



Dear Parents and Carers,

8th October 2018

This is my final parental letter of the half term, and time has flown quickly. It has been fantastic to see so many students involved in after school clubs and fixtures this week, and we had some good successes in football fixtures. If your child is not participating in after school clubs please see the link below and discuss with them if there is anything that they could get involved in

<http://castlemanor.org.uk/enrichment-timetable>



[Enrichment Timetable | Castle Manor Academy](#)

castlemanor.org.uk

Castle Manor Academy Enrichments Autumn 2018 There are lots of extra-curricular opportunities available at Castle Manor. Which one will you give a try? ...

We are also looking for support for our Maths games after school club, and if you have any strategy or logic games at home such as connect 4, rummikub, chess, backgammon, cards, that you would like to donate we would be really delighted to receive them! Mrs Humphry can be contacted on MHumphry@castlemanor.org.uk or please just drop anything you wish to donate in to main reception.

It is our annual Open Evening on 18th October. I have recently enjoyed meeting Year 6 students at their primary schools and have been very impressed with them. Do encourage any friends or family with Year 6 students to come along, and thank you in advance to the student helpers who will be with us on the evening.

I had the following event shared with me by a parent this week and thought it looked like a very good event to share for during the half term holidays.

Headteacher: Mrs. Vanessa Whitcombe

Samuel Ward Academy Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales with company number 07400386. The registered office is at Samuel Ward Academy, Chalkstone Way, Haverhill, Suffolk, CB9 0LD.



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We are working very hard with students and parents on attendance, with a whole school target of 96%. This is a challenging target, in comparison with national averages of just under 95%. Our current attendance stands at 94.5% so is below national expectations. One of the key factors that has impacted on absence rates this term is holidays, which we cannot authorise. I am also concerned that lack of access to GP appointments may be leading to students not getting medical treatment and perhaps being off school for longer than they would be with treatment. I met Matthew Hancock MP, Secretary of State for Health and Social Care last week and discussed this with him. I would be very interested to receive any information from you on this issue that I could collate and pass through to him when he comes to visit Castle Manor in the near future. Please do email me on VWhitcombe@castlemanor.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

Vanessa Whitcombe
Headteacher

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