



# Castle Connect

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Dear Families,

As you will see from this week's Castle Connect, it has been an incredibly busy but absolutely wonderful week at school. What has been truly special is the sheer number of events where we have been able to welcome our families through our doors.

From our Stepping into Reception events and Father Figure mornings to a fantastic Sports Day and, of course, the spectacular Year 11 Prom, it has truly been a week centered on community. I have thoroughly loved interacting with so many of you over the last few days, thank you for coming along and supporting our young people.

Here are a few key updates and exciting pieces of news from across the school:

## **A New Look for Castle Connect**

Following your valuable feedback, you will notice a slightly different order to our newsletter this week. To help you find the specific news about your child quickly, we are now organising articles by year group. We will start with any stories that relate to the whole all-through school. This will be followed by articles in chronological year group order.

We hope this new layout makes it much easier to navigate while still encouraging you to see all the brilliant things happening across other year groups!

## **Library Ambassadors Update**

I was absolutely delighted to receive a large number of applications for our new Library Ambassadors. To ensure everyone gets a chance, we are keeping applications open over the weekend and are also opening up the opportunity for our current Year 4 pupils to register their interest. I am very much looking forward to meeting our new ambassadors next week.

## **New Social & Eating Space for North Site**

I am thrilled to share some fantastic news regarding the front area of our North Site. We have officially agreed on a project, with planning already underway to transform the lovely green area next to the dinner hall. With the addition of some secure fencing, this space will become a calm, aesthetically pleasing, and safe outdoor eating and social area for the children to enjoy.

## **Follow Our Journey on Social Media**

On that note, please do keep a close eye on our social media platforms! We now have a dedicated member of staff managing these accounts, so you will start to see a wonderful increase in our daily stories and celebrations. Your likes, shares, and engagement on these posts are very much appreciated and help us showcase our amazing school community.

Instagram: @castlennewnham.official

Facebook: Castle Newnham All-Through School

At long last, it feels like the summer weather is finally arriving. I hope you all have a safe, happy, and sunny weekend with your families.

Warmest regards,  
Donna Neely-Hayes  
Principal



## Shaun Stevens

### Assistant Principal

As we approach the end of my third year at Castle Newnham, I am delighted to continue serving our community as Assistant Principal for Secondary Curriculum and Data. Having worked in education for over 20 years, and as a maths teacher myself, it remains a privilege to support our pupils on their academic journeys.

In my role, I oversee our secondary curriculum and how we track and analyse pupil data. While data might sound dry to some, as a mathematician, I see it as a powerful tool that highlights the unique story of your child's progress. My focus is to ensure our curriculum is both engaging and rigorous, using these insights to challenge and support every pupil on their path toward their GCSEs and beyond.

A strong partnership between home and school is vital for success at the secondary level. Please feel free to get in touch if you have any questions about our curriculum or your child's academic progress.



## Luke Skeel

### Assistant Principal

Castle Newnham has been my home for the past 14 years. I actually started my journey here as a volunteer, before progressing to become a Teaching Assistant, a Teacher, and eventually Head of Performing Arts - where I loved leading the growth of our award-winning performing arts provision across the entire school and co-founded our in house theatre company 4SIXTEEN Theatre Company.

Today, as Assistant Principal, my focus is on the "whole child" experience across the all-through school. I lead our Personal Development curriculum, Careers education, school trips and visits, and oversee our school calendar and communications. I also still get to share my passion for creativity every week in the classroom teaching English and Drama in KS3 and KS4.

I love Castle Newnham because it feels like a family. It is a unique place where community spirit and high ambition go hand-in-hand, ensuring that every pupil has the support and the opportunities to truly thrive. I particularly enjoy seeing the pupils 'grow up' through their journey at Castle Newnham, from walking through the gates on their first day in Reception or Year 7, to their final day in Year 11.





