








Autumn Newsletter 1
Wednesday 6th September 2023


Dear parents/carers,

It was fantastic to see so many smiling faces coming down the playground this morning. We have had a very productive and positive start to the new school year with our first assembly and each class has already held a Class Conference to discuss and sign the Castle Charter.



Team Castle continues to grow as we welcome the new FS2 children and a number of new families throughout the school. We also have Mrs Taylor, Mrs Curtis and Mrs Colverson who have joined us too!

 At Castle Academy we are ready, respectful and safe.	
1	Always be ready to learn. 
2	Be resilient. 
3	Respect our learning environment. 
4	Show kindness and consideration to others. 
5	Be safe. 
6	Strive to be the best we can be. 


 Together we are...
TEAM CASTLE!

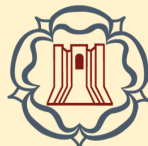
Thank you for ensuring that the children were wearing the correct school uniform. I have had many children come to proudly show me their new shiny black shoes today!



Thank you for your support with our new morning routine. We predict that it will be a little bit busier on the playground to start with and we appreciate your patience as we all get used to the new routines at the beginning and end of the school day. We do ask that parents dropping off pupils on Low Road ensure that children are supervised until the school gates open at 8.35am when Mrs Bond is there to ensure their safety, as this is not the responsibility of our School Crossing Patrol (Mrs Collins).

This week we will be sending you further information regarding class timetables, homework and your child's curriculum for this year.

Thank you as always for your continued support as we embark upon another exciting school year together.



Together we are... **TEAM CASTLE!**

Miss Blagden

Changes to the Timings of the School Day!

As you are aware we slightly altered the timings of the school day in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. We have now reviewed the timings alongside the Government guidance on the hours children are expected to be in school each week. By September 2024, all schools are expected to provide at least 32.5 hours provision each week. As of September we have made a slight change to the daily timings whilst continuing to exceed the 32.5 hours expected.

School Gates will open at 8.35am

School Doors will open at 8.40am- 8.45am

Children are encouraged to be punctual. School begins at 8.45am prompt and children must arrive no earlier than 8.35am for safety reasons as there will be no adult supervision before this time. Doors will close at 8.45am and after this time pupils should enter through the office reception area.

EYFS & KS1 End of School Day- 3.10pm (FS2 from classroom ;Y1 & Y2 via Infant Doors)

KS2 End of School Day- 3.15pm (Y3 via Infant Doors; Y4-Y6 via main doors)

This means that we are still providing above the expectation with 33 hours and 20 minutes for EYFS & KS1 pupils and 33 hours and 45 minutes for KS2 pupils.

Online Reading Records

We are excited to be launching a new online reading journal BoomReader.

This will replace our previous paper based system. Moving to the virtual system will be cost saving and also Eco-friendly. The online system will ensure that children are not disappointed when they forget to bring their Reading Record every Thursday and this will also help reduce staff workload. The system will automatically track and analyse reading data. This means that teachers can spend more time supporting the children with reading in school.



Breakfast Club Provision



We have extended our Breakfast Club timings in order to support and safeguard our children and families. Breakfast club now opens at **7.45am** every morning.

We hope that this will give working parents more time to drop children off at Breakfast Club and then get themselves to work on time.

We will open the Station Road gates at **7.45am** and they will remain open until **8.00am** when they will then be closed. This will ensure that no pupils are entering site unsupervised prior to the beginning of the school day. Pupils accessing breakfast club after 8.00am would be able to enter via the School Office, accessed from Low Road.

We will open all school gates in readiness for the school day at **8.35am**, keeping everyone safe!

