

A message from the Senior Leadership Team

I am not sure how we have managed to pack in as much in this week as we have. Big thank you's to our staff who have organised amazing opportunities for our children. We hope that you have been keeping your eye on Facebook as there has been a wealth of posts and photographs—another thank you to staff for giving everyone a glimpse into life inside the school. We have had a representative from the English Hub in school today, reviewing our phonics and early reading provision. Mrs. Goodyear and Mrs. Hough were very proud to show her round our school and lessons. The children, as always, were extremely well behaved and showed excellent attitudes to learning. Your child should have brought home a letter about the PTPA disco on 13th February, please complete and return to school in an envelope. Year 3 and 4 parents have been invited to take part in Forest School engagement next week—fingers crossed that the weather will be kind to you! We hope you have a great weekend. Take care from Team Castlechurch :)

Next Week...

Monday	Willow PE Kit Oak PE Kit KS1 Drop in
Tuesday	LKS2 Forest School Parent engagement Pine 2:20pm Rowan 1:50pm Beech 1:15pm Cedar/Elm PE kits
Wednesday	KS2 Drop in
Thursday	Swimming kits LKS2 PE kit Maple/Hazel PE Kit EYFS Drop in
Friday	EYFS PE Kit

PTPA Disco 13th February 25 4-5pm Y1,2,3
5:15-6:15pm Y4,5,6
Break for Half term—14th February 25
School opens—24th February 25

The website is working again and has been

This Week's winner

is:

Beech



Class	Attendance
Hazel	96%
Maple	97.08%
Willow	94.23%
Beech	98.21%
Pine	97.14%
Rowan	98%
Cedar	97.41%
Elm	97.41%
Oak	95.19%



Our whole school attendance
This week, our school attendance was:
96.23%



Picture News

Let's look at this week's story!

New data has shown that 2024 was the Earth's hottest year on record, warming by 1.5°C. Around 200 countries had agreed to help keep the temperature rise below this figure because scientists say that increases could cause more extreme weather. This includes events such as heatwaves, storms, and wildfires. Our actions have a direct impact on the world around us. It's everyone's responsibility to be aware, from individuals to governments and world leaders.



Celebrations

CONGRATULATIONS
The Amazing Author Award is presented to _____
for _____
Date: _____
Be Safe Be Respectful Be Ready

CONGRATULATIONS
Our Maths Magician Award is presented to _____
for _____
Date: _____
Be Safe Be Respectful Be Ready

Maple: Amanda-Jane

Hazel – Sarah

Willow– Zahkar

Pine - Theo

Rowan – Leo

Beech – Hannag M

Elm– Erikas

Oak- Isabelle

Cedar – Leo

Maple – Ellie D

Hazel - Albie

Willow-Matei

Pine - Scarlett

Rowan– Alfie W

Beech – James

Elm – Sophia

Oak—Theo

Cedar –Rocco

Maple-Mace

Hazel – Lucas

Willow-Cayde

Pine-Esme

Rowan– Lucas B

Beech – Harry R

Elm-Mirren

Oak-Jack

Cedar-Minny

CONGRATULATIONS
Our Castlechurch Champion Award is presented to _____
for _____
Date: _____
Be Safe Be Respectful Be Ready

CONGRATULATIONS
The Remarkable Reader Award is presented to _____
for _____
Date: _____
Be Safe Be Respectful Be Ready

House Points

	Week	Total
Fox	188	3048
Squirrel	137	3604
Hedgehog	368	2364
Badger	259	3173
		+

Lunchtime stars

KS1 – Ruben

LKS2– David

UKS2— Maci &

Nicole

Maple –Theo

Hazel – Lucas

Willow—Jessica

Pine –Soma

Rowan – Sophia

Beech – Henry

Elm - Libby

Oak—Lylah

Cedar – Kian

School & Community Information

We have been very lucky this week in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 to have had workshops with one of Dog's Trusts' experts, who taught us about dog behaviours and communications, and how to keep safe around dogs - those within the family home or those of relatives, and when out and about. The workshops were engaging and interactive, and the children enjoyed learning more about how dogs communicate their feelings! We have a second, follow up workshop next week, which we are all looking forward to.

Thank you so much for your kind donations of dog treats and toys, which will go to rehoming centres! Donations can be sent in until the end of next week if you would like to.