VIEWS



VOICE



VALUED



Parents & Carers: Views - Voice Valued - Google Form

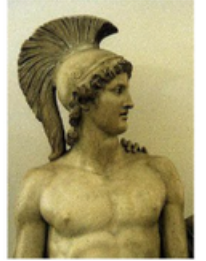


# Classics at Castle

This week our GCSE pupils have been busy learning about the Greek hero Theseus. Most people know him as the hero who defeated the Minotaur on the island of Crete, however many are unaware of his achievements as the mythological king of Athens.

Theseus championed **equality** and **civic unity** - he united the Greek region of Attica in Greece under the political leadership of Athens.

In Athenian legend, he is therefore associated with **democracy**.



## Etymology of the week

The word democracy derives from the ancient Greek word *dēmokratia*, a combination of two root words:

- Dēmos: meaning the "common people"
- Kratos: meaning "power," "strength," or "rule".

Combined, these words translate literally to "rule by the people"



## Could you be a Classics Champion?

We are looking for enthusiastic pupils to become ambassadors of Classics and work alongside Mrs Scott to help promote the subject across our wider school community.

This will be a pupil-lead group who will meet at least once every half term to brainstorm ideas for activities to take place during a new extra-curricular club, as well as organising exciting workshops for pupils on both the north and south sites. We are currently looking for at least one pupil in each year group from Year 7-10 to take part.

**How do I get involved?** Please complete the following [sign up form](#) to register your interest. Please note this is currently for pupils in KS3 and KS4, however there will be opportunities in the future for KS2 pupils to get involved. Keep checking Castle Connect for further updates!

## Talking point

Last week we asked 'why is Hera known as the vengeful goddess?' The answer is linked to the story of the golden apple. The Trojan prince, Paris, was tasked with giving the golden apple to the 'fairest' goddess.

He was given three goddesses to choose from : Hera, Athene, and Aphrodite. Each goddess offered Paris something to convince him to pick them as the fairest goddess. Paris rejected Hera and Athene, and chose Aphrodite who offered him Helen, the most beautiful woman in the world. This is what caused the Trojan war. As Hera was not chosen by Paris, she consequently becomes known as the bitter, vengeful goddess in Greek mythology.





## Parking around the School sites

A friendly reminder to all families to please avoid driving onto the school premises or using the staff car parks during the busy morning and afternoon peaks. As the signage indicates, these areas are reserved for staff, and keeping them clear helps prevent gridlock and ensures a much safer environment for our pupils walking into school. Thank you so much for your understanding, cooperation, and help in keeping our school community safe and moving smoothly!



## Bikes and Scooters

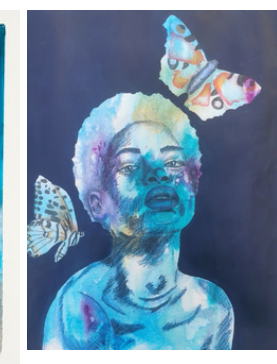
It's wonderful to see so many pupils riding a bicycle or scooter to school. To help us keep their belongings safe, please ensure you or your child brings a lock for their bike or scooter. Please keep in mind that the school isn't able to take responsibility for personal items left on site, so locking them up is the best way to prevent any misplaced or lost property.

In addition, please be reminded that e-scooters are not permitted on the school site, and pupils should not use them to travel to and from school, as privately owned e-scooters remain illegal to ride on public roads and pavements.




## Staff Success

We are delighted to share that two of our talented art teachers, Emily Robinson (Head of Art) and Louise Haddon (Primary Art Specialist), have work featured in an exhibition at Eagle Gallery, Bedford. While they are teachers by trade, they are truly artists at heart, and we are incredibly proud to see their creativity showcased beyond the classroom. Both Emily and Louise are excited to be exhibiting their work, and we encourage our school community to visit the exhibition and keep an eye out for their pieces. It is a wonderful opportunity to support local artists and celebrate the artistic talents of our dedicated staff



