



Appointment of new Headteacher

We hope that you are enjoying the arrival of Spring sunshine as we look towards the Easter holidays.

We were exceptionally fortunate to have a strong field of candidates for the role of Headteacher, all of whom spent a busy two days in school a few weeks ago. All candidates commented on the wonderful school we have- the superb behaviour of the children, their friendliness, manners and the great examples of teaching and learning they saw. Thank you to our staff team who put so much effort into those two days. We were proud to see Castle Primary School at its very best.

The Governors are pleased to announce that they have appointed Mr Tom Paddon as the new Headteacher of Castle Primary School from September 2025. Mr Paddon has had 15 years of experience in senior leadership at schools across Devon, and joins us from Littleham Primary School, where he has been Headteacher for the last 3 years. He has sent the following message:

"It is a privilege to have the opportunity to serve as Headteacher in my own community of Tiverton. I cannot fully express how excited I am to lead the school into its next chapter-one that we will shape together. Building on the fantastic work led by Mrs Noble, I look forward to working in partnership with you all to ensure children at Castle get the best possible education. I am eager to meet you all and become part of this wonderful school community."

There will be many opportunities in the next few months for us to thank Mrs Noble for her work over the last 12 years, and to put into words the difference she has made. Please do look out for celebrations in the Summer term!

In the meantime, Mrs Noble will work with the Governors, the Staff and Mr Paddon to ensure that Castle Primary School moves onto the next stage of its journey in September, ready for the future.

Val Bishop, Chair of Governors

EASTER EVENTS

This year, we will be holding an Easter Bonnet competition. This can be either a bonnet, hat or crown and will replace the decorating an egg competition which we have done for the last few years.

We are looking forward to seeing lots of different creations and we hope everyone will be able to join us to watch the children parade at the end of the school day.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 2nd April - Parents' Evening

Thursday 3rd April - Parents' Evening

Thursday 3rd April - Year 2 Bake Sale

Friday 4th April - Last Day of Term

Monday 7th April - Monday 21st April - EASTER BREAK

Tuesday 22nd April - First Day of Summer Term

Friday 25th April - Easter Bonnet/Hat/Crown Parade

Monday 5th May - Bank Holiday

Thursday 8th May - VE Day Celebrations in school (more details to follow)

Monday 12th-Thursday 15th May - Year 6 SATs

Thursday 15th May - EYFS Bake Sale

Monday 19th May - Year 1/2 Trip to Exmoor Zoo

Monday 26th to Friday 30th May - HALF TERM

Friday 26th June - Non Pupil Day



50p to enter.

Decorate any Bonnet/Hat/Crown.

Prizes for best headgear to be given during assembly.

Any Easter cake donations gratefully received.

USE OF THE SCHOOL CAR PARK

Please can we remind parents that our school car park is for the use of drop off and pick-up of pupils and for visitors accessing the school. We have noticed a rise in the number of vehicles which are left in the car park all day.

Please can we ask that you do not park here without prior authorisation from the Headteacher other than at the start and end of the school day. We reserve the right to lock the school car park gates between drop off and pick up times.

Thank you for your co-operation.

SCHOOL LUNCH PRICE INCREASE

As of Tuesday 1st April, the cost of a school lunch will be increasing by 10p to £2.50 a day. This will apply to pupils in Years 3 to 6 requiring a school lunch. We have tried to keep the increase as low as possible and lunches will remain free of charge to pupils in EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 and also anyone who is entitled to Free School Meals.

NEW IT SYSTEM

We would like to thank parents/carers for their patience during the transition of our IT systems and particularly with the issues around making payments etc.

We are hoping that the MyChildAtSchool app will be up and running very shortly.

MOBILE PHONE USE ON SCHOOL SITE

Further to our recent email, we would like to thank parents and carers for respecting our ruling on no mobile phone usage when on the school site.



VISIT FROM THE DEVON FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES

We were very lucky to have a visit from the Devon Fire & Rescue Services who brought one of their engines into school for the EYFS children to see.

The children learnt about their important job and the different ways in which the fire service can help us.

They had a tour of the fire engine looking closely at all the equipment onboard and how it is used.



Don't forget to check out our Facebook page and website for photos and news of school and class activities.
Printed copies of this Newsletter are available from the school office.