just over £1000 which will go into the Castle School Charitable Association account and be used on projects that directly support the students at our school. Thank you again for your amazing support!

A huge THANK YOU to the following companies for their generous prize donations to this year's Christmas Raffle:

 <p>Xtreme 360 Trampoline Park, St Neots</p>	 <p>Cambridge Arts Theatre, Cambridge</p>	 <p>Cambridge United Football Club</p>
 <p>The Raptor Foundation</p>	 <p>Shepreth Wildlife Park, Shepreth</p>	 <p>Les Ward Grocers, Cambridge</p>
 <p>Parkside Pools &amp; Gym, Cambridge</p>	 <p>Café 121, Milton Road, Cambridge</p>	 <p>Coton Garden Centre, Cambridge</p>
 <p>The Art of Meat The Art of Meat, Cambridge</p>	 <p>The Longhorn Farmshop at Cuckoo Hill Longhorn Farm Shop, Cottenham</p>	 <p>The Secret Garden, Burwash Manor, Barton</p>
 <p>The Viking Fish &amp; Chip Shop, Cambridge</p>	 <p>Milton Road Pharmacy, Cambridge</p>	 <p>Ease Pilates, Cambridge</p>
		

<p>Mane Artistry by Jay, St Neots</p>	<p>Cam Home &amp; Garden, Cambridge</p>	 <p>Scotsdales, Cambridge</p>
 <p>Budgens, Cambridge</p>	 <p>Brakes Foodservice</p>	 <p>Cambridge Floral Designs</p>

A massive THANK YOU also to everyone else who donated a prize to the raffle and tombola or sent in teddies & second-hand books or made some craft items to sell. Thank you for your wonderful support - you are all amazing!