

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Through the below newsletter, we would like to share the learning your children have undertaken during the first half of the autumn term.

As requested, I have included an outline of the comparison between our last Ofsted inspection in May 2022 and the school's position now for your information.

Ofsted May 2022 - What does the school need to do to improve?

☒ Leaders do not ensure that teaching delivers the curriculum consistently well, including in the early years.

Subject leadership is at an early stage of development.

Sometimes, teachers do not have a secure understanding of how to implement curricular thinking well. This leads to pupils' misconceptions not being addressed effectively.

Leaders should continue to take action to ensure that subject leaders and all staff have the necessary subject and pedagogical knowledge to teach the curriculum and check pupils' understanding effectively.

October 2024 - What improvements have there been?

Subject leadership has been significantly improved both through support from the school's leadership team and the Trust's Subject Leadership Network.

Teachers knowledge and understanding is continuously built upon, by the school's leadership team. This CPD adheres to the Trust's Teaching and Learning Policy and takes the form of weekly CPD opportunities that provide high-quality, inclusive education and training to all staff. Improvements to the school's marking and feedback policy have clarified the expectation for staff in relation to understanding what children currently know and what they need to learn more about to improve their knowledge.

Subject leaders ensure the proper coverage of the National Curriculum through robust subject specific schemes of work that allow for mixed year group classes. Subject leaders have raised expectations of sequential curriculum coverage and consistency of the building of skills so all children understand key concepts, and can transfer key knowledge to long-term memory and apply it fluently. Teachers use of subject specific, long term mixed year group plans, support this process.

Ofsted May 2022 - What does the school need to do to improve?

☒ Leaders' systems for identifying and adapting the curriculum for pupils with SEND are not secure.

Teachers do not make sufficient adaptations to ensure that pupils with SEND achieve well.

Leaders need to ensure that teachers know how to adapt and support pupils appropriately, so that pupils with SEND can access the same curriculum successfully offered to their peers.

October 2024 - What improvements have there been?

The new SENDCo has planned and delivered CPD related to provision mapping. These maps define current and next step learning for those children with SEN needs. These maps are enabling targeted adaptations to be made to meet individual learning needs of SEN children.

The new SENDCo has organised and ensured delivery of: CPD from the LA including: Quality First Teaching and Special Educational Needs Support Toolkit and Oxleas Speech and Language in the classroom.

Ofsted May 2022 - What does the school need to do to improve?

☒ Leaders do not ensure that all staff consistently manage pupils' behaviour and attitudes. As a result, the behaviour of pupils does not reflect the high expectations that leaders have set, and learning is interrupted in lessons.

Leaders must ensure that all staff use behaviour systems routinely so that behaviour is good across the school, including in early years.

October 2024 - What improvements have there been?

Principal empowered MDs to take further action should any child be seen to be behaving in a physically or verbally inappropriate manner including:

- o Immediate loss of playtime
- o Completion of a 'Think About It' reflection sheet

AP/Behaviour Leader defined sanctions and consequences for children being in breach of the RRS Behaviour Policy including suspension. Staff use of the RRS Behaviour has become more consistent and the restorative justice it promotes, is further defined.

Ofsted May 2022 - What does the school need to do to improve?

☒ Leaders do not ensure that pupils have a wide variety of enrichment

opportunities. Pupils' take up of existing clubs is low. Leaders should ensure that they provide greater opportunities for pupils to develop their talents and interests.

They should also check carefully that all pupils, including those with SEND, benefit from these activities.

October 2024 - What improvements have there been?

The PE Leader has sourced and introduced a comprehensive package of extended school sports opportunities from Get Schools Active. The representative from this provider has made himself available via a parents' assembly and by being in attendance at both of our recent parent evenings.

The PE Leader is reviewing the offer to ensure that those children with SEND are given the same opportunity to enjoy extracurricular learning experiences.

Have a safe and enjoyable break with your family.

Kind regards,

Mrs Bishop

Principal Castilion primary School.



