



# Castle School



Welcome to our latest newsletter.

We hope you enjoy reading all about our very busy Spring Term here in Castle. From nursery to sixth form, children and young people have been working very hard but also having lots of fun!

**'Let Your Light Shine'**



Look inside to see some of our highlights – Castle School Letting its Light Shine



## Chinese New Year

Our whole school was involved in an enrichment day in February around the theme of Chinese New Year. The children and staff came to school dressed either in costumes to do with their Chinese zodiac animal or their lucky colour. Each class carried out activities in their classrooms related to Chinese New Year including decorating circles for our Chinese dragon display.



Our Sixth form students made some delicious Chinese food for us all to sample. In the afternoon our classes all buddied up with either a primary or a secondary class and joined together to have some food, served by the sixth form students, and helped each other to put their circles on our Chinese dragon display.



*We also had an impromptu Dragon dance down our corridor with the fantastic dragon's head which was kindly made by Daniel's family. We had a brilliant time and enjoyed working together!*



# Castle News



Primary enjoyed 5 spectacular days with 2 very talented musicians from Jessie's Fund, taking part in whole class, small group and 1:1 sessions. We love having the opportunity to work with Jessie's Fund and seeing how engaged and responsive our pupils are within music therapy activities.



Thank You for your support



We had a fun filled day supporting Comic Relief and raised a fantastic £303.52



Our 6<sup>th</sup> Form students, who run a weekly 'Light Café' catered for the occasion and sold lots of tasty treats with a red nose day theme.



Tom and Ali also delivered some fantastic staff training, supporting staff to plan and deliver accessible music lessons for pupils in their class.

**Jessie's fund**  
MUSIC HELPING CHILDREN





# Great Big School Clean



## Castle Litter Heroes

For the second year running, pupils and staff across Castle School took part in the Great Big School Clean Up in association with Wilko, the Daily Mail and Keep Britain Tidy.



Throughout the day students from Primary and Secondary collected rubbish from areas within and close to the school grounds. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to be outdoors, making a positive contribution to improving our school grounds



Kerry from Northumberland County Council generously provided hi-vis jackets, gloves, litter pickers and bags to support our efforts.



*Well Done Everyone!*





# Castle Signing Choir



## Whole Trust Singing and Signing Event



For the second year running, hundreds of pupils joined together for our annual singing and signing event, led by Castle Choir. It was a fabulous event which brought our whole trust community together through music.

We were extremely proud of our choir, who represented Castle school beautifully singing and signing, 'This is Me' 🎵

Our signing choir get together each week with Castle Local Makaton tutors Lucy and Stef.



The Choir were delighted to be invited to perform at the Josephine Butler Easter Showcase



Our choir back in 2014 when they first started to perform together.





# Primary

## People Who Help Us

Key stage 1 have been learning about 'People Who Help Us' this term. Storm, Louise and Vicky's class have all enjoyed visits from our school nurse, Northumbria Police, Fire and Rescue and Postman Sean as part of their topic.



The children loved meeting PCSOs Lisa and Sam, from Northumbria Police and trying on their uniform



Vicky's Class enjoyed a visit to the Fire Station. The children loved having the chance to sit in the fire engine and going out into the yard to use the hose! They all had a blast!

A visit from Northumberland Fire and Rescue



Sue, our school nurse visited each class to talk about the different ways she helps everyone in our school.



A lovely visit from Royal Mail Postman Sean. The children had a fantastic time trying on a post workers uniform and scanning the post.



A huge **Thank You** to all of  
The People Who Help Us



# Primary

## Drama



Elaine's class enjoyed going on a bus journey in Drama. They had to keep a close look out of the bus window to see what they could see and whether they could spot anything interesting during their travels.

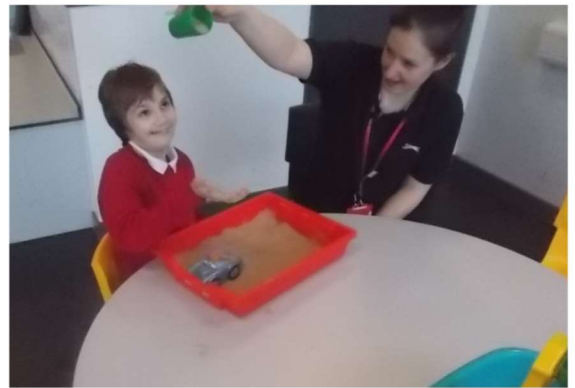


## Well Done

Well Done to our primary RDA horse riding group who all achieved their grade 1 this term.



## Science



Fiona's class have had lots of fun learning all about forces during their Science lessons. They particularly enjoyed exploring water and sand as a force.



Ruby's class have been learning all about magnets during Science and enjoyed carrying out a range of experiments.





# Secondary

## Fabric Faces



*Jack's class have had a great time exploring materials in Design Technology lessons. They have learnt how to connect fabrics using different methods such as sewing, stapling, sellotaping, gluing and using safety pins. We used all of these techniques to produce our fabric faces!*



**Oh No!! Where did my hair go!!**

Gillian's class have enjoyed a funny sensory story about a haircut that went very wrong!