Mrs Greensill's Puzzle club are having a whale of a time but are fast running out of puzzles of interest.

The club are putting out a plea for donations for COMPLETE jigsaws that would be appropriate for KS1 pupils. It would be fantastic if they were 50 or 100 pieces.

Have a dig in your toy cupboard to see if you can help!
Thank you!



DROP IN
Staffordshire Women's Aid

FOR WOMEN WHO ARE EXPERIENCING ANY FORM OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS, INCLUDING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, SEXUAL VIOLENCE, FORCED MARRIAGE OR SO CALLED HONOUR BASED VIOLENCE.

SWA Women's Centre
2nd Floor, Civic Centre
Riverside
ST16 3AQ

Thursdays from 09.30 until 12.30

23rd January
6th February
20th February
6th March
20th March
3rd April

Providing confidential, non-judgemental emotional support and specialist information, advice and guidance in a safe environment.

No appointment necessary.

Women's Community Services
STRONGER TOGETHER

WWW.STAFFORDSHIREWOMENSAID.ORG

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT OUR HELPLINE
CALL 24/7 0300 330 5959

EMAIL
REFERRALS@STAFFORDSHIREWOMENSAID.ORG

women's aid
national quality standard

This week Year 5/6 visited Stafford Fire Station for their annual 'Safe and Sound' Safety workshops, which are delivered to over 10,000 children every year! We had workshops from the Fire Service, from Network Rail, Staffordshire Police, the Canal and River Trust, and HSBC Bank. These informative and interactive workshops taught the children more about understanding risks and hazards, being aware of their surroundings and how to keep safe in areas where there are risks, including around the home, and how to keep safe and sound when out and about. We had an excellent morning! Each class put lots of photos of the morning on Facebook...have you spotted your child on there?!

School & Community Information

New to our Community hub.....

Fancy something creative to do?

We have a new crochet group started in our hub
Come and join them on Wednesdays at 9:30am
The more, the merrier!



What a wonderful afternoon we had on Wednesday with GB athlete Danny Butler. We started the afternoon by completing our sponsored fitness circuit before coming together for an assembly. During this time, Danny performed some incredible tricks, shared the highs and lows to his amazing mountain biking career, answered all of our wonderful questions and inspired the children to chase their goals, no matter how big or small they are. A huge shoutout to some of my year 6 sports leaders - Lacie, Elle, Libby and Aaliyah who performed all of the exercises all afternoon with each group, it was exhausting to watch!

A huge thank you to all that have sponsored the event so far. The deadline for this is Tuesday 4th February. Mrs Roberts



Wakeup Wednesdays

WakeUpWednesdays aim to equip every trusted adult with the knowledge and skills they need to keep up with the latest information, implement best practice and heighten their awareness of issues around three core topics; online safety, mental health & wellbeing; and climate change & sustainability.

Relevant to all parents and educators, from early years through to secondary school, our WakeUpWednesday resources can be accessed both on desktop and via our WakeUpWednesday app, providing instant and easy access to world-class expertise in the areas they need the most anytime, anywhere. Each week we will post a link or poster here to keep you up to date with the latest information and support.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children: they observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.

2 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree'. Using active listening skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.

3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING

Teach children about the importance of active listening: that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.

4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel..." or "I think..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.

5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER

When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on critiquing and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused this upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.

6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.

7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT

Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.

8 SEEK COMMON GROUND

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demonising each another.

9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.

10 REFLECT AND LEARN

After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

As a National Online Safety School we are a part on the National College.

They provide dedicated training and resources for parents and carers – particularly, around online safety and keeping children safe online.

Parents have got access to hundreds of courses, explainer videos and online safety guides to support your awareness of the online world. Topics range from understanding apps like TikTok and Instagram to recognising the signs of online harm and what you can do to help.

Signing up to the platform is simple. Just follow <https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/castlechurch-primary-school>

and complete your details. Once you're set up, you'll be able to choose 'Parent/Carer' as your user type and get instant access to all training and resources.

Download the National College or National Online Safety app for free to access resources on the go.

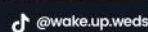
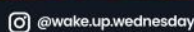
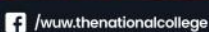
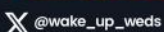


Meet Our Expert

The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) co-ordinate Anti-Bullying Week each year. ABA is a unique coalition of organisations and individuals, working together to achieve their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. They welcome membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/choose-respect>



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