# CNS Fest - Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June



**CNS  
FEST**

**HAVE YOU PREBOOKED YOUR  
TICKETS & TOKENS?**

**YES**                      **NO**

SHOW YOUR TICKET  
AT THE SCHOOL  
GATES

PURCHASE YOUR  
TICKET ON THE GATE  
(£4 ADULT)

COLLECT YOUR TOKENS  
FROM THE TOKEN  
STALL

PURCHASE YOUR  
TOKENS FROM THE  
TOKEN STALL

**WE ARE EXPECTING THE TOKEN STALL TO GET  
BUSY THROUGHOUT THE DAY- WE RECOMMEND  
PREBOOKING YOUR TOKENS TO AVOID DELAYS!**

*Click here for  
tickets & tokens*

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June is the last day to prebook your tickets and tokens for CNS Fest.**

A reminder that all staff and PTA lead stalls (including the bar and BBQ) are cashless this year so all purchases will be made with tokens which can be purchased before hand through Ticketsource or purchased at the token stall on the day.

You can also purchase your tickets at a discounted rate (£2 adult tickets) up until midday tomorrow, tickets purchased on the gate will be £4. There is no cost for children to enter CNS Fest.

The PTA are looking for volunteers to help at CNS Fest this year. We are looking for people to help in the kitchen, the barbecue, the bar, the tuck shop and supervising the bouncy castle, and also with setup (10-12pm) and clear up (4-6pm). Please contact Lottie (PTA Secretary) on 07846 973133 (text or WhatsApp is best) if you are able to help

# 4SIXTEEN Presents: The Lion King Jr.

[Click here for tickets](#)



Disney  
**THE LION KING**

JULY 2026

MON 6TH

6PM

TUES 7TH

6PM

WEDS 8TH

6PM

THURS 9TH

6PM

FRI 10TH

4PM

FRI 10TH

7PM

SAT 11TH

3PM

SAT 11TH

7PM

GOOD AVAILABILITY

LIMITED AVAILABILITY

SOLD OUT



## Father Figure Friday

A huge thank you to all the wonderful father figures in our primary school community who joined us for today's special events across both of our sites! It was absolutely fantastic to see everyone enjoying themselves. Outdoors, the school grounds were buzzing with energy as families took part in various sporting activities under the sunshine. Indoors, the creativity was flowing with a brilliant range of puzzles and art activities that brought out everyone's competitive and artistic sides. Most of all, there was just a genuinely lovely, warm atmosphere across both sites. We are incredibly grateful for your time, your enthusiasm, and your continued support in making these community events so memorable.



## Primary Musicians Evening



On Tuesday evening, our talented young performers took to the stage for our Primary Musicians' Evening. The event offered a wonderful opportunity for pupils to showcase everything they have been practicing in their peripatetic lessons, all within a wonderfully relaxed and low-pressure environment. The audience was treated to a variety of musical styles and instruments, highlighting the impressive breadth of talent in our community. A particular highlight of the night was a fantastic guest performance from the Bedford Town Band Junior Brass Academy, many of whom are pupils at Castle Newnham. Huge congratulations to all of our courageous and hard-working performers.

## Starting Castle Newnham Evening

We were thrilled to welcome our newest families at the Starting Castle Newnham evening on Monday. Our incoming Reception families (the class of 2038) got to explore the classrooms, meet our senior leaders and teaching team, and get all the details ready for September. We look forward to welcoming the new cohort to the stay and play event in a couple of weeks time.





## Key Stage 1 sports Day

We had a wonderful day on Thursday as we celebrated our Year 1 and Year 2 Sports Day! The children were absolutely wonderful, bringing our CORE values to life throughout the entire event. They demonstrated outstanding teamwork, fully embraced every new challenge, and showed immense respect for one another, resulting in a display of true excellence across the board.

Our young athletes enthusiastically took part in a range of traditional sports day activities, giving their all at every station. They then had the chance to showcase their incredible speed and determination during the highly anticipated sprint races. To cap off a wonderful morning of fun and fitness, everyone came together to enjoy a lovely picnic lunch in the sunshine. A massive thank you to all the families who joined us to cheer on the children - your incredible support made the day truly special!



