

Castlefields Primary School, Castlefields, Bridgnorth, Shropshire WV16 5DQ

12th September 2025

#### **Welcome Back to Castlefields**

We have had a lovely, settled start to the new school year. The children have settled into their new classrooms really well and are working hard. It is lovely to see lots of happy faces around school.

#### **School Uniform**

All the children looked very smart this week; a polite reminder that the correct school uniform should be worn to school. This includes Castlefields PE kit on PE days. School hoodies and trainers should only be worn for PE. Please see the school website for full details.

Please remember to label all items of uniform; we already have quite a lot of unnamed items in the lost property box. This can be found in the outdoor classroom on the KS2 playground.

The PTA do have a selection of good quality second-hand uniform for sale. Please email: castlefieldspta@gmail.com

# The School Day

A reminder that lessons begin at 8.45am. Gates will open at 8.40 am to allow you to enter the classroom on time. Classroom doors and gates will close promptly at 8.50 am after which time your child will need to enter via the Main Reception.



#### Class Whatsapp Groups

A reminder that class WhatsApp groups are not run or supported by school. If you require any information about school dates or events, please do check the website or contact the school office.

# **School Vacancies**

We are currently looking to appoint a lunchtime supervisory assistant, wrap around assistant, L 2/3 Teaching Assistant and a L2 Teaching Assistant/Wrap Around Assistant. The closing date is noon on Monday 15th September. Full details can be found on the school website.



#### Medication

If your child has any medical condition including Asthma, please check that we have all the medication and up to date paperwork in school to keep your child safe and that it is in date. Please remember to inform us of any changes that have been made to your child's medical history.

All medication in school must (except for inhalers and epipens) be kept in the office.

## **Emergency Contact Details**

If any of your emergency contact details have changed, please could you inform the school office. These changes may include a mobile number, change of address or contact details. Thank you.

# Absence from School due to illness / medical appointment

If your child is unwell please remember to leave a detailed message on each day of absence (unless otherwise agreed) by 9.00 am via the dedicated answer line 01746 764072, choosing option 1. A polite reminder that if your child has sickness or diarrhoea, they must remain absent for 48 hours from the last bout of illness.

Medical/dental/optician etc appointments should ideally be made outside of the school day. However, we do appreciate that this is not always possible. If your child has an appointment during the school day, please provide details together with a copy of the appointment card to the office. Thank you.

# Pupil Premium / Free School Meals

You may not be aware that if your circumstances have changed, you may be able to qualify for 'free school meals'. By qualifying, the Government will also provide school with additional funding which can be used to support or enhance your child's learning such as extra tuition or support towards the cost of school activities eg residentials, trips, music lessons etc.

All children in KS1 (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) are automatically entitled to have a 'universal' free school meal. However, in order for us to know who might also qualify for the Government's 'free school meal' funding as detailed above, we encourage all parents (from Reception to Year 6) who might meet the eligibility criteria to apply.

No one will know (including School) if you have applied and it will not affect any other benefits. No child is discriminated against because they receive this extra funding and in school it is not apparent in any way who does and who does not have funding.

If you are unable to access the website we will happily help you complete the form in school. This will be treated confidentially.

We would therefore encourage ALL parents to complete a short application form online at:

https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals/

#### **School Dinner Money Account Balances**

A reminder for KS2 parents/carers to ensure that their child's meal account is up to date by the end of every week. If this causes you any difficulties, please do contact us. Thank you for your support.

#### **Healthy Snacks / Water Bottles**

Please can we ask that children's drinking bottles <u>only contain water</u>. Juice etc should only form part of a lunchbox. If there is a medical reason why your child cannot have water in their bottle, please do come and talk to us. Please remember to send your child to school with a water bottle every day; school does not have water fountains or spare bottles. Thank you.

Pupils in **Nursery and Years R to 2** are provided with a healthy snack every morning; there is no need for parents/carers to supply a snack. Pupils in **KS2** are encouraged to bring in a healthy breaktime snack eg a piece of fruit etc. Treats such as crisps or chocolate should *only* form part of a healthy lunchbox.

#### **Nut Free School**

It is vitally important that your child does not bring any food item into school that contains nuts. This includes items such as Nutella. Please could you help to ensure the safety of everyone in our school by making sure we remain a Nut Free School.



# **Polite Parking**

Where possible please can you walk to school. If you are unable to do so, please can you park considerately avoiding driveways and junctions. We have received complaints from residents that vehicles have been left parked in front of the school gates and also the turning circle. The school gates must be kept clear at all times. The top of Castlefields Road junction, is also very dangerous making it dangerous for parents and children to cross safely. The Highway Code states that the nearest you can park to a junction is 10 metres (32 feet).