Castilion
Primary School

Safeguarding

Meet the team : Miss Annansingh (Lead DSL)

Mrs Bishop and Mrs Whittaker (Deputy DSL)



Safeguarding- Everyone's Business

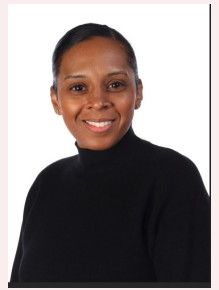
“Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone’s responsibility. Everyone who comes into contact with children and their families has a role to play.” Keeping Children Safe in

Education (September 2023). The safeguarding of children is everyone’s business and schools have a responsibility under Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 to ensure that their functions are carried out with a view to safeguarding and

promoting the welfare of children. This includes: Preventing the impairment of children’s mental and physical health or development; protecting children from maltreatment; ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes If anyone in our community has a concern about a child, they should do one of the following: Speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputy Designated Leads in the school.

Contact Children’s Social Services directly at Bexley, by ringing **0208 303 7777**.

Safeguarding



Miss Annansingh Lead DSL

Physical chastisement - what the law states

live in England and I smack my child: how do I know if this is legal or not?

As the law stands in England right now, it's illegal for a parent to smack their own child, except where the smacking is 'reasonable punishment'.

'Reasonable punishment' would not include any smacking that left a child with:

- swelling
- bruises
- cuts or grazes
- reddening of the skin
- abrasions
- scratches
- a black eye

London Borough of Bexley

Reporting concerns about a child. Contact the Police, by ringing **101 (non-urgent)** or **999 (emergency)**

If you're worried that anyone under the age of 18 might need help, or is being neglected or hurt, you must tell someone.

We know people feel nervous about speaking out in case they interfere or make things worse – but it's much better to be wrong than do nothing.

Taking action could help protect a child from harm.

If you're a concerned member of the public, you can:

- call Children's Services at the **Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)** on **020 3045 5440** and speak to a social worker. If you're worried you'll be put in a difficult position, you can speak to them anonymously. **The opening hours are Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm**
- if it's out of hours, call **020 8303 7777** or **020 8303 7171**



Safeguarding

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

YOUTUBE KIDS

YouTube Kids is a child-friendly version of YouTube which offers a colourful and easy-to-navigate environment that's suitable for young children. This app is easily accessible and available for mobile devices, which can be downloaded without needing the YouTube app on the device. Despite YouTube Kids seeming like a very child-friendly platform, it has raised concerns over its advertising and inappropriate content seeping through the curation process.



Stay safe online

SETTING UP

- 1 Download the YouTube Kids app and connect your own YouTube channel.
- 2 Input your child's name, age and birth month.
- 3 Select the types of videos you want to include for your child based on their age and your own personal choice.

- 4 If you decide to approve the content yourself, the app will present you with sample videos for you to accept and reject.
- 5 Once you've made your choice, you're ready to use the app!



Advice for Parents & Carers

<h3>REMOVE ADVERTISEMENTS</h3> <p>Like YouTube, adverts on YouTube Kids are also quite pervasive. If you decide you don't want your child being exposed to adverts, you can subscribe to YouTube Premium which will remove adverts on YouTube Kids. However, it's worth remembering that this doesn't block adverts that content creators decide to make as part of their content, and children are still able to access channels from branded fast food or toy companies.</p>	<h3>BE WARY OF UNSUITABLE CONTENT</h3> <p>YouTube Kids has a far lower chance of showing unsuitable material than YouTube, but there are still reports of malicious users deliberately uploading inappropriate content. It's important that your child feels able to talk to you if they were ever exposed to upsetting content in the future. It's also safest to report inappropriate videos: tap the three dots in the corner of the video and select 'Report'.</p>	<h3>DISABLE SEARCH OPTION</h3> <p>YouTube Kids allows you to disable the search feature, which you may find useful in preventing your child from unintentionally finding age-inappropriate content. Doing this will also give you more control over what your child is watching. It's also worth noting that setting an age limit will ensure that your child is only exposed to recommended videos that are deemed suitable for their age group.</p>
<h3>RESTRICT VIEWING TIME</h3> <p>The YouTube Kids app provides you with the option of setting up a timer to monitor and limit your child's daily usage, which automatically stops the video when it reaches the set time. It may be best to make use of this feature to prevent screen addiction - which can potentially lead to children staying up too late, affecting their mood and concentration the following day.</p>	<h3>MONITOR WATCH HISTORY</h3> <p>YouTube Kids has also made it possible for parents and carers to see what their children are watching on the app by clicking on the 'Recommended' icon on the top right of the home screen. It may also be worth having a look at what your child has recently watched by clicking on their history tab. The red bar on the video shows how much of the video has been watched.</p>	<h3>WATCH TOGETHER</h3> <p>It's important to make YouTube Kids a fun and positive experience for your child. This may require spending time finding channels and content that you and your child will enjoy and benefit from. Try introducing family sessions where you can share the most enjoyable videos that you and your child have recently watched. This can be a great way of giving you and your child many new things to talk about with each other.</p>



