



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

Newsletter: Spring 6 Friday 9th February

Dear Parents,

As we come to the end of a busy half term, we would like to thank you all for your continued support working in partnership with us. It has been an exciting half term working with ACE and I know there are some changes to come which you will begin to notice more moving forward. All the classes will be starting a great Design and Technology learning experience after half term which I hope you will hear all about!

Assessments

Part of quality first teaching is assessing children's learning and as a school we are continually assessing through observations, marking, discussions and using more formative assessments. In the past couple of weeks (as has been the case most half terms) we have been carrying out assessments in reading, writing and maths and in the case of Year 2 and Year 6 we have been using old SAT materials to do these. In assessing we do not intend to put children under any pressure, and we always explain to them that all we want them to do is their best so we can work out how best to develop them moving forwards. I will, in future, inform you of assessment dates so that you too can reassure your children if they have concerns.

Easter Holiday Camp

We will once again be hosting Easter Holiday Camp from 8th - 11th April. There will be both paid and free places available. Letters will go out via ParentMail after half term and bookings can be made from 4th March.

Art Club

There are 2 spaces available at Art Club on a Monday after school. This is a paid for club. If your child is interested (Yrs 1 - 6) please contact Karen Wildgoose directly.

Karen.wildgoose@icloud.com

Cross Country

Well done to all the children who represented the school in the Cross Country event at Ansford on Wednesday. It was quite a distance but everyone did their very best!

World Book Day

We celebrate World Book Day every year and this year it will be on March 7th. There is no expectation that children dress up as book characters but if they choose to come to school on that day dressed as one that is fine (it will be a normal school uniform day for those choosing not to dress up).

We would, however, like all children to take part in our World Book Day activity which is to create a book character from toilet roll and bring it to school on 7th March. I know how creative our children are, so I cannot wait to see what they produce!

Below are some starting ideas:



School Uniform

A reminder that we do require children to wear uniform to school and that we do have a school uniform policy that can be found on the website. There are a number of children not wearing correct uniform currently and if this persists after half term, we will be offering them uniform to wear in school from our PTFA supplies. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require some support with appropriate school uniform.

Things happening in our community



Somerscience festival

6th MAY 2024 10.00 - 17.30

Haynes Motor Museum and Castle Cary venues, Somerset

The Somerscience Festival is back in 2024! Somerset's **only** rural STEM festival will be even bigger and better and hopes to exceed the nearly 5000 visitors who enjoyed it last year. This time there will be over **90 different activities from nearly 70 organisations** all bringing Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths breakthroughs to South Somerset families in a fun and engaging way. And it is **FREE with no need to**

book, with Haynes Motor Museum, Market House, Caryford Hall and Ansford Academy in Castle Cary as main venues.

Visitors can find out about airline safety mechanisms or how the famous Henry vacuum cleaner is put together. Or investigate how we map the oceans or what lives in the deep. Exhibitors include all the universities of the area, Nikon, Honeywell, Thales UK, Leonardo, National Grid, RSPCA and many other well known names. There are **space planetarium shows, chemistry magic shows, and psychology or robotics workshops**, and the **biozone** is back with its **Teddy Bear Hospital**, Dr Snot and also with activities including **immunology**, foot health, **stem cell research** and how fish help us find out more about disease. Tata CS will be there to award the prizes to the students who have succeeded in the **Somerscience Festival Challenge** to build a digital innovation to support more sustainable transport across the county and there are schools exhibiting how their students tackle STEM in classroom. Plus a whole **programme of talks** and a **key debate with a panel of leading industrialists chaired by Sarah Dyke MP** on whether Somerset can become the green technology hub of the UK.

Throughout the day visitors can travel between Haynes and Castle Cary on the free festival shuttle buses which will be operating continuously.

The organisation behind the festival is The Somerscience Trust, which was set up especially to make this festival happen, and this has been funded through main grants and sponsorships from Thales UK, Royal Commission for the 1851 Exhibition, Somerset Community Foundation, ICMS, Royal Society of Biology and Stronger Starts.

All enquiries to Colleen Bower, Festival Director and Chair of the Somerscience Trust.

tcolleenbower@gmail.com 07375 890751 <https://somerscience.co.uk>

[Key dates for your diary](#)

19.2.24 School opens

23.2.24 Girls Football at YTFC

28.2.24 Year 5/6 hockey tournament at Kings Bruton

28.2.24 Mufti for Spring Bingo

28.2.24 Opera plus workshop Year 5/6

1.3.24 Girls Football at YTFC

7.3.24 World Book Day

7.3.24 PTFA Spring Bingo

8.3.24 Girls Football at YTFC

11.3.24 - 22.3.24 Assessment fortnight

15.3.24 Comic Relief

15.3.24 Girls Football at YTFC

19.3.24 Opera plus workshop Year 5/6

19.3.24.24 Year 5/6 netball tournament at Ansford

20.3.24 Parents evening

21.3.24 Parents evening

22.3.24 Girls Football at YTFC

25.3.24 Bikeability Year 6

26.3.24 Bikeability Year 6

26.3.24 Opera plus dress rehearsal at Ansford plus performance to parents at 5:30pm

28.3.24 Easter Bonnets

28.3.24 School closes



Starfish - Rosie Lock
Sea Otter - Jasper Hansen
Turtle - Darcy May Gundry
Octopus - Sophie Gledhill
Dolphin - Olivia Targett
Jellyfish - Matilde Monteiro Abreu
Swordfish - Stephen Seward
Head teacher's award - Amy Purchase

Kind regards,

Sarah Martin