

CASTLE HALL ACADEMY MAGAZINE

DECEMBER 2023





Characteristics of Exceptional Learners



Reasoning

I ask questions about my learning and independently work things out for myself.



Resilience

When things get challenging, I never give up and learn from my mistakes.



Responsibility

I choose to do the right thing even when nobody is watching.



Respect

My behaviour is exceptional. I show respect for all in my community.



Reflection

I take every opportunity to review and develop my learning and behaviour.

Work hard, be kind and follow staff instructions - everybody, everyday



Contact Details

Castle Hall Academy
Richard Thorpe Avenue
Mirfield
West Yorkshire
WF14 9PH

Headteacher:

Mr P Brook
T: 01924 520500
E: office@castlehall.com

It is important that we have up to date information for your child. Please inform the Academy of any changes to your contact details
office@castlehall.com

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's Head of Year in the first instance. Full contact details are within this magazine.

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the end of Cycle 1, I am writing to express my thanks for your continued support in all we do at Castle Hall Academy. As an Academy, we value your commitment in ensuring students keep a sharp focus on exceptional standards of attendance, behaviour and work, both in lessons and for home learning.

It was pleasing to see so many parents/carers at our recent Year 11 parents' evening. These evenings are extremely important for students, parents and teachers to discuss progress face to face. All parents' evening dates are detailed within this magazine on the key dates page.

I would also like to take this opportunity to offer a public thank you to Phil Shire, our departing Chair of Governors, for all his hard work, commitment, support and challenge over the last five years to the Academy and myself. He has played a key role in transforming Castle Hal Academy since the Academy joined Impact MAT. I am delighted we are retaining his knowledge and support as he takes up the role of Chair of Impact MAT Trustees. Allison Cranmer, Vice Chair of Governors, will take on the role of Chair of Governors from 1st January 2024. Allison has been part of the governing body since 2019 and has offered great support during this time. Allison has a wealth of experience in overseeing the management of the Academy.

The admissions window for year 6 applications for a place at Castle Hall Academy in September 2024 has now closed. We are extremely pleased to see first choice preferences have exceeded the number of places on offer. I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge current parents who have chosen Castle Hall Academy for their year 6 child. We are really pleased to continue to work in partnership with you and your children.

I look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 8th January 2024. I hope everyone has a happy, healthy and safe Christmas break. Of course, on our return, we continue to push forward with securing academic excellence, developing character, and raising aspirations for all.

Kindest regards,



Mr Brook
Headteacher





100% ATTENDANCE CLUB



We welcomed ALL these fabulous students to the 100% Attendance Club in November!

Students wear their 100% badges every day, being awarded the badge gives them special privileges.

It's a fantastic achievement 🙌



ANTI-BULLYING WEEK ODD SOCKS

Students were encouraged to wear ODD SOCKS on Monday 13th November to show that at Castle Hall Academy we do not tolerate any form of bullying.

Students who wore ODD SOCKS collected a 🌟 free 🌟 home bake during their break 🍰
#MakeaNoiseaboutbullying



ARMISTICE DAY & REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

As a school community, reflection and respect are two of our key characteristics and this act of remembrance is a key demonstration of these.



Part of our remembrance is to support the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.
Thank you to students and staff who donated.



ENGLISH ENRICHMENT

Both English Enrichment Clubs enjoyed their celebrations of reading and writing with milkshakes and doughnuts.

Well done everyone! 🍌 🍰 😊





Y8 BRONZE AWARDS



ENGLISH & LITERACY AWARDS



This is the season for giving. Well done to our advent calendar winners!

Their hard work and effort in English and Literacy have not gone unnoticed.

Lexia award for this young lady. For making fantastic progress by meeting her weekly minutes and showing an exceptional work ethic!





ATTENDANCE MATTERS

At Castle Hall Academy we recognise the importance of regular attendance and punctuality. We work in close partnership with parents and carers to ensure each child attends regularly.

Any absence must be reported to Mrs Toth, Attendance Officer by:

- phoning 01924 520500 and selecting option 2
- phoning 01924 523232
- Emailing studentabsence@castlehall.com

Please do this by 8:00am each day

This is the **only way** to report a student absence.





