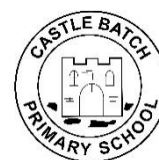


Castle Batch Primary School



Castle Batch Courier

Issue 1

Week Commencing 14th September 2026

Happy, Confident Children, Learning to Learn

Notes for the week: **14th September 2026**

Monday

Forest school - KS1 S&L Base
P.E - EYFS Batch Base (JB/RS)
P.E - KS1 - S&L Base
P.E - Yr 5

Tuesday

P.E - Yr 1
P.E - Yr 2

Wednesday

Forest School - Yr1
P.E - Yr 3

Thursday

Forest School - EYFS
P.E - Yr 1
P.E - Yr 4
P.E - Yr 5

Friday

P.E - EYFS Castle Base (HL/RS)
P.E - Yr 2
P.E - Yr 6

Headteacher Information

Stepping into my new role as Headteacher, I want to express my sincere gratitude for the incredibly warm welcome I have received from everyone across our school community.

It was wonderful to see all of our pupils on Monday, full of enthusiasm for the term ahead. We kicked off the week with a uplifting assembly on Monday focused on our key value for this term: Kindness. The children engaged brilliantly, setting a positive tone for the year.

The atmosphere around the school is already delightfully calm, focused, and productive. Class teachers have spent time establishing clear expectations for learning and behaviour, as well as refreshing everyone's memory on our core school rules. Pupils have already jumped into their new Maths and English units and begun exploring their main enquiry topics for the upcoming terms.

In the coming days, class teachers will start sending home reading books and homework assignments. We strongly encourage you to support your child with these at home—consistent reading, along with regular practice of times tables and number bonds, provides vital reinforcement. Should you have any queries about home learning, please reach out directly to your child's teacher.

To our new families joining us for the first time, a very warm welcome. Kindness and mutual respect remain the bedrock of our school culture, and I am truly excited to partner with you all in the year ahead.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable weekend!

Attendance and Punctuality

Ensuring your child attends school regularly and arrives on time is one of the most vital ways to support their learning and well-being. When attendance drops, children miss out on essential academic steps and social connections, which can quickly chip away at their self-esteem and overall progress across all subjects.

Punctuality is just as critical. Arriving even 10 minutes late each day adds up to a full week of lost learning over the course of a school year. Beyond the academic impact, walking into a settled, quiet classroom after lessons have already begun can be stressful and embarrassing for a child.

If you are experiencing challenges with attendance or morning routines, please don't hesitate to reach out to us—we are here to support you. You can also find guidance and helpful resources on the [North Somerset School Attendance](#)

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

Don't miss out on the education you deserve.



Punctuality:

LOST MINUTES =
LOST LEARNING!



Uniform

Our lost property bin is already overflowing with unlabelled coats and school uniform items. To help us return misplaced belongings to their rightful owners, please ensure that all clothing brought into school is clearly marked with your child's name. Any unclaimed items will added to our preloved uniform rail.

Clubs

We know many of you and your children are eager for our after-school clubs to get underway! Please note that there will be a short delay in the start of our club programme this term. Full details of all the exciting clubs on offer, along with instructions on how to sign up, will be sent out next week. Our plan is for clubs to officially begin the following week. (W/C 21.09.26) Please note if you signed up for Per4mance Theatre last term, this will begin 14th September. Thank you for your patience and understanding—we look forward to sharing the full schedule with you very soon!

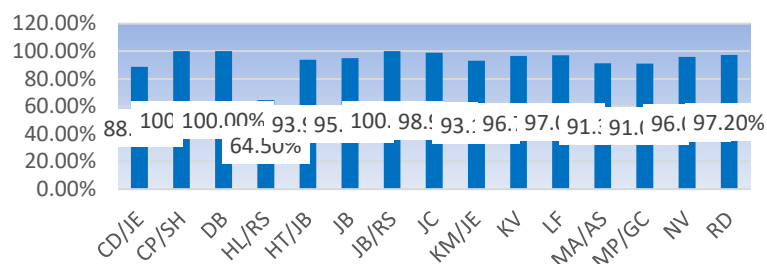
Staffing

I wanted to share a few updates regarding our school staff. Mrs. Lyndsay Daw has recently left our office team to begin an exciting new role, and we would like to extend our sincere thanks for all her hard work and wish her the absolute best in her future endeavours. At the same time, we are delighted to welcome Mrs. Maria Adamson to the Castle Batch team as a Year 6 teacher, where she will be job-sharing alongside Mrs. Sweet. Please join us