Castilion
Primary School



A message from our SENDCO, Mrs Whittaker

Welcome back all, it's been lovely to meet with so many of you during parents meeting week to ensure your children are receiving appropriate support to aid them in achieving their full potential. I look forward to continuing to work with you and your children over the next term. Please find details of the Bexley Local Offer with lots of parent information you may find useful.



The Bexley Local Offer is designated to help you find the service provider or information you are looking for to help you on your journey. If you are unable to find what you are looking for, or would like to provide feedback about the website or a service, please contact Bexley Local Offer service:

Email: localoffer@bexley.gov.uk

Telephone: 0203 045 5677



Castilion
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Rights Respecting Champions

We would like to welcome our new Rights Respecting Champions for this academic year. They all have been chosen to represent their year group to ensure children's voices are heard.

As a school, we are working towards our next accreditation, Gold so please look out for upcoming event.



2024 – 2027



Rights
Respecting
Schools

UNITED KINGDOM

unicef

Silver
Rights Aware



Castilion
Primary School

Sports leaders

Our dedicated Sports Leaders play an important role in keeping our PE equipment in top condition and ensuring everything runs smoothly during break and lunchtimes. They help organise games, encourage active play, and make sure everyone has fun while staying safe.



2024 – 2027



**Rights
Respecting
Schools**

UNITED KINGDOM

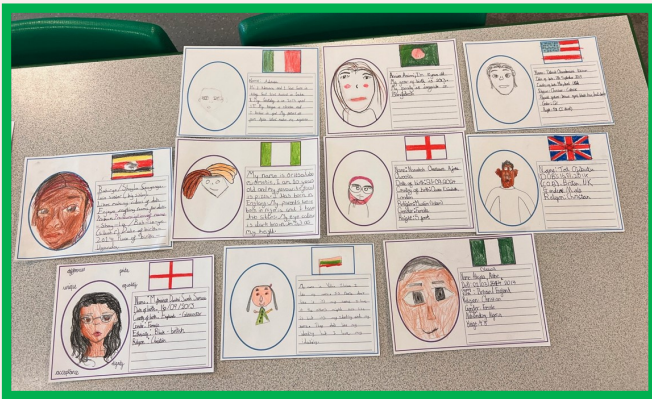
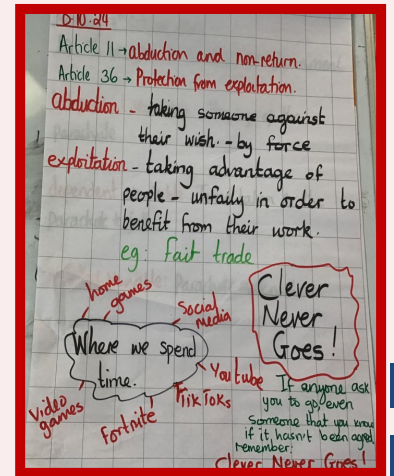
unicef 

**Silver
Rights Aware**



Rights Respecting School

This half term, the children have been exploring the articles below and have produced some fantastic outcomes generated from class discussions.



8

IDENTITY

7

NAME AND NATIONALITY

3

BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILD

36

PROTECTION FROM EXPLOITATION

Sports events

Skip2bFit is a fun and engaging physical literacy programme designed to boost children's fitness through skipping. Each week, students will take part in skipping sessions, where they'll track their progress by counting the number of skips they complete. We'll celebrate both the highest scorers and the most improved child at the end of each term, encouraging all students to stay



A reminder that all children are expected to wear the following

PE - children should come into school wearing their PE kit on days they have PE lessons

Indoor PE:

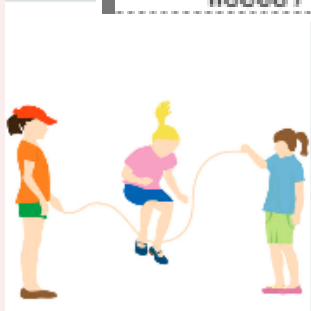
- Black shorts
- White T-Shirt
- Bare feet
- Black leotards are acceptable for Junior Girls (if they can change in and out of these quickly)

Outdoor PE:

- Black shorts
- White T-Shirt
- Black plimsolls or training shoes
- Socks ONLY - No tights

In colder weather (the following is allowed):

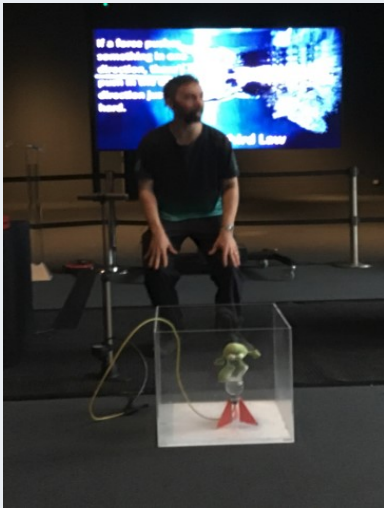
- Children may wear a green fleece (with or without a school logo) or a plain black tracksuit top / fleece / hoodie with black jogging bottoms over their PE kit.





Y5/6 trip to the science museum

Children in Y5/6 visited the science museum to attend a workshop all about forces. This supported their current learning in science. It was fantastic to see and hear all the children applying their knowledge which they have learnt in school to answer





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Learning at Castilion this term

Reception

Reception have enjoyed learning about Autumn time and Harvest celebrations. We have tasted and explored some foods harvested at this time of year.

The children enjoyed scooping the seed out of pumpkins and planted some pumpkin seeds too.



We also used some of the vegetables to create autumn tree prints.



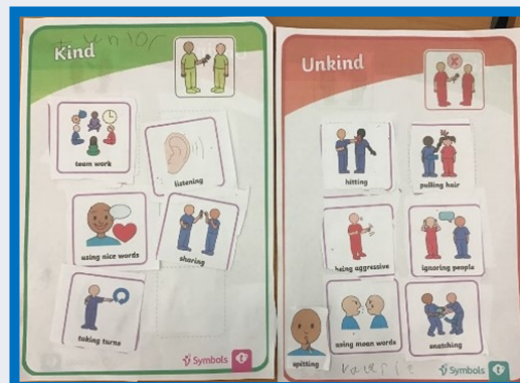
Learning at Castilion this term

Year 1/2

In Geography this term we have been learning about why weather changes and about the different types of wind which bring about these changes. We went outside with a tissue paper strip to investigate which direction the wind was blowing. We created our own wind collages using coloured paper



In RE this term we have been learning about Islam and Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). We have listened to different stories about the Prophet, of which one was about the Prophet and the cat. Linking RE to our PHSE lessons, we discussed which actions are kind and unkind towards others





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Learning at Castilion this term

Year 3/4

This term, during Year 3/4 indoor PE, children have been exploring bridge balances and the ways they can move in and out of them, over and under them, on the floor and on the apparatus. Pupils created sequences combining movements and bridge balances in pairs, applying flow, sequence and challenging their creativity.



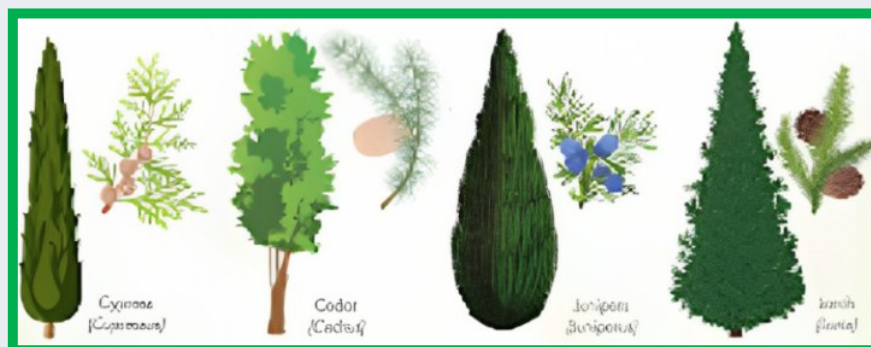


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Learning at Castilion this term

Year 3/4

In **Science**, year 3/4 have been working on classification of animals and plants. They went out to collect data in their local environment, to find living things: vertebrates, invertebrates, flowering and non-flowering plants. Then they came back to class and discussed what was found.