## Primary Musicians Evening

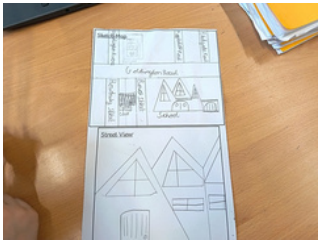
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## Year 3 Geography

During this term's geography unit, Year 3 has explored their local area using Google Maps. The pupils quickly mastered practical digital skills, including how to navigate the search bar to locate specific landmarks and toggle between different map layers. They particularly enjoyed using the interactive Street View tool to virtually walk through and explore the streets surrounding our school. Following this digital exploration, the pupils transitioned their tech skills into hands-on cartography by drawing their own physical maps. Finally, they utilised their Street View observations to sketch a realistic representation of the school building itself.



## Sports Day for Pupils in Year 3 & 4

A reminder that Year 3 and Year 4 Sports Day will take place on Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> June at Castle Newnham School, Polhill Avenue - Primary site.

This event will run from 9:30 until approximately 13:00.

## Year 4 Art Workshop

On Wednesday, Year 4 pupils prepared a poly tile with rainforest inspired foliage shapes. They also prepared a collaged background. These will be printing surface using their poly tile in next week's workshop.

Finishing touches will be added during transition to Year 5 day on the North site in the Primary Art Room.





## North Site Upgrades!

We are pleased to announce that our North Site outdoor areas are officially getting an upgrade! As part of our ongoing commitment to creating the best possible environment for our pupils, we are investing in fresh, vibrant external spaces designed to improve daily school life.

### What's Coming to North Site?

- **New Pedestrianised Entrance:** We will be installing a brand-new pedestrianised entrance to the Year 7 to Year 11 reception, ensuring a safer, welcoming, and more streamlined arrival for our older pupils. This will also feature a new location to store bicycles.
- **Outdoor Dining Area:** A new outdoor dining space is on the way! Complete with seating, this area will give pupils an additional brilliant space to socialise, relax and enjoy their breaks in the fresh air.



### Looking to the Future: Sports Facilities!

We have also recently had some really positive and exciting conversations about the future of our Sporting facilities.

While we can't share all the secrets just yet, we are working hard behind the scenes to elevate our sports provisions. Stay tuned for some very exciting announcements coming your way soon!

## Harpur Trust Competition Awards Evening

On Thursday evening Anisha 6RT, Layla 6EB and Miss Haddon attended an awards presentation at the Higgins. Both pupils Harpur Trust Schools Art Competition entries received 'Highly Commended' awards. Well done also to Pia 6RT whose work was also chosen to be included in the exhibition. The competition exhibition is open to the public all summer at the Higgins.





## Year 5 & 6 SK Dynasty Workshop

The Art Department was delighted to welcome local artist Joseph Mitchel back to Castle Newnham School for a second inspiring workshop, this time working with 20 of our talented Year 5 and 6 pupils. Joseph, the creative mind behind the collectible card game SK Dynasty, shared insights into his artistic journey and passion for creativity before introducing pupils to the vibrant characters featured in his game.

Our pupils then had the opportunity to unleash their imaginations by developing existing characters and designing their own unique creations. In an exciting twist, some of these pupil designs may be developed into official cards for the game and featured on future promotional materials.

Joseph was once again incredibly impressed by the creativity and talent on display at Castle Newnham School. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the experience, and we would like to extend a huge thank you to Joseph for returning to work with our young artists. We cannot wait to see how their ideas develop and look forward to following the success of SK Dynasty!



## Ark 2 Artwork

Some of the beautiful mixed media collages pupils in Ark 2 have made in Art within their nature theme



## District Athletics League

### Year 5 & 6

In their second league meeting of the year, our teams competed extremely well!

Josh H broke the school record for the Y6 Boys 1200m by 9 seconds!

