

NEWSLETTER

A message from the Senior Leadership Team...

Thank you for all your support this week, it has been a busy one! We have had Forest School Parent Engagement, Costume photographs, PTPA Christmas Fayre, Christmas Jumper Day as well as you signing up for Nativity tickets and Christmas lunches. The rehearsals are going well for the nativities next week, the children, and staff!, are in fine voice and singing the songs at full volume! We hope you are looking forward to seeing them next week.

We hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Take care, from Team Castlechurch :)

Next Week...

Monday	LKS2 Nativity Play 2pm
Tuesday	NO FOREST SCHOOL Choir singing at St Marys 11am EYFS Nativity 2pm
Wednesday	NO SWIMMING KSI Nativity 2pm
Thursday	LKS2 Nativity 2pm
Friday	Stay and Play for new nursery starters

- 18th Dec—Choir singing at OxLeathers Court 1:30pm
- 20th Dec—Christmas Lunch (xmas jumpers)
- 20th Dec—Choir singing at Life Church 6pm
- 21st—Winning House reward
- 22nd—Christmas Service at Castle Church
- 22nd—School closes
- 8th JANUARY 2024—School opens

For more dates please go to:
[Calendar - Castlechurch Primary School | Stafford](#)

This Week's winner is:

Beech

Well done!



Class	Attendance
Hazel	92.73%
Maple	87.27%
Willow	90%
Beech	94.3%
Pine	90.71%
Rowan	90.4%
Cedar	93.4%
Elm	93%
Oak	93.49%

School Matters!



Picture news

This week we thought about families all over the world where their homes, for various reasons are not safe.

We showed empathy for them and wish them safety from danger such as Volcanoes and war.

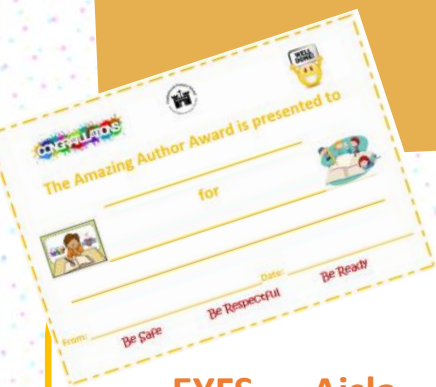


Our whole school attendance target is 96%.
This week, our school attendance was: **94.12%**

Let's look at this week's story

Scientists monitoring a volcano in Iceland have said an eruption could happen. The Fagradalsfjall volcano previously erupted two years ago, in 2021 - the first time in over 800 years. It is now thought that the volcano is the cause of a series of earthquakes, which started this October. An underground river of magma led to the evacuation of 4,000 people from the town of Grindavik and Iceland has declared a state of emergency. People who live there have since been allowed to return just to collect belongings, with the likelihood of eruptions remaining high.

Celebrations



- EYFS — Aisla
- Maple — Lily Rose
- Willow — Minnie-May
- Hazel — Millie
- Pine — Ronan
- Rowan — Billie Jo
- Beech — Ragnar
- Oak — Tyler
- Elm — Sophia
- Cedar — Grace



- EYFS — Benji
- Maple — Albie
- Willow — Zach
- Hazel — Sofia
- Pine — Jack
- Rowan — Chloe
- Beech — Harley
- Oak — Joshua
- Elm — Annabelle
- Cedar — Aiden

- EYFS — Boris
- Maple — Elsie
- Willow — Hannah
- Hazel — Charley
- Pine - Lucas R
- Rowan — Lucas B
- Beech — Emily
- Oak — Jasper
- Elm — Libby
- Cedar — Jacob T



- EYFS - Jacob M
- Maple - Armaan
- Willow — Poppy
- Hazel - Ola
- Pine - Aurora
- Rowan — Kaia
- Beech - Demi
- Oak — Lucas
- Elm — Tegan
- Cedar — Lilli

House Points



Fox	5172
Squirrel	4963
Hedgehog	4705
Badger	4870

Lunchtime stars

- EYFS— Samden
- KS1 — Fleur
- LKS2 — Ava
- UKS2— Archie





We are delighted to confirm that after 15 years of being a school with an Ofsted category of requires improvement or for some periods of time even lower, **CASTLECHURCH PRIMARY IS NOW A GOOD SCHOOL.**

The inspection was quite rightly extremely thorough and it confirmed we know our school well and there are some key content in the report we would like to draw your attention to and celebrate!

- *The school has a clear vision that focuses on raising the aspirations of its pupils and making the school a positive place to learn and work. All work hard to be an integral part of the community they serve. Parents and carers, pupils, and staff are very positive about the leadership of the school. Staff feel that leaders do all they can to support them with their workload.*
- *The school is determined to provide a broad and ambitious curriculum that helps pupils to do well. The school ensures that pupils who need extra help get the support they need. As a result, most pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), achieve well. Pupils learn about how to keep safe, what bullying is, and what to do if it happens.*
- *Children in the early years quickly learn the routines and settle into school well. Older pupils know the school rules and try hard to follow them. A few pupils do not attend school often enough, but the school knows who these pupils are. They work well with these families to help improve their child's attendance.*
- *The school has thought carefully about how to develop pupils beyond the academic curriculum. They know what they want them to learn so that they can make positive choices. Pupils firmly believe that accepting differences and diversity is an important part of living together. Pupils love the many opportunities they have to build their leadership skills. For example, they take on extra responsibilities in school, raise money for charities, and buy resources for their eco classroom.*
- *There are extensive and well-thought-through systems for checking what the school does. This checking enables all leaders, including those responsible for governance, to proactively identify and secure ways to improve the school.*
- *Reading is one of the highest priorities for the school. The phonics curriculum starts in the early years and is well planned and delivered. As a result, pupils make good progress in their phonics knowledge. Older pupils develop their reading fluency and understanding of more complex texts as they move through the school*

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the whole staff team at Castlechurch who changed nothing on the days the inspection took place as what we do on a day to day basis is very typical and something we are proud of. I would also like to thank the Children First Learning Partnership who allowed us to join the Trust in Dec 2020 and who have been instrumental in our sustained and marked improvement.

I would also like to thank you for your continual support and I hope you are proud to send your child (ren) to Castlechurch Primary School. We are certainly proud to work here.





Community Events



Community Grocery

The Life church on Milton Grove has a community Grocery every Thursday from 5pm to 7pm. It is £5 for a huge bag of food. On a Friday they send food to us and we have our wonderful "Help yourself for free!" table on the main playground. Pop and have a look at the amazing food and help yourself. Thank you to The Life Church for this generous donation.



St Mary's Church Stafford

We have decorated our tree at St Mary's in town. We hope you agree it looks amazing. Please go and have a look in the church as the smell is amazing and the trees look so festive!



Christmas fair

We had an amazing Christmas fair in school this week. Thank you for your support. We hope that you enjoyed the stalls and those that were lucky enough to win one of the amazing raffle prizes enjoy them! We would like to thank the local community/businesses for kind donations which helped us to make the fair so successful.

Thank you to the PTPA volunteers for all their hard work and organising that has taken place over the last few weeks. Especially Michelle Skelton who has done a fantastic job as chair person.

Mrs Cranwell