

Castlechurch's

NEWSLETTER



A message from Mr Anderson-Pugh...

Dear parents and carers wow, this week has whizzed by at Castlechurch, and there has been lots of fantastic learning taking place across the school.

This week, our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils have taken part in a Sleep Hygiene Workshop delivered by the Mental Health Support Team. The workshop has helped children understand the importance of healthy routines, good sleep habits and positive wellbeing. We have also enjoyed our first educational visit of the academic year, with Years 5 and 6 visiting the local fire station to enhance their learning and gain valuable real-life experiences.

Roald Dahl Day was a fantastic celebration of reading and storytelling across the school. Children enjoyed sharing their favourite Roald Dahl stories. It was wonderful to see their enthusiasm, creativity and love of reading shine through throughout the day. Next week also sees the start of our extra-curricular clubs. Please take a look at the full list available on Arbor and encourage your child to get involved. Clubs are a fantastic way for children to develop new skills, build friendships and broaden their experiences beyond the classroom.

We will also be focusing on allergy awareness in our assembly programme, helping children to understand how we can all play a part in keeping one another safe. In addition, our School Council has been busy organising a cake sale for the children and a Coffee, Cake and Chat event for parents, grandparents and carers (please check on the allergy awareness letter which was emailed out on arbor). Please sign up via Arbor if you would like to attend. Together, we hope to raise money for the fantastic Macmillan Cancer Support charity while bringing our school community together.

Thank you for your continued support. I hope you all have a wonderful weekend, and we look forward to another exciting week of learning at Castlechurch.



Dates for your diary



AUT TERM

MacMillan coffee afternoon 25/9
Castlechurch at work: 29/9 EY, 30/9
KS1, 1/10 KS2
Parents evening 6/10
Academy photos 14/10
PTA disco 22/10

Facebook:

[\(13\) Facebook](#)

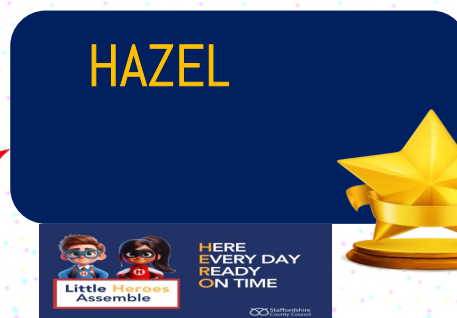
Website:

[Home Page - Castlechurch Primary School | Stafford](#)

Key dates:

[CFLP-Dates-for-2026-27-parents.docx](#)
[CFLP-Term-Dates-2026-2027-3.docx](#)

Class	Attendance
Hazel	100 %
Maple	94.5 %
Willow	93.64 %
Beech	98.8 %
Pine	99.55 %
Rowan	90 %
Cedar	96.07 %
Elm	94.29 %
Oak	90.74 %



PE KIT DAYS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Monday— Willow class

Tuesday—Willow/Maple/Hazel forest school—starting 8/9. Cedar PE

Wednesday— Elm/Oak

Thursday— Y3/4 (plus

Swimming Kit for those that need it). Hazel & Maple

Friday— EYFS

We come to school in PE kit on PE day

DROP IN DAYS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Monday— Hazel/Maple/Willow