Esme F was 1 second off breaking the Y6 Girls 1200m record and we look forward to seeing this broken next week!

Our boys A team scored 296 points this week which is an improvement of 40 points on last week and they are currently sat in 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

Our girls A team scored 9 more points than last week and are in 7<sup>th</sup> overall.





## Years 7 to 10

A great athletic display on Wednesday evening saw us finish in 9<sup>th</sup> place in the girls competition out of 23 teams and 10<sup>th</sup> in the boys competition out of 21 teams. We were really pleased with our performances and the highlights are below:

- Keira- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Girls Long Jump
- Jess- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Girls Triple Jump (New Year 10 Record)
- Jess- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Girls 300m (New Y10 Record)
- Katie- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Girls High Jump (New Y10 Record)
- Euan- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Boys Javelin (New Y10 Record)
- Noah- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Boys high Jump (New Y10 Record & PB)
- Girls 4x 100m Relay finished 4<sup>th</sup> (New Y10 Record)



## Sports Clubs - Year 7 to 10

### PE Clubs this week

No morning clubs

### After school clubs

Tuesday- Rounders (Year 7 to 10)  
Volleyball (Year 7 to 10)

Wednesday- Cricket (Year 7 to 10)  
Thursday- Tennis (Year 7 to 10)  
Friday- Cricket (Year 7 to 10)



## District Tennis Tournament



Last Friday we took 20 boys to compete in the District tournament. Our two teams in the A standard competition finished 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> in their respective groups. In the B standard competition our D team finished 4<sup>th</sup> in their group whilst the C and E teams finished in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Well done to all who attended! On Monday we took 20 girls to the District tournament. We entered our A team into the A standard competition where they finished 4<sup>th</sup> overall. Our B, C, D and E teams were in the B standard competition. Our C and E teams finished 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> in their group, whilst in the other group our B and D teams finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>! Great effort and determination shown by all!



## Year 7 to 10 PE kit

From Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> all secondary pupils will be coming into school in their uniform and bringing their PE kit to change into as the exams have now finished.

Please see the [school website](#) for clarification or reminders of the PE kit expectations.

## Year 8 Rounders



A great win on Wednesday evening against Bedford Academy for our Year 8 rounders team, 14.5-9.5. Players of the match were Anneleese R and Grace B! Well done to everyone! The girls currently sit in 1<sup>st</sup> place in the league table with 2 games left to play

## Year 9 Experience of Work Day

On Wednesday a select group of Year 9 30 pupils got to work with Kier for an Experience of Work day.

Pupils were given the task of planning and designing a new shopping centre for the area- they had to chose their roles, plan a budget, timeline and find their USP! Throughout the day, pupils were given different challenges to overcome. At the end of the day pupils had to present their ideas and plans to the group and answer questions based on their presentation- particularly whether they stuck to their budget! The pupils did a great job with the presentations and ideas, with Sarah and Clare from Kier even commenting that some of the proposals included features that have not be suggested before!

Pupils were chosen for demonstration incredible passion and aptitude in construction, communication, geography and/or creativity.

Kier also spoke to our pupils about all the different types of apprenticeships that are available to pupils when they finish Y11 and where that can lead them.

Congratulations to Lyra, Erin, Nicolas, Olivia and Leah who were the winning group, with their pitch for 'Jane's Concrete Co.'





## Year 10 Academic Consultations

A reminder that on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June we will be holding the Academic Consultation Evening for pupils in Year 10, this is an opportunity to discuss your child's current attainment and progress with their subject teachers.

The appointments will take place in person from 14:00 to 18:00 on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2026.

Bookings for core subjects can be made via SchoolCloud:  
<https://castlennham.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

If you experience any issues accessing SchoolCloud, please contact the secondary school office for assistance.