Y8 PANTO REWARD

We treat year 8 to a few hours of acting, music and comedy as they watched the pantomime, Cinderella. Students kept hope that good would triumph evil. There was lots of deafening cheering for the goody! Everyone also enjoyed an ice-cream during the interval.



CYCLE 1 EDUCATIONAL VISITS



Students enjoyed Cycle 1 Educational Visits to The Royal Armouries, The National Videogame Museum and Yorkshire Wildlife Park. These trips are powerful, teaching tools that enhance and consolidate current classroom studies.

Everyone had a great day!

YEAR 6 PRIMARY CONFERENCE



We were delighted to host the Year 6 Conference again this year. Students from across the Trust enjoyed the full use of our facilities. Several Castle Hall Academy staff delivered valuable lessons in Science, IT, Music and Drama.

Thank you to our amazing teaching and support staff teams who played a large part in making the event another great success.

Thank you to Mr Shire, Chair of Trustees for supporting the event and our incredible Prefect team.

Everybody, Everyday





Y8 HEALTHY LIFESTYLE DAY



The day was dedicated to promoting healthy lifestyle choices and raising awareness about the importance of taking care of one's physical and mental well-being.





COMMUNICATION

It is important that we have up to date information for your child. Please inform the Academy of any changes to your contact details by emailing office@castlehall.com

Your main point of contact is your child's Head of Year. The Head of Year team spend the day with their year groups in lessons, at break and lunch, they also supervise after-school detentions and support extra-curricular.

Please allow 24 hours for a response to anything that isn't urgent, this allows the team sufficient time to respond. Below is a reminder of their details:

Staff	Email – allow 24hrs for a response	Mobile – urgent
Mr Johnson, Head of Year 7	djohnson@castlehall.com	07708 795466
Mrs Bonham, Head of Year 8	lbonham@castlehall.com	07708 795385
Miss Fox, Head of Year 9	ifox@castlehall.com	07895 746870
Miss Clarkson, Head of Year 10	rclarkson@castlehall.com	07708 796626
Miss Ennis, Head of Year 11	cennis@castlehall.com	07565 399941





KEY DATES 2023-24

Academy Term Dates 2023 – 24

STUDENTS' FIRST DAY BACK

Year 7	4 September 2023
Year 8	6 September 2023
Year 9	8 September 2023
Year 10	7 September 2023
Year 11	6 September 2023

2023-24 TERM 1

Friday 1 September 2023 to Friday 27 October 2023

Holiday: Saturday 28 October 2023 to Sunday 5 November 2023

1 September 2023 is an inset day (staff only)

2023-24 TERM 2

Monday 6 November 2023 to Friday 22 December 2023

Holiday: Saturday 23 December 2023 to Sunday 7 January 2024

2023-24 TERM 3

Monday 8 January 2024 to Friday 9 February 2024

Holiday: Saturday 10 February 2024 to Sunday 18 February 2024

2023-24 TERM 4

Monday 19 February 2024 to Thursday 28 March 2024

Holiday: Friday 29 March 2024 to Sunday 14 April 2024

2023-24 TERM 5

Monday 15 April 2024 to Friday 24 May 2024

Holiday: Saturday 25 May 2024 to Sunday 2 June 2024

2023-24 TERM 6

Monday 3 June 2024 to Friday 19 July 2024

Holiday: Saturday 20 July 2024 onwards



PARENTS' EVENING

Year 7 Settling	12 October 2023
Year 11	14 December 2023
Year 7	18 January 2024
Year 10	1 February 2024
Year 11 Targeted	7 February 2024
Year 11	21 March 2024
Year 9 & Options	25 April 2024
Year 8	9 May 2024
Year 10 Targeted	23 May 2024

TRAINING/REVIEW DATES (STAFF ONLY)

1 September 2023
7 December 2023
8 December 2023
27 March 2024
28 March 2024
18 July 2024
19 July 2024



KEY DATES 2024-25

Academy Calendar 2024-25

TRAINING DAYS

Monday 02 September 2024

DATA DAYS (STAFF ONLY)