Tuesday—

Wednesday—

Thursday— Little rainbows/Sunshines/Stars/Cedar/Elm/Oak Beech/Pine/Rowan

Friday— Food table on playground

Please find below High fliers price updates as from September 1st 2026



High Fliers

Before and after school care for Castlechurch



High Fliers



PRICES

MORNING INC. BREAKFAST 7:30 - START OF SCHOOL

£5.95 10% Discount for Additional Children

AFTERSCHOOL UNTIL 16:30

£8.35 10% Discount for Additional Children

AFTERSCHOOL UNTIL 17:30

£9.45 10% Discount for Additional Children

AFTERSCHOOL UNTIL 18:00

£10.55 10% Discount for Additional Children



LATE COLLECTION FEE - £5



"I like spending time with my friends at High Fliers"
- F.H -

"There's lots of toys I like playing with"
- R.P -

"I love coming to High Fliers as it is lots of fun"
- M.K -

"The best part is playing Lego with my friends."
- C.C -



Rewards and Celebrations



LR— Jessica

Sun-Lily

Star— Delilah

Maple— Mia

Hazel – Tallulah

Willow – Oliver W

Pine – Jessica

Rowan – Benji

Beech –Ralph

Oak—Jacob S

Cedar - Nikol

Elm— Kacey-May



Sun - Theo

Star—Jonathan

Maple— Arthur

Hazel— Isaac

Willow –Annabel

Pine – Ruben

Rowan – Ellie-Mae

Beech – Elsie

Oak— Antonette

Cedar – Yoana

Elm— Aubree



LR – Jessica

Sun – Oscar

Star— Lucia

Maple—Ezra

Hazel – Vidhi

Willow – Theo

Pine—Kiyiya

Rowan – Scarlett

Beech—Kaiser

Oak— Imogen

Cedar— Elsie

Elm - Joyce



	Week	Total
Fox	397	783
Squirrels	578	940
Hedge-hogs	490	941
Badgers	407	753

House Points



Lunchtime stars

Reception—Skyler

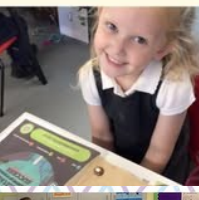
Years 1/2– Tommy

Years 3/4—Sarah

Years 5/6—Darcy



School in Action



School Community information



Our food table will be on the play-ground every Friday after school. It is donated to us by The Life Church grocery. A big Thank you to them.

Please help yourself!

The Heros and the Conflicts

The Narrator is
Stefan Amison

Special guest Martin
Stanley From the
Local Band The Naked
Sundays

The RBL Poppy Appeal Launch 2026

"Get your Free tickets Now."

Monday the 19th October 2026

1pm – 4pm

Alisha Steele



Marta Kelly



Year 6 of Castlechurch Primary
School

Introducing the "YBAND"

from Yarnlet Preparatory School
under the direction
of Jim Milgate-Scarrott

Written, Produced & Directed

By Paul Milgate-Scarrott

the RBL Staffordshire County Shield Award Winner
for Outstanding Achievement 2026
for the Poppy Appeal Launch 2025



At Stafford's

gatehouse theatre

01785-619080



MACMILLAN CAKE SALE

Friday 25th September



CAKE DONATIONS NEEDED ON THE DAY!

Shop-bought cakes only, please.



We'll be selling cakes and enjoying a café-style session in the school hall — a chance to enjoy a tasty treat with friends!

Donation: **50p per child**

Spare cakes will be on sale at the end of the day!



PARENTS & CARERS

Cake and a cuppa

2.15pm in the school hall

£1



Thank you!

School Council

RSF



Discover our FREE rail safety videos and keep your children safe by visiting raisafriendly.com

THE RAIL SAFE FRIENDLY PROGRAMME

The Rail Safe Friendly programme has educated over **3 million young people** on the dangers of the railways.



SCAN ME

DON'T LET YOUR CHILDREN BECOME THE NEXT STATISTIC



"I implore you to listen to Harrison's story"

Simon Frazer, Principal,
Gullsborough Academy

According to the **ORR Report**, April 23 – March 24 on UK railways:

12

people died in accidents while trespassing

58%

were struck by a train or tram

42%

were electrocuted

According to **Rail Safe Friendly**, July 25:

120+

companies support the programme

11,000+

schools in the UK have engaged

20,000+

UK schools still need to be reached



Our amazing PTPA do a wonderful job raising money for school. The money they raise goes directly towards providing extra resources and enrichment activities for your children. They welcome anyone that can help. You can do as much or as little as you want but every bit of help is amazing!

Our next meeting is on:

Thursday 24th September at 3.30pm in Mrs Cranwell's classroom.

It will only be about 30 minutes, please come along!



EXCITING OPPORTUNITY

Castlechurch Primary School situated in Stafford is seeking a committed and enthusiastic individual(s) to join our Local Advisory Board. As a member, you will work strategically with school leaders to support, challenge, and contribute to the continued success of the school. No previous governance experience is required as training and support will be provided. We welcome individuals with a passion for improving outcomes for children and serving their local community.

Key qualities:

- Commitment to improving children's education and wellbeing
- Ability to think strategically and ask constructive questions
- Willingness to attend meetings and training
- Interest in supporting the school's vision and values

Time commitment is approximately 6 meetings per year, plus occasional school visits and training.