Please note that the booking system will close on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 9:00 AM. We highly recommend booking your appointments as soon as possible to ensure you do not miss this valuable opportunity to discuss your child's education

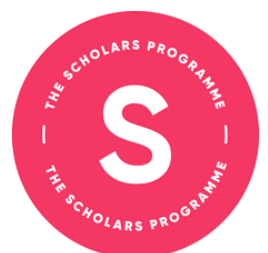
## The Brilliant Club - Scholar's Programme

The scholar's programme is a programme organised by the Brilliant club.

The programme offers the opportunity for a Phd tutor to share their subject knowledge and passion for learning with small groups of pupils aged 8-18. It helps them to develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to secure a place at a competitive university. Research using data from the Higher Education Access Tracker (HEAT). It has shown that The Scholars Programme also has a positive impact on GCSE attainment.

After 6 tutorial sessions since 27<sup>th</sup> March, The following year 10 students; Morgan, Jayden, Alina, Kinga and Tolu, have submitted their 2000 word essays to their tutor to be marked. We are pleased to announce that, 4 of them achieved 2:1 and 1 student was awarded a first class.

Let's All congratulate them.



# A Fond Farewell



On Monday, we bid a fond farewell to our Year 11 pupils, after months of hard work, dedication, and intense focus, the year group sat their very final whole-group exam together, marking the end of an era and the beginning of an exciting new chapter.

The rest of the morning was filled with laughter, nostalgia, and a few tears as the cohort gathered for their Leavers Assembly led by Mrs Cash and Mrs Carroll. It was a wonderful opportunity to look back on their journey at Castle Newnham, reflecting on shared memories, looking through old photos, and celebrating both individual and collective achievements. Mrs Cash and Mrs Carroll shared heartfelt words and funny stories, reminding the pupils of how much they have grown and urging them to take the resilience and spirit they've built here into their futures.



We were absolutely blown away by the excellent creativity and artistry displayed on many of the uniform shirts. From beautifully detailed illustrations and touching messages to highly imaginative designs, our Year 11s proved once again just how incredibly talented and unique they are.

Their time concluded with the Guard of Honour. As Year 11 made their final exit through the school gates, pupils from Years 5 to 10 lined the walkways, clapping and cheering them out. It wonderful to see just how much our leavers mean to the rest of the Castle Newnham community



The celebrations concluded with an unforgettable prom night at the Bedford Blues Rugby Club. Dressed to impress in their finest attire, the pupils arrived ready to celebrate in style. The evening was filled with highlights, featuring delicious food from Chicken George and a visit from an ice cream van. Amidst the laughter and nostalgia, special awards were presented, and heartfelt goodbyes were shared as the cohort marked the end of an era. To top it all off, everyone hit the dance floor, dancing the night away to create memories that will last a lifetime.



We want to take this opportunity to thank our Year 11 students for their leadership, their kindness, and the lasting legacy they leave behind. To the Class of 2026: we are so incredibly proud of you. Good luck with your next steps, and remember—you will always be a part of Castle Newnham!

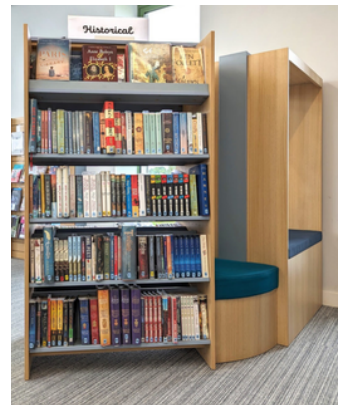


## Could you be a Library Ambassador?

We are looking for pupils in Years 4-10 to help with the design and running of our brand new North Site Library!

### What does this mean?

You will be part of a team making decisions on the look, layout, theming and design of our new North Site Library. You will also have a say on the books and specialist areas!