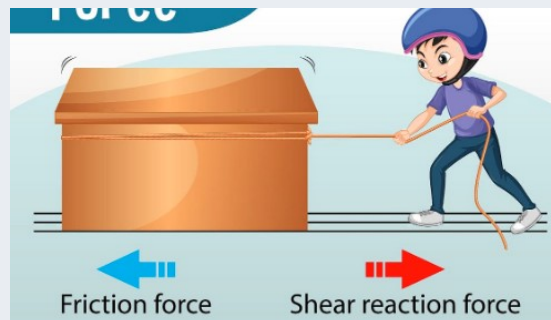
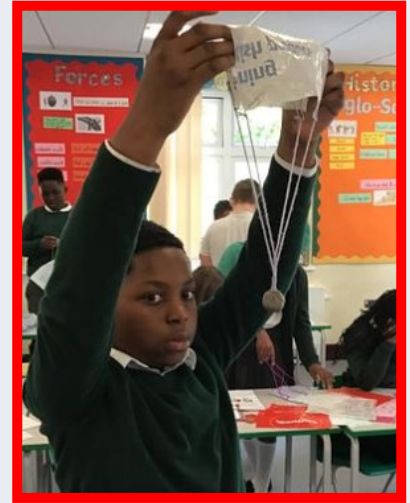


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Learning at Castilion this term

Year 5/6

In science, the children have been exploring different forces such as friction, air resistance and water resistance. They planned enquiries to find out if the size of a parachute affects its speed and if different materials affect the amount of friction that is created.





Learning at Castilion this term

Year 5/6

In Art this term, the children have unleashed their creativity, crafting colourful and imaginative packaging for their favourite snacks. From **playful** cereal boxes to vibrant juice cartons, the designs are bursting with personality and originality. This project not only allowed children to explore their artistic skills but also introduced them to important concepts of sustainability and branding. We are proud of





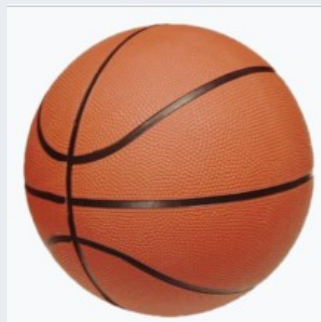
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Learning at Castilion this term

Year 5/6

This term in PE, our students had an incredible time focusing on basketball in Physical Education! They learned essential skills like dribbling, shooting, and teamwork through engaging activities and drills. It was wonderful to see everyone improve their abilities.

