



NEWSLETTER

15/12/2023



Dear Families and Friends,

New Teacher-in-Charge

Mrs Wardell has started her transition into her new role as our Teacher-in-Charge this week. She has spent additional time with Oaks, picking up their routines and getting to know how they learn in all subjects. Mrs Wardell will be joining us on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday next week, to continue this handover with Mr Sellers. She will also be completing the DT unit with Key Stage 2, making edible houses!

Parental Survey

We are interested in gaining your views on a range of school provision areas. In particular, as we approach our long overdue Ofsted inspection, we are keen to gauge your views on the areas which they investigate from a parental point of view and use these to improve our practice.

Using the Ofsted's four grading descriptors (Outstanding, Good, Requires Improvement, Inadequate), we currently self-assess ourselves as 'Good'. However, we are very keen to strive towards the 'Outstanding' judgement which we received in our last inspection (June 2013), albeit under a very different inspection framework. Your feedback will help us achieve this.

We are also asking you additional questions not relating to the Ofsted areas of inspection. These have come from a variety of school community members. Thank you in advance.

Please use this link to access the survey: <https://forms.office.com/e/t6VzhEJnhG>

School Pantomime Visit – Tuesday 12th December

We had a fantastic time at Billingham Forum Theatre on Tuesday when we went to watch *Jack and the Beanstalk*! Thank you to our PTFA for subsidising funds for this visit which was enjoyed by all.

Christmas Performances

We are looking forward to our two Christmas performances which are taking place next week at Castleton Village Hall. All are welcome to join us for this and support our children as they experience one of our new school oaths 'Perform to an Audience'. The PTFA will be selling refreshments and there will be a raffle.

Monday 18th December: 2pm start

Tuesday 19th December: 6pm start (children to arrive no later than 5.45pm)

Carols round the Tree – Thursday 21st December (6pm – Castleton School)

You are also welcome to join us for our annual Carols round the Tree event. We will be joined by local musicians who will lead a range of carols/songs, supported by our students, for you to join in! There will also be refreshments available being sold by the PTFA.

Long Hair

As a reminder, please can all children with long hair have this tied up for each school day. This is important for health and safety reasons, as well as a preventative measure for head lice.

Final Club Sessions of the Term

Our Signing, Choir and Art Clubs have all finished for this term. There will still be Wellbeing Club and Buster Club (both Tuesday) taking place in the final week of term. Clubs will recommence in the new term. However, we will need to confirm whether a club on a Friday can go ahead due to staffing changes.



National Nurturing
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Staff Presents

As we approach the end of term and the Christmas break, we are aware of the heightened financial pressure that many families face. Therefore, we want to emphasise that our staff are not expecting any 'thank you' gifts from pupils and parents. Should you still wish to share your thanks, we will always appreciate homemade cards or letters, as well as other cost-free gifts.

End of Term

School closes at the end of the day on Friday 22nd December. We reopen again on Monday 8th January.

Have a great weekend,

Mr Cooper

Attendance: Our attendance this week was: 97.3%

Our attendance this year: 95.0%

National average this year: 95.1%

Headteacher timetable for the upcoming week	
Mon	am – Glaisdale pm - Castleton
Tues	Castleton all day
Weds	Glaisdale all day
Thurs	Castleton all day
Fri	am – Castleton pm - Glaisdale

Next Week's Events

- Monday** **Christmas Performance** (2pm – Village Hall)
- Tuesday** **Year 6 SATs Buster Club** (8-9am)
Wellbeing Club led by Redcar & Cleveland Mind
Oaks PE please arrive in appropriate kit/footwear
Music Lessons
Christmas Performance (6pm – Village Hall)
- Wednesday** **Acorns PE** please arrive in appropriate kit/footwear
No Signing Club Will recommence after Christmas
- Thursday** **No Choir Club** Will recommence after Christmas
Christmas Dinner
Carols round the Tree (6pm at school)
- Friday** **Christmas Party Lunch**

Term Dates 2023/24





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- ~~Staff Training Day – Monday 4th September 2023~~
- ~~Staff Training Day – Tuesday 5th September 2023~~
- ~~First day of Autumn Term – Wednesday 6th September 2023~~
- ~~Half Term – Monday 30th October to Friday 3rd November 2023~~
- ~~Staff Training Day – Friday 15th December 2023~~
- Last day of Autumn Term - Friday 22nd December 2023
- First Day of Spring Term – Monday 8th January 2024
- Half Term - Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February 2024
- Staff Training Day - Friday 15th March 2024
- Last day of Spring Term - Friday 22nd March 2024
- First day of Summer Term - Monday 8th April 2024
- Bank Holiday – Monday 6th May 2024
- Half Term - Monday 27th May to Friday 31st 2024
- Staff Training Day – 12th July 2024
- Last day of Summer Term - Monday 22nd July 2024

Future Diary Dates

Please note: some of these events may still need to be confirmed.

December

- 18/12: Christmas Performance (2pm)
- 19/12: Christmas Performance (6pm)
- 21/12: Carols round the Tree (6pm)

January

- 08/01: Children return to school

Future Dates

- 06/03 – Acorns Author Visit
- 11/03-13/03 – Eskdale Festival
- 20/03-22/03 – Year 3/4 Peat Rigg Visit
- 13/05-17/05 – Year 6 SATs Week
- 10/06-14/06 – Year 1 Phonics Screen Week
- 03/07 – Choir Really Big Sing Event
- 22/07 – YEAT Arts Extravaganza

Please avoid booking term time holidays, especially during assessment weeks.

Term Dates 2024/25

- Staff Training Day – Monday 2nd September 2024
- Staff Training Day – Tuesday 3rd September 2024
- First day of Autumn Term – Wednesday 4th September 2024
- Half Term - Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November 2024
- Staff Training Day - Friday 13th December 2024
- Last day of Autumn Term - Friday 20th December 2024
- First Day of Spring Term – Monday 6th January 2025
- Half Term - Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2025
- Staff Training Day - Friday 28th March 2025
- Last day of Spring Term - Friday 4th April 2025
- First day of Summer Term – **Tuesday** 22nd April 2025
- Bank Holiday – Monday 5th May 2025
- Half Term - Monday 26th May to Friday 30th 2025
- Last day of Summer Term - Monday 21st July 2025
- Staff Training Day – Tuesday 22nd July 2025



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