



Castlefort Academy - Newsletter



Date: Monday 19th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another incredibly busy few weeks at Castlefort Academy, with lots of exciting activities taking place across our academy. As always, thank you for your continued support, which helps us to provide so many wonderful opportunities for our pupils.

Macmillan Bake Off - Thank You!

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Bake Off last week. Whether you baked, donated cakes, purchased a treat or helped to spread the word, your generosity helped us raise **over £200 for Macmillan Cancer Support**. This is a fantastic achievement, and we are incredibly proud of our school community.

Macmillan does an amazing job supporting people living with cancer, as well as their families and loved ones who are affected by a diagnosis. We are delighted that our fundraising will help contribute towards the important work they do. Thank you once again to everyone who played a part!

A Special Visitor and our New Sensory Garden

We were delighted to welcome our local MP, Wendy Morton, to Castlefort recently. During her visit, she was keen to learn more about the fantastic opportunities we provide for our pupils and the many ways in which we support their learning and development.

She was particularly impressed with our brand-new **Sensory Garden**, which will officially open to pupils this week! This exciting new space has been created to provide a calm, peaceful environment where children can relax, unwind and enjoy some time away from the busy playground. It will also provide wonderful opportunities for pupils to develop their gardening skills, learn about plants and nature, and take pride in caring for their surroundings. We cannot wait to see our children making the most of this fantastic addition to Castlefort!

Attendance - Thank You for Your Support

Thank you to all our parents and carers for your continued support in ensuring that children attend school regularly and arrive on time. Good attendance remains a priority for us, as every day in school provides valuable opportunities for learning, friendships and personal development.

Miss Platt, Mrs Leszczynski and Mrs Simcox have been working hard to organise a range of exciting incentives to celebrate and encourage good attendance. It has been lovely to see how much the children are enjoying these rewards, including Friday's **Pippin's Pop-Up Disco!** We hope these activities continue to motivate our pupils and help us to maintain our strong focus on attendance.

Christmas Donations - We Need Your Help!

It may feel a little early to mention Christmas, but our preparations are already beginning! This Friday, **23rd October**, we will launch our Christmas 2026 donation collections, starting with our **Teddy Bear Collection**.

We would be very grateful for any teddy bears that families are able to donate to help make our Christmas Fayre a success. Every contribution, however big or small, is greatly appreciated and helps us to create exciting experiences for our pupils.



Further donation dates and items can be seen below. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Important Reminders - Keeping Everyone Safe

There are a couple of important reminders we need to share with families to help us maintain a safe environment for everyone.

Jewellery: Please remember that children must not wear bracelets (unless religious) or hooped earrings to school, as these present a health and safety risk. Thank you for ensuring that your child follows our school's expectations.

Birthday treats: Following recent allergy awareness training, we are no longer able to accept birthday treats for children to share with their classmates. This is an important measure to help us protect pupils and staff who have identified allergies.

All staff have received up-to-date allergy awareness training to ensure that they understand how to support pupils with allergies and meet their medical needs. We have a number of pupils and staff who are susceptible to allergens, including individuals who carry their own adrenaline auto-injectors (EpiPens). We therefore need everyone to follow these arrangements carefully to help keep our school community safe.

Medication in School - An Important Update

We would also like to make parents and carers aware of our arrangements for medication that needs to be administered by trained staff during the school day.

Where your child requires medication to be administered in school, whether prescribed or non-prescribed, we are asking parents and carers to come into school to complete the necessary arrangements with staff. A medication permission form must be completed, clearly outlining the dosage, timings and duration of the medication.

All medication brought onto the school premises must be signed in and signed out by a parent or carer. These arrangements also apply to **inhalers and insulin**, as well as other medication.

We appreciate that these procedures may require a little extra time, but they are important in helping us maintain accurate records and ensure that medication is managed safely. Thank you for your patience, cooperation and continued support in helping us meet the medical needs of our pupils.

Congratulations to Our New Parent Governor

Finally, we would like to congratulate **Mr Bassett** on his appointment as Parent Governor at Castlefort Academy. We look forward to working with him as part of our governing body and value the contribution that parents make to the continued development of our school.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to return their ballot papers and participate in the process. We would also like to thank **Mrs Bayley** for putting herself forward for nomination and for her willingness to contribute to the life of our school.

As always, thank you for your continued support, generosity and commitment to Castlefort Academy. It is this strong partnership between home and school that helps our children to thrive, and we are very grateful to have such a supportive school community.

Mr Hawkins - Headteacher

Reminder for events this week!

Castlefort is running a pumpkin decoration competition again this year - details of which can be found below. Entries must be brought in at the start of the day on Thursday please.

Halloween discos will take place on Thursday 22nd October with a £2 voluntary contribution per child. Pupils in EYFS are being asked to come to school dressed up in their costumes.

Children in Years 1-6 will need to bring their costumes in a bag. The KS1 disco will take place in the afternoon and the KS2 disco will take place after school. This way the children are all finished by 4:15pm which prevents them becoming too tired for school the next day! Children who would prefer not to be in the disco can opt out.





**CASTLEFORT
ACADEMY**

Inspiring Bright Futures Together

Christmas Fayre

We need your help!

We're asking for donations from our parents and carers to help make our Christmas Fayre a huge success!



Teddy Bear collection



**Friday
23rd October**



**Cosmetics and
toiletries**



**Friday
6th November**



Chocolate donations



**Friday
20th November**



Bottle tombola



**Friday
27th November**



Cake donations



**Thursday
3rd December**

The Christmas Fayre will take place on



Friday 4th December

Thank you for your support!