The friendly matches and skills competitions were a highlight, showcasing their





Castilion
Primary School

Rights Respecting Award

Reception



Congratulations to our Rights Respecting Citizens for autumn 1

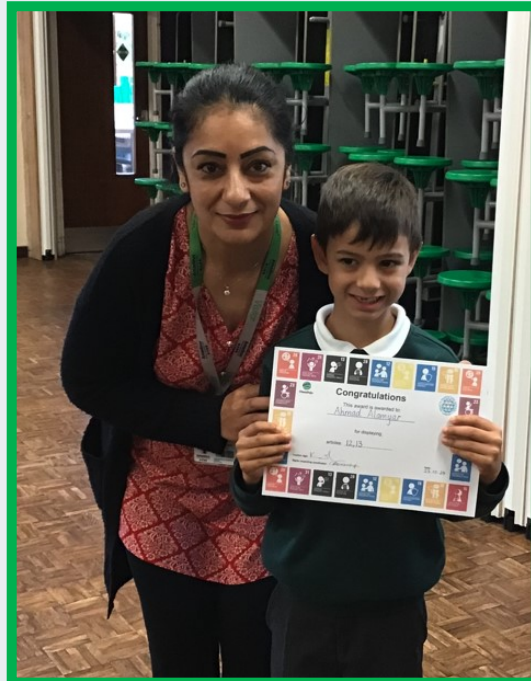




Castilion
Primary School

Rights Respecting Award

Year 1/2



Congratulations to our Rights Respecting Citizens for autumn term 1



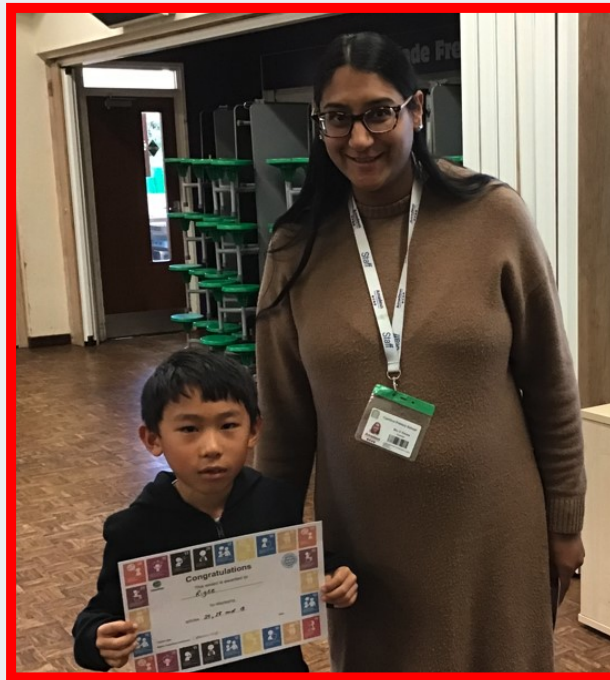
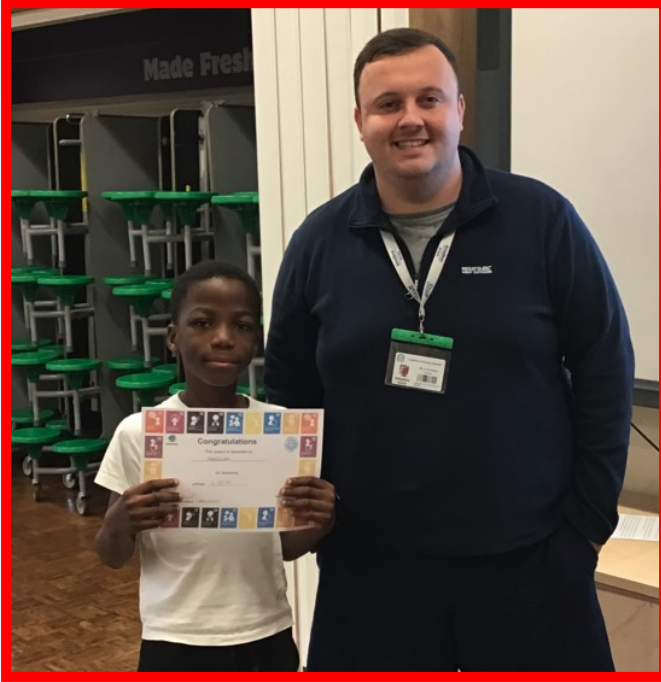
Amadeus
Primary Academies Trust



