



Dear Parents/Carers,

28th January 2019

One of my highlights this week has been watching the local production of Aladdin at the Arts Centre. With several familiar faces from our school past, present and extended family on the stage it really was an impressive production, congratulations to all involved.

We have had an excellent success in volleyball with our under 15 boys team making the national play offs and this week progressing to the next round, we look forward to seeing the progress they make in this very exciting venture.

We also hosted 'The sense' and 'The stance' music and dance groups who worked primarily with our Key Stage 3 students this week. They explored issues of faith, kindness and different beliefs with our students, some of which was quite sensitive and a little challenging. I was proud of our students and the way they engaged and responded, and also challenged beliefs that didn't match their own, politely and confidently. The sense of British Values that we work hard to explore and instil in our students is enhanced by these kinds of experiences, and allows students to really think about their own views and beliefs while learning about others. Thank you to Haverhill Youth for Christ who offered this opportunity to our school. They fed back how impressive our children were.

You may have seen an article from Suffolk Police regarding an incident local to the school in Cambridge Close. I wanted to reassure you that the police are in touch with us and are working very hard on the issue reported to them. They offered us this quote from Inspector Danny Cooper to share with you 'I appreciate that people will be concerned about what they have heard and we are working hard to find out what exactly happened. We do not believe that there is a risk to the wider public or local people. We would advise, as always, remain vigilant, look out for each other and report anything you think is suspicious. Officers will be patrolling the area throughout the day'

We are delighted to have a residential trip planned for Year 7 and 8 later in the summer term. Mrs Baldwin has written home to parents but if you would like any further information please contact her on BBaldwin@castlemanor.org.uk

We also have launched the go for schools app, which gives very quick access to timetables, homework and soon PROUD points, keeping up to track with your child at the click of a button. Mrs Stoneham has written to you all about this, but further information can be accessed by contacting our Admin team on CMAAdmin@castlemanor.org.uk

Finally please can I ask you to talk about road safety and crossing the road with your children. We are patrolling outside school regularly, but do get concerns raised from the general public about young people not crossing the road safely. They seem to feel safe in large groups and don't always look or are not concentrating due to using their phones or headphones. We are talking to students regularly but your support is appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Vanessa Whitcombe
Headteacher

Headteacher: Mrs. Vanessa Whitcombe

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Castle Manor Academy
Eastern Avenue
Haverhill
Suffolk CB9 9JE

Tel: 01440 705501
Fax: 01440 714050
Email: info@castlemanor.org.uk
Website: www.castlemanor.org.uk