## STUNNING CANDLE HOLDERS BY DAWN'S CLASS



Using carbon paper, they traced their patterns onto the wood before using a pyrography pen to burn their patterns into the wood. Students were very brave, holding the pen that heats to 250 degrees, but we think the results are stunning and could see these on the shelves selling in shops!





# Secondary

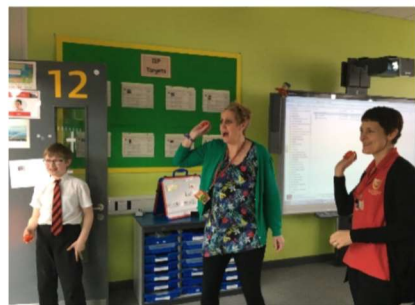
## La Tomatina



NATURAL ART INSPIRED BY ANDY  
GOLDSWORTHY

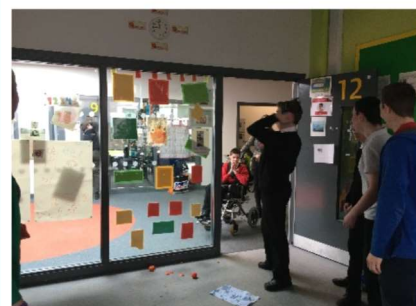


*Jane's class visited Newbiggin beach  
to search for materials to use to  
create some fantastic natural  
artwork*



Jen's class had lots of fun learning  
all about La Tomatina during their  
Spanish lesson.

La Tomatina is a Spanish tomato  
throwing festival celebrated once  
a year on the last Wednesday of  
August in Bunol – Valencia.



There was so much laughter, they attracted the attention of Jack's class. Jen explained all about the Spanish festival and they couldn't wait to join in!



*We are very proud of Ryan and how well  
he has settled into his work placement in  
the Josephine Butler gardening club. Mrs  
Parker and Mrs Marson presented Ryan  
with certificates for representing school  
so well when he supported the garden  
club on a trip to the Grainger market.*



The 6th Form Enterprise team have been hard at work this term. They made heart shortbread for Valentine's Day and they were extremely popular, a grand total of 746 heart shaped biscuits were made.



Every part of the process from taking orders, making the shortbread and packaging was all carried out by the students - they even hand delivered every order! Well Done!



# Castle News

## JOE'S DREAM JOB

Huge congratulations to Joe who has landed his dream job!

Joe turned 18 last month and was offered a job working in a bar for a few hours each week. For as long as we can remember Joe has talked about wanting to work behind a bar. When he was given the opportunity by Kathie at The Three Horse Shoes he was absolutely thrilled. Joe's story was shared on social media and quickly went viral, capturing the attention of the local media. Joe gave a fabulous radio interview and then his story was filmed and shared on the BBC Newcastle Facebook page (We've added all the links to Castle website) It has been heartwarming seeing all the positive comments and the message of hope Joe's story has given to so many parents.



Many of the staff in Castle School have had the pleasure of watching Joe grow into the kind, confident and sociable young man that he is today and we are all bursting with pride for him!

Well Done Joe!!!



*This photograph was created by Joe as part of his ICT work back in 2014*

## AkzoNoble Community Partners



**We are delighted to have been chosen as AkzoNoble's Community Partner for the year**

**Look out for more information and updates coming soon!**



# Castle News

We hope you all had a lovely Easter



Thank you to Vision for Education

A lovely surprise for our primary children on the last day of term, as the Easter Bunny hopped into assembly with a basket full of Easter treats. Thank you very much to Liam and everyone at Vision for Education – the chocolate eggs went down a treat!

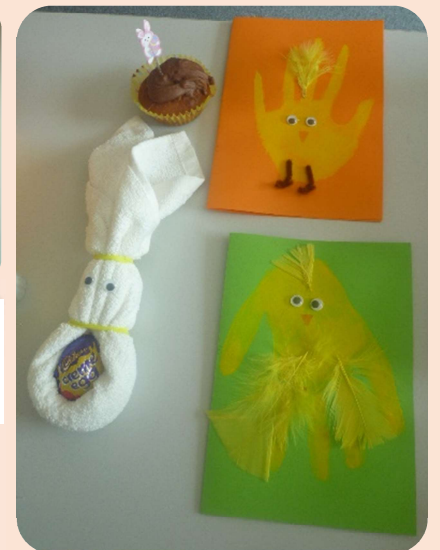
Thank you



Easter Tree made by Jen's Class  
Proudly on display in the Secondary corridor



Thank you to PK Education  
for donating Easter Eggs.



A selection of Easter gifts made  
by the Sixth form enterprise  
team.

We are looking forward to a busy and exciting Summer Term ahead.





**Castle School**

The Northumberland Church of England Academy

Academy Road

Ashington

Northumberland

NE63 9FZ

01670 844322

