

# Headteacher News



Term : Autumn 1 2017

Whole School Topic: Our Island Home

A very warm welcome to the first newsletter of this academic year.

It seems like only yesterday that we were welcoming our students back from the summer holidays. As always, it has been a busy and exciting term.

In September, we celebrated Jeans For Genes Day. Our students and staff ran different stalls such as a tombola. Working together they raised an impressive £208 for the charity which is very impressive.

Many parents will be aware of the exciting new piece of play equipment on secondary field. The pupils were involved in choosing the apparatus through our P4PC (Pupils 4 Positive Change) events and it has been incredibly well received. It is full of smiling children every break and lunchtime.

At the start of October we had a lovely whole school Harvest Festival at our local church, St. Mary's. This was a wonderful event which involved lots of our students singing and reading poems, including a lovely rendition of 'Big Red Combine Harvester'. A really lovely event.

You will hopefully know that we now have a shiny new website. You can find it at the usual address. Please go and visit. The website address is in the column on the right. I hope you find it useful and enjoyable. Please let me know if there are particular things you might find useful to have on it so we can try and keep improving your experience.

Some photos of our learning



Sporting successes



Musical Fun



Key Stage 4 collaboration



Harvest Festival

Please remember to visit our website at [www.thecastleschoolnewbury.org.uk](http://www.thecastleschoolnewbury.org.uk) where you can read more about the stories in the photographs above.

I wish all our students a pleasant half-term break. Please note that the last day of term is **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2017** and pupils return to school on **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

Many thanks, Jon Hewitt (Headteacher)

## Governors' News

As always, it has been a very active half term for the Castle. The governors have also been busy supporting the school and we are very pleased to be welcoming Carol Turner as a new community governor. Walking round a few weeks ago, I was particularly pleased to see the results of the refurbishment of the kitchen in Secondary House which has made the room much easier for pupils to use and learn cooking skills – the toad-in-the hole I saw looked delicious. The fantastic new playground equipment has also gone down really well.

Governors are working closely with the Leadership team to plan for the future as we know that, nationally, school budgets will be getting smaller. We are also focused on pupil progress – reviewing and monitoring the good work being done by the staff to track and enhance progress.

Please get in touch with governors if you want to discuss anything or catch one of us at a school event later this term.

Wendy Batchelor – Chair of Governors