



Castledon School

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Dear Parents/Carers

19th December 2022

As the end of term approaches, on behalf of all the staff at Castledon, I would like to thank you for all your support throughout this very busy term; as always, it is greatly appreciated. It has been amazing to meet with families at parents evening and for classes to enjoy events, trips and activities. We celebrated Christmas with our Christmas jumper day and Christmas lunch on Wednesday. It was a joy to hear the hall so full of Christmas songs, party hats and our young people enjoying the festive meal. It really was a special day.

Parent Survey

I would like to thank parents for the responses to the parent survey, a total of 61 responses were received. This survey has helped develop the academy development plan; one key area identified within this survey is after school clubs and lunch clubs, therefore we will be communicating with you how we are planning to address these next half term.

Annual Review meetings

You will be aware that the school and sixth form will be closed to learners on Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st February to allow the majority of annual review meetings to take place. In the New Year, you will be invited to your child's review meeting and asked to complete parent and pupil views. May I ask that you make every effort to attend as rearranging can be difficult.

Poppy appeal

I am pleased to advise that we raised £78 for this amazing cause. A big thank you to all learners and families for supporting this.

Development of Wat Tyler and Poppies cafe

Our two community placements support our young people to learn the essential skills they need to develop for successful working lives. Students in key stage 4 and 5 have been learning about the importance of listening and communication skill and transferring these into great teamworking and customer service in the workplace. Our older learners are an inspiration in the community and to our younger pupils who are seeing all that is possible.

We would love to hear all about your young people demonstrating these skills at home. The more places our young people hear this language the more it helps them to develop smoothly into independent work placements, like our young people currently working at Greater Anglia Railway Stations, Tiptree Cafe, Barleylands Farm and many more.





2023/2024 Term dates

Please see attached the agreed term dates for the 2023/2024 academic year. This will allow families to make plans for holidays during school closures as no holidays will be authorised during term time.

Just a reminder that Tuesday 20th December is the last day of term. We have our usual finishing times of 2.55pm for school and 3.15pm for key stages 4 and 5. Transport providers have been informed.

School will reopen to learners on Thursday 5th January 2023 at the usual times.

On behalf of all the staff, I wish all our pupils and families a wonderful Christmas and peaceful New Year.

With very best wishes

S Holliday

Simon Holliday

Headteacher