### How do I get involved?

Complete the [sign up form](#) and let us know why you want to be a Library Ambassador!  
(Pupils in Year 4 to 10 only)



# Upcoming Dates



**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June**

Stepping up to North Site (Year 4 to Year 5 Transition Event)  
**Year 10 Academic consultation evening - Pupils in Year 7 to 10 finish at 1.30pm**  
Year 9 T1 National Rugby Competition

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June**

RP & RH Trip to the Place Theatre  
Year 5 & 6 District Athletics League  
Stepping up to Key Stage 3 (Year 6 to Year 7 Transition Event)  
Year 10 Geography in-school fieldwork day  
Year 10 Rounders at Home vs Sandy Upper School

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June**

Year 2 Geography trip to Russell Park and the Embankment Area  
Year 4 Art Workshop 2  
Year 8 Rounders Away vs Biddenham  
Year 9 Girls Rounders Home vs Goldington Academy  
Year 9&10 Girls Cricket Festival  
Year 10 Rounders Home vs Mark Rutherford Upper School  
Year 10 Next Steps Day

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June**

Sports Day for pupils in Years 3&4  
Year 9 Girls Rounders Home vs Goldington  
Year 9&10 Girls Cricket Festival  
Year 10 Rounders Home vs Mark Rutherford

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June**

Reception & Year 1 Reading Morning  
Year 7&8 Boys District Tennis Championships  
Year 10 GCSE Art Fitzwilliam Cambridge Art Trip

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June**

**CNS Fest**

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June**

Academic Excellence Awards Evening  
Year 7 to Year 10 EAL trip to Herring Green Farm and Bird of Prey Centre

<b>Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Transition Day 1
<b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July</b>	Transition Day 2
<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July</b>	SEND Coffee Afternoon
<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July</b>	Reception & Year 1 Reading Morning Key Stage 3 Reports go home Year 10 GCSE Geography In- School Field Work
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July</b>	4SIXTEEN's The Lion King Jr.
<b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July</b>	RKC Class Assembly Year 2 Trip to Hamerton Zoo Year 4 Trip to Mosbury Park 4SIXTEEN's The Lion King Jr.
<b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July</b>	RP Class Assembly 4SIXTEEN's The Lion King Jr. Year 1 Perform for Schools workshop
<b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July</b>	RH Class Assembly 3TK & 3JA Geography trip to Castle Road 4SIXTEEN's The Lion King Jr.
<b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Year 1 Reading Cafe 3RG Geography Trip to Castle Road 4SIXTEEN's The Lion King Jr. Sports Day for pupils in Year 7 to Year 10
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Year 9 End of Year Trip to Whipsnade Zoo
<b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Reception to Year 2 PTA Disco Year 6 Group Assembly at Christchurch Year 8 End of Year Trip to Legoland
<b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Year 7 End of Year Trip to the Science Centre Year 10 GCSE Drama Non Exam Assessment



**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July**

Year 3 to Year 6 PTA Disco  
Year 7 to Year 10 Rewards SSG Day

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July**

Last Day of Term  
PTA Break the rules day for pupils in Reception - Year 6  
KS3 Enrichment Day  
Year 10 End of Year Trip to Box End Park

**For pupils on a 2-week timetable, next week is:**

**WEEK**

**B**

# Safeguarding Spotlight

## Water Safety Message From Bedfordshire Fire & Rescue



**Bedfordshire**  
Fire & Rescue Service

🌐 [bedsfire.gov.uk](http://bedsfire.gov.uk)  
📍 Southfields Road  
Kempston, Bedford  
MK42 7NR  
📞 [bedsfirealert.co.uk](http://bedsfirealert.co.uk)  
📱 @bedsfire

Important water safety message – please read

As the school holidays approach and the weather becomes warmer, we want to share some vital information about water safety. Many young people enjoy spending time near rivers, lakes, and other open water, but these environments can be very dangerous—even for strong swimmers.

This message is supported by Bedfordshire Fire & Rescue Service and local partners, including the Police, the East of England Ambulance Service (EEAST), RLSS and local authorities, who often respond to water-related incidents during the summer.

