

Executive Head Teacher – Mrs Lyssy Bolton    Acting Head of School – Mrs Harriet Phillips

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The school office is open and you can contact school via the telephone if you need assistance

Our school latest news: <https://www.castlemead.wilts.sch.uk/news-dates/letters/>

Our Twitter feed: [@CastleMeadSch](https://twitter.com/CastleMeadSch)

There is some talk of a reappearance of snow this coming week, I will of course only believe it when I see it! The last flurry we had was delightful, not only because it allowed us to build snowmen but also that it happened on a Sunday so we did not have to make any decisions regarding the opening of school. I am not sure we will be this lucky again so I just wanted to prepare you with details of the snow plan. We will only close the school if there are not enough members of staff able to get in to open safely, the big difference in COVID times is we would try our very hardest to open to children who have two parents who are frontline critical workers and are on shift that day.

Criteria for frontline critical workers

- **NHS frontline clinical staff or administrators**
- **First responders (ie paramedics or those who support them)**
- **Police officers**
- **Firefighters**
- **Those in NHS support services needed to keep hospitals and clinics running**

I continue to remind you how proud I am of all of you and once again wanted to tell you this! My reflection this week is some of the words used by teachers to describe their stars of the week this week, the teachers used words like enthusiasm, determination, commitment, huge effort, sunny attitude, always trying their hardest. Children both at home and school are responding so well to their learning. I also wanted to say how proud I am of all the staff that continue to provide such amazing opportunities for

you all! Enjoy your weekend.

Warmest wishes

Mrs Phillips (Acting Head of School)



## Stars of the week!

Reception: **Willow & James**

Year 1: **Wilson & Lili H**

Year 2: **Zachary**

Year 3: **Natalia & Corey**

Year 4: **Charlie**

Year 5: **Isaac**

Year 6: **Nicole**

## Children's Mental Health Week

We have had a brilliant week celebrating Children's Mental Health Week both in school and at home. It has been fantastic to see and hear how the children have been expressing themselves. Look out on Twitter and Facebook for some lovely photos of what the children have been up to. Here are some great ideas of how we can continue to support our children's mental health going forward as they continue to learn about self expression and how to openly express and explore their emotions.

# Year 5 Noctule Bats Week in Focus!

We've learnt so much this term about the medieval period, it's been gruesomely fantastic!

What an active week we've had this week! After learning all about the Peasants Revolt of 1381, we have been writing our own speeches to persuade the young King Richard II to start treating us peasants more equally! We started by acting out scenes from the Peasants Revolt, putting ourselves in the role of a peasant.

On the theme of peasants, and life in the middle ages, we researched what sort of food they would eat during these harsh times. As it turns out, the oat cakes we made following a traditional medieval oatcake recipe were a little bland and not that tasty so we loaded them up with honey and they tasted much better!

We found out what sort of games and sports they played several hundred years ago. They happened to be a bit violent for our liking so we invented our own versions and played those instead!

Enjoy the wonderful pictures below of our year 5 learning.



## Google Meet Daily Lessons

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
1:00 – 1:30	11:30 – 12:00	11:00 – 11:30	10:30 – 11:00	10:00 – 10:30	9:30 – 10:00	9:00 – 9:30

**If you have any problems accessing any of our online learning systems, please do not hesitate to contact the school office**

## Home Learning

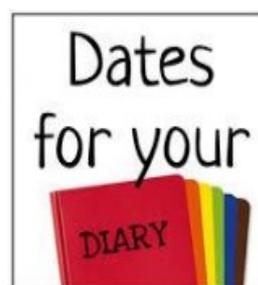
This week, we published detailed information about our Home Learning provision, which sets out what children, parents and carers can expect from remote education across The Mead Academy Trust when national or local restrictions require individuals, year group bubbles or the whole school to remain at home. It covers everything from how much work will be set, to how our teachers will feedback on work being done at home, to how we are supporting children who have additional needs. You can read it on our website here: <https://www.themeadtrust.org/learning/curriculum/home-learning/>

We have also continued to update our #LockdownLearning gallery, and now have over 150 photos in it! We want to gather pictures of what our children and their families are doing whilst they are learning at home, and would love to see what you have been up to. It might be a snap of your child taking part in a live lesson, but it could be anything – we know that lots of you are baking, doing painting, going for (chilly!) walks, and much more! You can share your photos with us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/themeadtrust>) and twitter (<https://twitter.com/TheMeadTrust>) and then they will be added to our collection here:



On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February, we will be celebrating Safer Internet Day. The theme this year is 'an internet we trust'. Children in school and at home will be taking part in activities to discover how we know whether information on the internet is reliable, for example whether we can trust influencers and how to tell when something is an advert. We ask that you access the Seesaw activity for Safer Internet Day with your child on Tuesday and have a conversation about the ideas shared. A great way of finding child-friendly information online is through a safe search engine, such as [www.kiddle.co](http://www.kiddle.co).

Thank you,



### February 2021

**12/02/21 \*\*Last day of Term\*\***

**22/02/21** Term 4 starts

**09/02/21** Safer Internet Day

### March 2021

**01/03/21** National Carers Week

**04/03/21** World Book Day

## Celebrating teachers

### Get involved in the #ThankATeacher campaign

Show a special member of staff how much their work is valued by encouraging your pupils, staff and parents to send a free [https://thankateacher.co.uk/thank-a-teacher/thank-a-teacher-form/?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://thankateacher.co.uk/thank-a-teacher/thank-a-teacher-form/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

Find more information on how schools can get involved with the campaign [https://thankateacher.co.uk/forschools/?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://thankateacher.co.uk/forschools/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)