In previous years, there has been a 'Walking Bus'. This is where a group of parents help walk children to school by meeting children at various points enroute to school known as 'bus stops'. Please see the attached flyer for details. If you are interested, please do come and talk to us. Thank you!

# **Nursery Places**

As you will know, Nursery is now open all day. We still have some places left so please could you let friends and family know we still have places available.

#### **School Cross Country**

The first KS2 Cross Country event takes place at OWS next
Tuesday. If your child is interested please sign up via the
Microsoft link. These events give children a great sense of team
and personal satisfaction. There is still plenty of time to sign up.

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Sign up form- https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/fSS8MUHpcZ

#### **Year 6 Secondary Admissions**

All year 6 children should have received a letter regarding the admissions for 2025/26. If you are arranging to attend open days within school hours, please contact the office. Thank you.



#### **School Clothing**

Just a reminder that we do try to take all children outside during break-times and lunch-times so that they can have some fresh air. Please remember to send your child in with a coat.

For those children in KS2, please can you send your child in with a spare pair of shoes/trainers that they can use to play on the school field at lunchtime. This is to minimise the amount of mud in school. These can be an old pair of trainers, wellies etc, just something that won't matter how muddy they get. At the moment, as you will appreciate, the field can get very muddy; if your child does not have a pair of shoes that they can use at lunchtime, they will be kept on the KS2 playground to play. If this places you in any difficulty, please let us know and we will endeavour to source something for your child.

# <u>Attendance</u>

Well done to year 1 with 97.3% and year 5 with 99.3% for winning this week's attendance cups.

# Every Day Counts



#### Early Years / KS1 Playgrouund / Clamberstack

Please can we ask that children <u>do not</u> use the Early Years/KS1 playground and equipment before or after school. A reminder that due to health and safety, children should also refrain from using the Clamberstack. Thank you.



#### My School Fund

Join my School Fund initiative to help boost our school budget!

Parents, guardians and carers can sign up to the scheme for *free* and start earning cashback on things they buy in participating retailers such as Sainsburys and Argos. As you shop, you receive 2% cashback in the form of an egift. By linking your spend to our school, we also earn 1% cashback which we then use to enhance the children's learning by purchasing items that would normally be out of school budget. Please see the attached flyer for full details.

## **PTA News**

Friends of Castlefields PTA are holding their AGM on Wednesday 17th September at 7.30pm in school.

This is a crucial time for the continuation of the PTA as the Co-Chairs and the Treausurer will be stepping down. In order for the brilliant family events and fundraising to continue, the PTA needs more people to join and work as a team to keep fundraising going. The PTA is so important in helping the school to pay for things that enhance the children's learning and experiences, all of which the school budget just cannot stretch to.

The AGM is held in order to elect new people into the available roles.

We understand that evening meetings are not possible for everyone to attend. If you are interested in taking on one of the above roles or to be a committee member but can't make the meeting, please get in touch with us before the meeting date via our email address:

castlefieldspta@gmail.com

We really do hope that Friends of Castlefields can continue to fundraise and support the children in school and hope to see you at the AGM.

#### WALK TO SCHOOL AND KEEP HEALTHY

#### A Walking Bus is important to school for many reasons:

- promoting a culture of fitness in school
- forming part of our carbon emission policy which makes us a more environmentally friendly school
- helping children's learning because they settle to work more readily if they have done some form of exercise in the mornings
- assisting working parents
- promoting community spirit within the Castlefields family
- alleviating parking issues in Castlefields Road and the Cul-de-sac

We see the Walking Bus as being an integral part of our environmentally friendly school.

Previous pick up points were:
Harley Way
Ludlow Road
Ludlow Heights
Stretton Way
Conduit Lane
Castlefields

The Walking Bus took place on 2 mornings a week.

Those of you that live further away could walk your children to a pick up point or even drive to a pick up point.

If any of you can walk with us (your keep fit regime too) we would appreciate your help.

This is a really important venture to enable Castlefields to start our Green Awareness Campaign. We need your help. Please sign up to help!

Thank you.

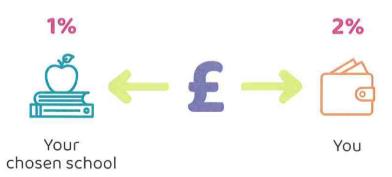
# How does it work?

My School Fund links your spend to your chosen school, meaning every time you make a purchase at participating retailers you both benefit through an innovative cashback scheme.



# What's in it for me and my child's school?

Both you and your child's school will receive eGift Cards to spend in participating retailers based on a percentage of your overall spend.





Add that all up across the school's network of families and together we can all make a big difference!

Visit myschoolfund.org and register for free today!

# **Getting started**



Step 1

Visit myschoolfund.org to sign up for free and link to your child's school



#### Step 2

Register your credit/debit card to your account



#### Step 3

Spend at participating retailers



## Step 4

Start receiving your eGift Cards!