Castlechurch Primary School, Tennyson Road
Stafford, ST17 9SY
Tel: 01785 334955

Please email your interest to office.cas@cflptrust.co.uk



Parenting Support Sessions

Free support sessions for parents at Stone Community Hub

Our sessions are a welcoming space to talk through any worries,
learn more about our service and find out what other
support is available

Upcoming dates

- Thursday 18th June 2026
- Thursday 16th July 2026
- Thursday 20th August 2026
- Thursday 17th September 2026



**Stone Community Hub, Frank Jordan
Community Centre, Lichfield St, Stone ST15 8NA**

For bookings and more details, please visit
sctsp.org.uk/community-family-support

School/organisation based sessions are available to book separately
Please contact daniellebutcher.fss@sctsp.org.uk for more details

School—notice board and useful information

DID YOU KNOW?

This menu has been proudly awarded the Bronze School Plates Award by ProVeg UK School Plates!

What we eat has a huge impact on the world around us. We've made small changes to create a healthier, more sustainable menu.

Eating less meat is one of the biggest ways to help the environment—and it can still be super tasty!



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

All pupils between reception and year 2 are entitled to a free nutritious school lunch.

Everyone automatically gets Universal Infant FREE school meals and can benefit by over £480 per child per year. If your child is in year 3 or above, find out if they could still qualify for a free school meal by contacting the school office.



SPECIAL DIETS

If your child requires a special diet for medical reasons, please check out our website

www.edwardsandward.co.uk

for a full list of FAQs and to complete our online form.



MENU

Spring/Summer 2026



edwards and ward
a recipe for success

WEEK ONE

WEEK TWO

WEEK THREE

MONDAY

Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) **or**
Rainbow Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V)
Veg of the Day
Chocolate & Vanilla Swirl Cookie (Ve)

TUESDAY

Golden Coconut Chicken Curry with Rice
or Classic Mac & Cheese (V)
Veg of the Day
Cinnamon Apple Cake (V)

WEDNESDAY

Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy **or**
Sage & Onion Whirl with Roasties & Gravy (Ve)
Veg of the Day
Fruity Jelly (Ve)

THURSDAY

Homestyle Sausage Roll with Mash & Gravy
or Plantastic Balls with Mash & Gravy (Ve)
Veg of the Day
Banana-Topped Strawberry Mousse (V)

FRIDAY

Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips **or**
Crispy Garden Fingers with Chips (Ve)
Veg of the Day
Chocolate Brownie (Ve)

23/2/26, 16/3/26, 6/4/26, 27/4/26,
18/5/26, 8/6/26, 29/6/26

Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) **or**
Rainbow Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V)
Veg of the Day
Vanilla Snap (Ve)

Spring Turkey Bow Tie Pasta
or Garden Bolognese Bow Tie Pasta (Ve)
Veg of the Day
Flapjack (Ve)

Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy **or**
Butternut Squash Hot Pot with Roasties (Ve)
Veg of the Day
Fruity Jelly (Ve)

Chicken Stir-Fry Rice
or Rainbow Noodle Bowl (Ve)
Veg of the Day
Banana-Topped Strawberry Mousse (V)

Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips **or**
Cheesy Bean Whirls with Chips (V)
Veg of the Day
Chocolate Brownie (Ve)

2/3/26, 23/3/26, 13/4/26, 4/5/26,
25/5/26, 15/6/26, 6/7/26

Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) **or**
Rainbow Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V)
Veg of the Day
Lemon Biscuit (Ve)

Sausage with Mash & Gravy
or Garden Sausage with Mash & Gravy (Ve)
Veg of the Day
Choco Krispie Bite (Ve)

Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy **or**
Cheesy Broccoli Bake with Roasties (V)
Veg of the Day
Fruity Jelly (Ve)

Penne with Beef Bolognese
or Sunshine Sweet Potato Curry with Rice (Ve)
Veg of the Day
Banana-Topped Strawberry Mousse (V)

Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips **or**
Crispy Garden Fingers with Chips (Ve)
Veg of the Day
Chocolate Brownie (Ve)

9/3/26, 30/3/26, 20/4/26, 11/5/26,
1/6/26, 22/6/26, 13/7/26

V - Vegetarian Ve - Vegan

Homemade Hero Pasta (Ve), **Filled Jacket Potatoes** and **Sandwiches** (including V/Ve options)

are also available daily along with freshly baked bread, salad, fresh fruit, jelly (Ve), yoghurts (V) and fresh drinking water.





Time Travellers Lunch

Caveman Campfire Drumstick

or

Aztec Temple Tacos

Tudor Smashed Potatoes

Wild West BBQ Beans

Flower Power Purple Slaw

Year 3000

Custard Cream

ATTENDANCE

WHAT THE NEW RULES MEAN FOR ME

1

I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week.