TBC

BANK HOLIDAYS

Monday 21 April 2025
Monday 05 May 2025

FIRST DAY BACK DATES

TBC

PARENTS' EVENING DATES

TBC

2024-25 TERM 1

Tuesday 3 September 2024 to Friday 25 October 2024

Holiday: Saturday 26 October 2024 to Sunday 03 November 2024

2024-25 TERM 2

Monday 4 November 2024 to Friday 20 December 2024

Holiday: Saturday 21 December 2024 to Sunday 05 January 2025

2024-25 TERM 3

Monday 6 January 2025 to Friday 14 February 2025

Holiday: Saturday 15 February 2025 to Sunday 23 February 2025

2024-25 TERM 4

Monday 24 February 2025 to Friday 4 April 2025

Holiday: Saturday 5 April 2025 to Sunday 20 April 2025

2024-25 TERM 5

Tuesday 22 April 2025 to Friday 23 May 2025

Holiday: Saturday 24 May 2025 to Sunday 1 June 2025

2024-25 TERM 6

Monday 2 June 2025 to Friday 18 July 2025

Holiday: Saturday 19 July 2025 onwards

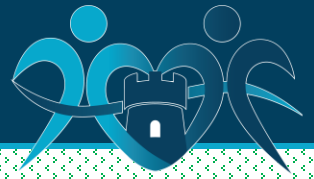




CYCLE 1 AWARDS

A few images of our fabulous Cycle 1 Award students. Well done!





CHA CHOIR

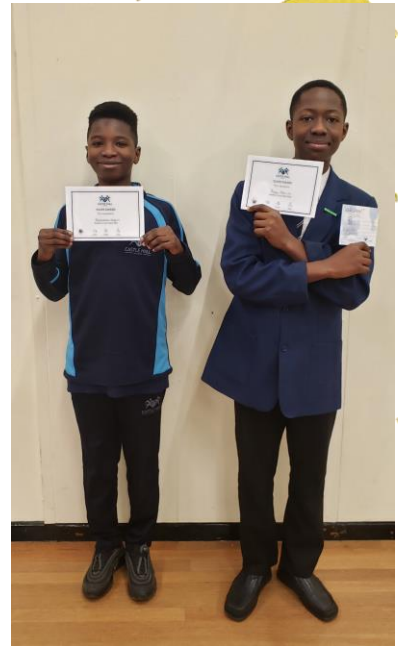
Our fabulous choir performing Christmas Carols and putting smiles on the faces of residents at Hopton Care Home. 🎄👶 A big thank you to everyone at the care home for inviting our students to come and sing to the residents and for making it a very special event for everyone.





MORE CYCLE 1 AWARDS

A few images of our fabulous Cycle 1 Award students. Well done!





YEAR 7 POP RECITAL

Musica Kirklees Pop Recital team entertained year 7 students at the end of Cycle 1.

Students and staff enthusiastically joined in with lots of dancing and singing.



CAROL CONCERT

Our Christmas Carol Concert at Saint Mary's Church, Mirfield brought everyone so much joy and happiness. Thank you to everyone who attended.





CYCLE 1 REWARD EVENT

Students celebrated their Cycle 1 achievements with fun quizzes and games, they all thoroughly enjoyed themselves.



YEAR 11 MOCK INTERVIEWS

Year 11 students took part in a mock interviews on 21 December. Employers from local businesses, colleges, universities, trust staff and trustees interviewed students.



CHRISTMAS JUMPER NON-UNIFORM DAY

We invited students and staff to wear a Christmas Jumper/non-uniform on the last day of term for a donation of £1.00. UNICEF who will benefit from the fundraising event is the chosen charity of School Council members.

Well done to everyone who supported the fundraising event. We raised £538.00



**4 ITEMS FOR
£2.65**



MAIN

Hot meal
Jacket Potato + 1 filling
Pasta pot + 1 filling
Sandwich



FRUIT

Apple
Orange
Banana



DESSERT

Brownie
Flapjack
Cake
Yoghurt



DRINK

Any choice
of drink

