



Castle Cary Primary School  
Castle Cary Primary School, Park Street, Castle Cary, Somerset  
BA7 7EH  
Email: [admin.castlecary@acexcellence.co.uk](mailto:admin.castlecary@acexcellence.co.uk)  
Headteacher: Sarah Martin B.Ed. (Hons)

## Newsletter: Autumn 9 Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a lovely half term break. The children seemed to enjoy themselves! It has been great to return to school to what I am sure will be another busy half term!

### Flu vaccinations

A reminder that flu vaccinations will be taking place in school on Thursday next week. You will have had communication regarding this directly from Somerset Saint via ParentMail where you would have given consent or declined.

### Somerset Cricket

We have 6 exciting weeks of Cricket coaching which started today for some classes (Octopus class are not taking part this time due to swimming and Starfish class are too young still but will get a chance again in the future!). These sessions will happen on a Friday and there is also an after school club available to KS2 classes (which is not yet full). Please ensure your child has PE kit in school so that they can take part.

### Football at Buckler's Mead

There was a football tournament at Buckler's Mead this week and some of our year 5/6 children enjoyed taking part. Unfortunately, they were beaten in the games they played but enjoyed the experience and all worked hard and tried their best. The girls are taking part in a similar tournament next week and we wish them the very best.

### Dolphin Class

Mrs Lukins has not been well this week but the great activities she planned for Dolphin class still went ahead with a visit to the museum on Monday and the Rocks and Fossils workshop today which I know the children really enjoyed. I do hope Dolphin class parents will be able to attend their Rocks and Fossils Exhibition on 20<sup>th</sup> November at 2:30pm.

### Home learning meeting

Many thanks to those parents who attended the home learning parent meeting yesterday. It was great to be able to listen to your ideas and opinions and we will take these on along with the views of the staff, local advocates and children to decide on our home learning moving forward. We will be holding more parent forums like this in the future and if you have areas you would like to be a focus please do let me know.

### Celebrating our children

A point raised in the parent meeting yesterday was around how we celebrate our children's successes in school. This is detailed in our "Positive behaviour and Relationships" policy which can be read on the website.

<https://www.castlecaryschool.org/our-policies>

We have so many ways of doing this, but some parents were not aware of how our celebration assembly on Friday afternoons work. Every week during this time, we celebrate the children by each class having a Star of the Week and also each class having "mentions". Class teachers write these weekly and they can be for absolutely any reason - learning across the curriculum, successes, kindness, working in a team, being polite, showing our character traits etc. When the children get a "mention" they stand up and they receive recognition through a round of applause from the rest of the school.

Other ways we celebrate success and praise our children are also listed in the policy:

School rewards	Class Rewards	Lunchtime rewards
Verbal praise highlighting children taking on self-responsibility, showing excellent listening, excellent walking around school, excellent partner work and group work, respecting the rights of others and demonstrating responsibility	All staff will celebrate children's work in the classroom daily	Verbal praise highlighting children taking on self responsibility, showing kindness, sharing, creativity
Children's achievements both in and out of school will be celebrated in assembly and newsletters with mentions and star of the week awards	Children who show excellent learning behaviours will be recognised and praised	Praise in assemblies via mentions board for OPAL play and behaviour in the hall
Headteacher awards and stickers	Children will be provided with opportunities to take on responsibilities through "Cary Coins"	Traffic light system of rewards in hall and playground
House points will be awarded	Gold, silver and bronze excellence stickers will be given linked to school traffic light system	House points will be awarded
	Achievements will be discussed with families	
	House points will be awarded	

We also have our bronze, silver and gold awards. These awards are given to children who model and demonstrate our 5 golden rules and are not awarded for individual achievements:

**We are compassionate** – We speak politely and considerately to others ensuring that we are respectful to our learning environment and those within it. We help and support each other in the Castle Cary community with kindness and empathy.

**We are aspirational** – We model the school rules and behaviours that we want to see at all times around our school. We follow our passions and seek challenges in order to be the very best version of ourselves.

**We are determined** – We are always ready to learn with the right resources to support our learning. We act with integrity and inspire others around us.

**We are honest** – We are in the right place, at the right time and doing the right thing. Through confidence we present ourselves in an insightful way that reflects what we value.

**We are responsible** – We take pride in our achievements including the achievements of others. We take responsibility for our own well-being and support others with theirs.

#### PTFA news

Thank you for filling up the bags for the Bags2school collection yesterday. After being weighed, the PTFA were donated £53. The next PTFA event will be the Christmas Hamper Raffle so please look out for the tickets which will come home via your children.

### Attendance updates

As you are aware attendance is a key area of focus not only for our school but nationally too. Good attendance is crucial for all children and we are working hard to improve attendance for many of our children in school. We will be having attendance meetings with families in the coming weeks as we want to work with you to support you in improving attendance. Please can I remind you that if your child is feeling a little off colour in the morning, please do let us know via our Under the Weather notification which can be accessed via the QR code at the end of this letter or on the school website or around the school site and we will ensure we monitor them in school and contact you should we need to.

### Christmas Holiday Club

Information regarding the Christmas Holiday Club will be sent out next week via ParentMail. Bookings go live on 18<sup>th</sup> November and must be done via the website and not through school.

### Children in Need

It is Children in Need on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November. The School Council have decided that the children will be able to wear mufti for school and would like them to add either something spotty or something yellow to their mufti. Please send in donations (min 50p) for Children in Need with your child.

### Things happening in our community



### Key dates for your diary

- 12.11.24 Tuning into Kids 1:30pm
- 13.11.24 Sea Otter & Turtle Science Investigation Day
- 14.11.24 Flu vaccinations
- 15.11.24 Children in Need
- 15.11.24 Somerset Cricket
- 18.11.24 Assessment week
- 20.11.24 Dolphin class Rocks and Fossils Exhibition
- 22.11.24 Cricket
- 25.11.24 Assessment week
- 26.11.24 Year 5 Dance Festival at Ansford
- 29.11.24 Cricket

30.11.24 PTFA Coffee Morning at the Market House  
4.12.24 Cross Country at Ansford  
6.12.24 Cricket  
6.12.24 All clubs finish  
13.12.24 Final cricket (and cricket club)  
17.12.24 Starfish Nativity 2pm  
18.12.24 Memory Café  
18.12.24 Christmas Lunch  
20.12.24 Carol Service 2pm  
20.12.24 School Closes



Starfish - Rex Barnett  
Sea Otter - Noah Matthews  
Turtle - Lyla Pearson  
Dolphin - Charlie Halsey  
Octopus - Sophie- Mae Gledhill  
Swordfish - Lexi Higgins  
Jellyfish - Heidi Hibberd  
Head teacher's award - Thea Corley

Sarah Martin

Please remember to use this notification if your child is feeling under the weather when you bring them to school so we can keep an eye on them!