Your holiday will not be authorised and you must talk to the school before you book anything. Because your child will miss 5 school days you will be given a penalty notice fine.

The fine is £160 but if you pay it in 21 days it will be reduced to £80.

£160



2

FOR EVERY CHILD A PENALTY IS GIVEN.



+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160

4 children & 1 parent = £640

Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE

10 IN 10

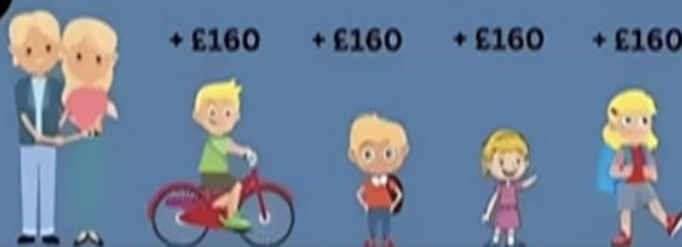
5

If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks and their absences are unauthorised. The school will consider prosecution.

1 Day = 2 Sessions

3

FOR A FAMILY OF TWO PARENTS



+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160

4 children & 2 parents = £1280

Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days

If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence or pattern of irregular attendance...

4

2ND TIME

2 parents and
1 child = £320
2 children = 640
3 children = 960
4 children = 1280

No discount for early payment



3RD TIME

A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court.

A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child

1 parent & 4 children = £10,000

2 parents & 4 children = £20,000

School—notice board and useful information

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. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about CHARACTER.AI

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Character.AI is an entertainment platform where users create and chat with AI-powered characters. These chatbots can act like existing favourite characters from movies or books, or like friends, mentors, or even romantic partners, responding in an emotional, personally engaging way. Although this can encourage creativity, it can also make a generated conversation feel like a genuine relationship, which is concerning if it takes the place of human relationships.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

AI replies are generated in real time rather than chosen from a fully checked script. Even with safety filters on, conversations can still move into sexual, violent, discriminatory, or self-harm material. These AI characters are often made by users, so a familiar name or child-friendly description does not guarantee that every response from the character will be suitable for a young person.

BLURRED BOUNDARIES

Characters on Character.AI can use the language of friendship, love, and empathy without ever feeling anything. Vulnerable young people may struggle to separate this simulation from genuine understanding. Romantic role-play or a character that demands attention, loyalty, or secrecy could also risk distorting young people's expectations around consent, disagreement, and the give-and-take involved in healthy human relationships.

UNRELIABLE ADVICE

Characters, like other chatbot platforms, are at risk of inventing facts or giving inappropriate advice while sounding completely confident. Characters may also echo a young person's assumptions instead of questioning them. This can become particularly risky when users rely on a character for guidance about health, mental wellbeing, relationships, money, or personal safety instead of checking with a credible source or trusted adult.

EMOTIONAL DEPENDENCY

Character.AI chatbots can appear endlessly attentive, supportive, and affectionate, which is one of the hallmarks of the generative AI models that such companions are built on. A young person may start turning to a character chatbot whenever they feel lonely or upset and believe that it understands them better than the humans in their life. This can become more concerning when chatting starts to replace sleep, schoolwork, hobbies and friendships.

PRIVACY CONCERNS

Character.AI chats may feel private, especially when a bot sounds personal and caring, but they take place on a company's online systems. Users could intentionally or unintentionally reveal their name, school, location, routines, images, or intimate concerns. Character.AI says some data may be retained to improve its services and AI models, so young people should never treat a chatbot like a confidential diary.

UNHEALTHY ENGAGEMENT

Be aware of warning signs such as secret accounts, bypassing age restrictions, hiding phone use from adults, chatting late at night, distress when access to the platform or character stops, withdrawal from other people, falling interest in school, or believing the character is conscious. Increased use may also signal that the young person is already lonely, anxious, or seeking help.

Advice for Parents & Educators

KEEP CONVERSATIONS OPEN

Ask what the young person enjoys about Character.AI and invite them to show you how the platform and their favourite characters work. Useful questions include, "Has it ever said something that felt wrong?" and "How can you tell it doesn't have feelings?" Avoid shaming them for using platforms like Character.AI or making them feel there is something wrong with them for doing so.

PAUSE, CHECK AND ASK

Teach young people to pause before accepting an answer from characters on Character.AI. Encourage them to check important claims against a trustworthy source and ask a safe adult when the issue matters. Never use a character as the sole source of medical, mental health, legal, financial, or safeguarding advice. Remind them not to share passwords, contact details, school information, live locations, or private images.