	in thanking Mrs. Daw for her time with us and in giving Mrs. Adamson a warm welcome as she settles into her new position.
Friends of Castle Batch	We are hugely grateful for the incredible fundraising work that FOCB does to support our school community. Due to recent changes, the core organising committee is now down to just a couple of parents. To keep this fantastic group running and continuing its vital work, we urgently need new volunteers. Whether you would like to join the team or simply find out more about what is involved, please drop a line to the school office. Every bit of help makes a big difference!
Scooters on the playground	A reminder to ensure everyone's safety, please make sure that children (and adults) do not ride bikes or scooters until they have completely left the school grounds. The end of the school day is an exceptionally busy time with many families moving around, and we want to keep all of our children and visitors safe from injury. Thank you for your continued cooperation and support.
Mobile Phones	To help keep all our children safe and respect everyone's privacy, we kindly ask parents and visitors to avoid using mobile phones while on the school grounds. Please keep your devices tucked away and on silent during drop-off, pick-up, and school events, and remember that taking photos or videos on site is strictly prohibited. If you ever need to make an urgent call, please step just outside the main gates or head over to our reception office. Thank you so much for your warm support and cooperation in helping us create a safe, happy environment for our pupils!
Reading	I am sure that you will agree with me when I say reading is the key to the curriculum and success in later life. I cannot think of a job where you do not have to be able to read. So much of what we do in our grown up, daily routines relies on us being able to read. For this reason, and the fact that snuggling up with your child to hear them read is such a joy, we really want to encourage you to hear your child read at least 3 times a week. It is really practise makes perfect! The teaching team are here to offer support and handy hints should you find this difficult in anyway. Please record what you have read with your child and sign this off in the reading record. If you have older children, they can write title and page number and you need just to sign. Building fluency in our older children is just as key as early reading so please hear your KS2 children read in preparation to be secondary ready. Facts Research and evidence tells us: • Children who read regularly have a greater vocabulary • Children who read regularly do better in their GCSEs • Children who read regularly are more confident • Children who read regularly are more likely to be successful writers • Children who read for enjoyment are more likely to have reduced anxiety and stress levels
Change of Numbers and email addresses	**Important** If you have changed your telephone number or email address can you please let the school office know so that we can update our records. We need to have at least 3 contact numbers for your children in the event that we are unable to reach the main contacts.

Parking	A huge thank you to everyone for helping make our morning drop-offs and afternoon pick-ups run as smoothly as possible! As the road gets busy at peak times, we'd love to pop in a quick, friendly reminder to please keep the yellow lines outside the school gates completely clear. Leaving these spaces free makes a world of difference for our children's safety, giving them a clear, safe view when crossing the road. We've recently chatted with our contractors to ensure their team and vehicles are doing their part too. We really appreciate your help, care, and consideration in keeping our school community safe and happy. Thank you so much for your support!
Term Dates	Please find below the term dates and INSET days for the upcoming academic year. We recommend bookmarking these dates or saving them to your calendar to help plan your family holidays around the school terms. Term 1 • Starts: Thursday 3rd September 2026 • Ends: Friday 23rd October 2026 • Important: Thursday 3rd September and Friday 4th September 2026 are INSET days—school is closed to students. Term 2 • Starts: Monday 2nd November 2026 • Ends: Friday 18th December 2026 • Important: Monday 2nd November 2026 is an INSET day—school is closed to students. Term 3 • Starts: Monday 4th January 2027 • Ends: Friday 12th February 2027 • Important: Monday 4th January 2027 is an INSET day—school is closed to students. Term 4 • Starts: Monday 22nd February 2027 • Ends: Thursday 25th March 2027 Term 5 • Starts: Monday 12th April 2027 • Ends: Friday 28th May 2027 • Important: Monday 12th April 2027 is an INSET day—school is closed to students. Term 6 • Starts: Monday 7th June 2027 • Ends: Friday 23rd July 2027 • Important: Monday 7th June 2027 is an INSET day—school is closed to students. Summary of INSET Days (School Closed to Students) • Thursday 3rd September 2026 • Friday 4th September 2026 • Monday 2nd November 2026 • Monday 4th January 2027 • Monday 12th April 2027 • Monday 7th June 2027
Promoting Attendance at Castle Batch	Current Attendance Overview: To keep you informed, we have included a chart below, displaying our overall attendance percentage and a breakdown by class. This transparency allows us to collectively work towards our attendance target and celebrate our successes along the way.

This weeks attendance percentage for each class



Learning Champions

We held our Learning Champions Assembly this week to award children who have worked hard this week.

Well done to this week's winners:

- 1 NV - **Darla**
- 1 CPSH - **Melody**
- 2 MPGC - **Oliver**
- 2 LF - **Ania**
- HT - **Jackson**
- JB - **Owen and Theo**
- 3 CDJE - **Rudy**
- 3 KMJE - **Elijah**
- 4 JB - **Whole class**
- 4 KV - **Lewis**
- 5 RD - **Toby**
- 5 JC - **Holly**
- 6 DB - **Bella**
- 6 MAAS - **Sophia**

Safeguarding

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Wayne Higgins and our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSL) are Miss Bonny Owens (Wrap around Care), Mrs Ruth Baltzer and Mrs Helen Lovejoy

Mrs Natalie Blower (Little Learners Deputy DSL) and Mrs Bridget Starr (Little Learners Deputy DSL) Here are some useful websites recommended by our DSL;

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

If you have concerns about your child at home or school, see the office to book an appointment. Alternatively, if you are worried about a child or young person who could be in danger please contact the police directly by dialling 101 and they will discuss with Children's Social Care what action should be taken. In an emergency always contact the police by dialling 999.

Care Connect

01275 888 808

care.connect@n-somerset.gov.uk

Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm.

Out of hours calls will automatically go to an out of hours team who will redirect you to an appropriate service.

Whats On!