Open water areas may look inviting, but they can hide serious hazards such as:

- Cold water shock – sudden immersion can cause gasping, panic and breathing difficulties
- Hidden dangers – weeds, debris, strong currents and sudden changes in depth
- Risk of injury – jumping or diving into unknown water can cause serious harm

Emergency Advice

If someone is in trouble in the water:

- Do not enter the water yourself

Phone – Float – Throw

If you see someone struggling in the water, remember Phone – Float – Throw. It is a simple way to act quickly while keeping everyone safe.

- Phone – call 999. Ask for the Fire Service for inland water (rivers, lakes, canals) or the Coastguard at the coast.
- Float – Encourage the person to float on their back with their ears in the water, relax their breathing, and call for help. Once they feel calmer, encourage them to swim to safety if they can.
- Throw – help them to float in the water by throwing something that floats (a lifebuoy, throwline, football, or even a bottle) and encourage them to hold on. Keep talking to them until help arrives.

More information about water safety is available on the Respect the Water website: [www.respectthewater.com](http://www.respectthewater.com) and the Bedfordshire Fire & Rescue Service website: [www.bedsfire.gov.uk](http://www.bedsfire.gov.uk).

The RLSS [water Safety Code video](#) is also easy to understand for young people

Please take a moment to talk with your child about these key messages to help keep them safe and ensure everyone enjoys the warmer months.

# ALWAYS FOLLOW THE WATER SAFETY CODE



Whenever you are around water:

## STOP AND THINK

Take time to assess your surroundings. Look for the dangers and always research local signs and advice.



## STAY TOGETHER

When around water always go with friends or family. Swim at a lifeguarded venue.



In an emergency:

## CALL 999

If you are at the coast, call 999 and ask for the Coastguard. Don't enter the water to rescue.



## FLOAT

Fall in or become tired - stay calm, float on your back and call for help. Throw something that floats to somebody that has fallen in.



Enjoy Water Safely

Learn basic lifesaving and CPR skills. Visit [www.rlss.org.uk](http://www.rlss.org.uk)

## Safeguarding Team



**Mr M Cleaver**  
DSL Primary



**Mrs H Harwood**  
Senior Vice Principal



**Mrs H Grady**  
Vice Principal



**Mr M Herridge**  
Vice Principal



**Miss H Baxter**  
Assistant Principal



**Mrs B McWilliams**  
DSL Secondary



**Miss S Cain**  
Pupil & Family Support Lead  
DDSL



**Mr D Chapman**  
Pastoral Intervention Lead  
DDSL



**Mrs H Clements**  
Head of Year  
DDSL



## SAFEGUARDING CONCERN?

If you are concerned about a child's welfare and safety, contact the safeguarding team via

[CN-Safeguarding@bestacademies.org.uk](mailto:CN-Safeguarding@bestacademies.org.uk)



# CORE Values

CN CORE School Values

## Community

Treating everyone kindly  
Supporting and caring for people who need help  
Following the school rules  
Being good friends and neighbours

CN CORE School Values

## Opportunity

Taking part in school life  
Considering our own strengths  
Setting goals and trying hard  
Growing as a person

CN CORE School Values

## Respect

Valuing everyone around us  
Listening to others ideas and opinions  
Using good manners  
Looking after our school

CN CORE School Values

## Excellence

Being proud of our achievements  
Working our hardest all the time  
Overcoming challenges  
Making best use of our talents, time and resources

# OUR VISION

Our vision is for a highly successful educational journey through which each of our pupils can flourish in a safe, happy and stimulating school community from age 4-16. We set and ensure high expectations of ourselves and of others as we strive to teach knowledge and inspire curiosity about the world. We encourage positive attitudes, contribution to community, resilience, creativity, integrity and kindness.



## Social Media

School social media accounts are another useful tool for timely communication, community building, showcasing achievements and advertising upcoming events.



**@CastleNewnham.Official**



**/CastleNewnhamSchool**

## My Child at School App

MY CHILD AT SCHOOL is the school's platform for families to receive information and communication about their child.



The app can be downloaded from Apple or Google stores onto your phone.  
Payments for dinner money and any trips will be via this app.