CHECK AGE, SETTINGS & LIMITS

Character.AI's minimum age is 16 in the UK, but open-ended companion chat is restricted to adults aged 18 or over. Users aged 16 to 17 receive a different experience built around guided 'Stories' and other creative or social features. Check their current settings, never help or encourage a young person to give a false age, and apply the same safety rules to other chatbot apps.

NOTICE AND RESPOND

Take action if chats involve sexual content, threats, coercion, abuse, self-harm or danger. Save relevant evidence, report the character and follow the setting's safeguarding process; educators should involve the designated safeguarding lead. If anyone is in immediate danger, contact emergency services. Childline is available on 0800 1111 and the NSPCC Helpline on 0808 800 5000.

Meet Our Expert

Darren Coxon is an educator with almost 30 years' experience across teaching, school leadership and governance. He works internationally supporting schools and colleges with AI leadership and governance and [insert NC courses I have written].



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 09.09.2026



This weeks Spotlight: Pupil leadership—job descriptions



At Castlechurch, we believe every child can make a difference. Through roles such as Friendship Champions, Sports Leaders, School Council Leaders, House Team Captains, Eco Leaders and Digi Leaders, pupils help shape our school and support others.

These leadership opportunities develop confidence, responsibility and teamwork while helping children live out our vision to **Achieve, Belong and Thrive**. We are proud of the positive impact our pupil leaders have across the school community. Leadership roles with the exception of head boy/girl the deputies are changed every term—giving every child at Castlechurch the opportunity to be a leader.

CASTLECHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL

FRIENDSHIP CHAMPION



MY MISSION

I help every pupil feel safe, happy and included. I look out for anyone who feels lonely, invite children to join in and help every pupil feel heard and part of Castlechurch.

WHAT MAKES A GREAT FRIENDSHIP CHAMPION?

- Kind, caring and friendly
- Respectful of everyone
- Responsible and reliable
- A good listener
- Fun and positive
- Trusted and truthful
- Uses good manners
- Helps everyone play and join in
- Wears the school badge proudly

Helping our children Achieve, Belong & Thrive

CASTLECHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL

DIGI LEADER



MY MISSION

I help other pupils use technology safely, responsibly and confidently. I show everyone how to make good choices online and where to get help if something worries them.

WHAT MAKES A GREAT DIGI LEADER?

- Promotes safe use of technology
- Helps everyone follow the SMART rules
- Encourages good digital citizenship
- Reports worries to a trusted adult
- Shares online-safety messages in class and assembly
- Helps organise iPads and the computer room
- Promotes Safer Internet Day
- A trustworthy and confident technology role model

Helping our children Achieve, Belong & Thrive

CASTLECHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL

ECO LEADER



MY MISSION

I look after our school grounds and think about the environment and the world we live in. I help Castlechurch become a greener, cleaner place.

WHAT MAKES A GREAT ECO LEADER?

- Cares for the school environment
- Promotes recycling paper and food waste
- Saves energy and water
- Encourages others to pick up litter
- Shares green ideas in meetings
- Cares for bugs and wildlife in our grounds
- Helps during Forest School sessions
- Supports eco days and shares messages in assembly

Helping our children Achieve, Belong & Thrive

CASTLECHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL

SPORTS LEADER



FOR PUPILS IN YEARS 5 AND 6

MY MISSION

I help make playtimes active, healthy and fun. I encourage teamwork, respect and sensible play, and I help every child feel confident enough to join in.

WHAT MAKES A GREAT SPORTS LEADER?

- Keeps break times active and healthy
- Organises games and sets up equipment
- Brings enthusiasm to sport and games
- Shows a positive 'have a go' attitude
- Keeps competition safe and respectful
- Helps less-confident children join in
- Promotes sportsmanship, fair play and rules

Helping our children Achieve, Belong & Thrive

CASTLECHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL COUNCIL LEADER



MY MISSION

I represent my class and share everyone's ideas in meetings. I take suggestions to teachers and staff leaders to help make Castlechurch an even better place to learn and thrive.

Our rules: Be respectful. Be ready. Be safe.

WHAT MAKES A GREAT SCHOOL COUNCIL LEADER?

- Follows our school rules and values
- Works together to achieve our best
- Speaks confidently in meetings
- Shares my own ideas and other pupils' ideas
- Helps with charity events and food collections
- Kind, honest and responsible
- A good listener and positive role model
- Shares opinions respectfully and uses good manners

Helping our children Achieve, Belong & Thrive

