



Castleton C of E Primary School
Back Street
Castleton
Hope Valley
Derbyshire
S33 8WE

01433 620630
September 11th 2017

Dear Parents,

Autumn Term Update 1

It has been lovely to welcome the children back into school; they are all so refreshed and raring to go! We are really pleased to welcome three new children into our school community; we hope they settle in really well. As usual our children have made them feel very welcome.

Staffing

We welcome Mrs H Hayes to our staff team as Teaching Assistant. Mrs Hayes will be working every Wednesday to secure our full time TA support in the classroom. Mrs Hayes has worked at the school before and is a highly respected teacher, we are very lucky to have her support.

Mrs Brammer has retained the same working pattern as last year. She will be in school Monday, Tuesday and Thursday all day, plus Wednesday mornings.

I will be hoping to establish a much clearer working pattern between the two schools this term. My aim is to be at Castleton Monday afternoon, Wednesday afternoon, Thursday morning and all day Friday. There will be times when meetings and courses will interfere with this routine, however if you ring Castleton School they will track me down!

Lisa Callaghan will start the individual music lessons next Wednesday morning. She will work with the children in rotation in order to minimise disruption to their mornings learning in class.

We are pleased to welcome in to school for next week only, Mr Luke Yeomans who is a PCGE student, looking to gain an insight into how a small school operates.

After School Clubs

We hope to run a couple of after school clubs, watch this space for details, you will be informed asap once providers have established their availability.

Additional Funding

We have been successful in our application for additional funding from The Big Lottery to assist with our sports provision. This will enable us to fund some extra time with Peak Active Sport, they will be running two lunch time games clubs and will be organising a holiday camp in one of the longer holidays next year. This will of course help us in our quest to gain a Gold Mark for our sports provision.

Collaboration

The Key Stage Two children from Edale will be joining us every Thursday for the whole day. They will be working on the science curriculum, RE and ICT. We hope this arrangement will be of benefit to all the children, there was certainly great excitement this morning as they were dropped off by the bus!

Term Time Holidays

Please see the attached notice form Derbyshire County Council. Taking holidays in term time will affect a child's schooling as much as any other absence and we hope parents will help us by not



taking children away in during term time. Please do give this careful consideration; **I am unable to authorise any leave of absence during term time unless it is in exceptional circumstances.**

Diary Dates The term ahead promises to be the usual very busy autumn term so do please watch the diary dates and check the calendar on the website for additional events. For any events listed, further information will follow in due course.

September

Monday 11th – Themed week – Roald Dahl

Friday 29th – Harvest festival

October

Friday 20th – School closes for half term holiday

November

December

Thursday 15th - Christmas lunch

Thursday 15th - Christmas play

Tuesday 20th – End of term service and break up for Christmas holidays

Yours sincerely,

Mrs N Lees
(Headteacher)