Castilion
Primary School

Rights Respecting Award

Year 3/4



Congratulations to our Rights Respecting Citizens for autumn 1

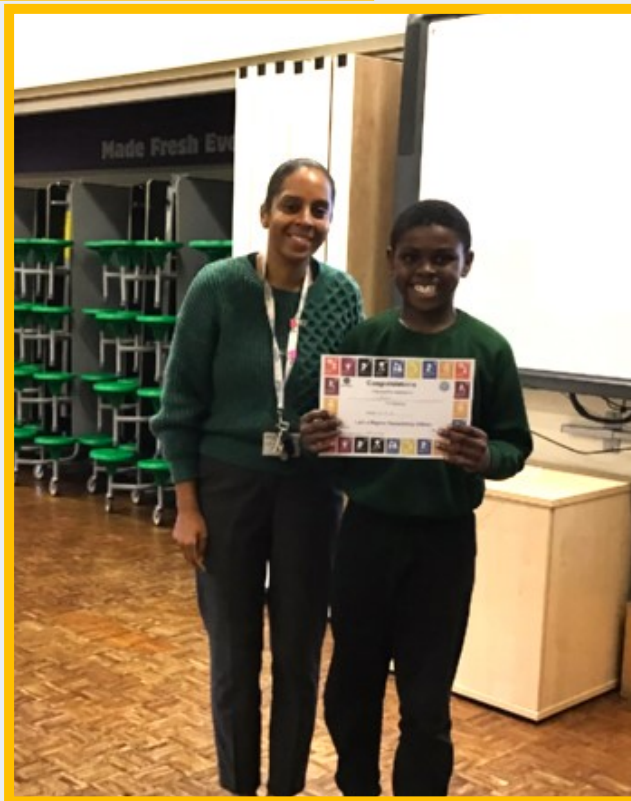




Castilion
Primary School

Rights Respecting Award

Year 5/6



Congratulations to our Rights Respecting Citizens for autumn 1



Amadeus
Primary Academies Trust

Uniform

At Castilion, we encourage our children to wear their school uniform with pride.

Here is a reminder of the Castilion uniform:

- ◆ White polo shirt
- ◆ Green jumper, cardigan or fleece (if you wish to purchase a top with the school logo, these can be purchased at www.mapac.com)
- ◆ Grey trousers, skirt, pinafore or shorts



Our full uniform policy can be found on our website;
<https://www.castilion.apat.org.uk/uniform>



Attendance



Under the new national framework, all schools will be required to consider a fine when a child has missed 10 or more sessions (5 days) for unauthorised reasons. From August 2024, the fine for school absences across the country will be £80 if paid within 21 days, or £160 if paid within 28 days.

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/02/29/fines-for-parents-for-taking-children-out-of-school-what-you-need-to-know/>

Attendance below 90% is classed as persistent absence and this means **your child missing 19 or more days during the academic year**. This is roughly equivalent to your child missing 1 day or more every 2 weeks, or around 6 days each term.

Arriving a couple of minutes late we might be tempted to think “well it’s just a couple of minutes” but over an academic year regular late arrival can look like this:





Attendance

Attendance explained:

When schools talk about attendance they tend to do this in terms of percentages. This can be really confusing as, for instance, if someone scored 80% in a test that would be a great score. However, these percentages look very different when we talk about attendance:

	100%	OUTSTANDING
4 SCHOOL DAYS MISSED	98%	VERY GOOD
7 SCHOOL DAYS MISSED	96%	GOOD
10 SCHOOL DAYS MISSED	95%	ALMOST THERE
11 SCHOOL DAYS MISSED	94%	IMPROVEMENT NEEDED
20 SCHOOL DAYS MISSED	90%	CONCERNED
29 SCHOOL DAYS MISSED	85%	VERY CONCERNED
38 SCHOOL DAYS MISSED	80%	SERIOUSLY CONCERNED
48 SCHOOL DAYS MISSED	75%	EXTREMELY CONCERNED
67 SCHOOL DAYS MISSED	65%	EXTREMELY CONCERNED
95 SCHOOL DAYS MISSED	50%	EXTREMELY CONCERNED

The same can be said about punctuality and lateness, when we arrive a couple of minutes late we might be tempted to think "well it's just a couple of minutes" but over an academic year regular late arrival can look like this:



We always understand that there are some situations that are outside of your control, and in these circumstances, we always advise parents/carers to contact the school to discuss.

We ask for your continued support with regards to attendance and punctuality and that you discuss the importance of good attendance and punctuality with your children to enable them to make the most of every opportunity to reach their personal and academic potential.

Attendance

Please do see the percentage of overall attendance by class for the first half of the autumn term

Class	Attendance
Y1/2H	88.3%
Y1/2K	95.4%
Y1/2T	95.3%
Y3/4Ca	96.2%
Y3/4C	95.3%
Y3/4SA	96.4%
Y5/6AO	95.2%
Y5/6H	97.8%
Y5/6J	96.8%
YRDH	91.1%



We are so proud of each and every one of the children who have achieved a good record of attendance during the months of November and December. AWESOME JOB! KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!



We would like to remind all parents and carers that it is important that all children come to school every day and on time. As a school, we take attendance very seriously, and regularly monitor this.



Castilion
Primary School

Packed lunches

If you provide your child with a packed lunch please remember we are a nut free school due to severe nut allergies. This includes products such as peanut butter and hazelnut spreads.

As the weather gets warmer you may wish to consider using an insulated lunch bag and where possible adding a frozen cold pack to prevent food going off.

If you wish to change your child to school dinners please contact the school office.

Our full packed lunch policy can be found on our website;

<https://www.castilion.apat.org.uk/catering>

