



Dear Parents and Carers,

12<sup>th</sup> February 2024

This will be my last Headteachers weekly letter of this half term, which seems to have come round very quickly. A little later this week we will be writing to you to let you know the outcome of the 2 week half term consultation and are finalising arrangements for term dates.

Thank you for your efforts on encouraging attendance for your child every day on time. Our attendance has improved in the past two weeks following a week where there were clearly lots of illnesses circulating at the end of January. A reminder to please make sure you contact us promptly if your child is absent, and every day they are off if it is more than one day so that we can make sure all children are accounted for. We can support mild illness such as colds, coughs, sore throats, period pains and injuries at school. It is also really important to make sure you are not keeping your child at home if they are struggling with issues with friendships or worries. We can support and deal with anything that they may be facing, and keeping them at home can often make things worse and make returning to school more challenging.

Mr Gardiner has asked me to remind parents who have children going on the Madrid trip that there is a parent meeting on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February at 5pm in the main hall.

Our Ski trip students are heading off to Austria for half term on Friday afternoon. We wish them all a really amazing trip and give big thanks to our staff team, led by Miss Bushell, who will be looking after the students all week.

We have been continuing our work on our Arbor parent app, and making some tweaks. A big thank you to our parent champions - you should now be able to see PROUD points that have been allocated to your child and parents of Year 11 should see mock results. We aim to release the app to all parents shortly after half term and will be growing our use of the additional features over the rest of the academic year.

Last, but definitely not least a reminder that our school musical The Addams Family, is showing from 5th-7<sup>th</sup> March. Tickets are available on parent pay.

As always please do get in touch if there is anything at all you need. My email is [VWhitcombe@castlemanor.org.uk](mailto:VWhitcombe@castlemanor.org.uk)

Best wishes for the week ahead and half term.

Vanessa Whitcombe  
Headteacher

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