

# Headteacher News



Term : Spring 1 2017

Whole School Topic: Dinosaurs

Welcome to the first Newsletter of 2017. A lot has been happening and I hope to capture a bit of the buzz here.

Our topic this term is all things dinosaurs! We have had pupils finding dinosaur eggs and helping them to hatch!! We have been measuring dinosaur footprints. We have been making volcanoes. We have been writing non-chronological reports. We have been using all subjects to look into the amazing world of dinosaurs.

We have also had a wonderful visit from the "Reptile Guy" and the pupils have been experiencing touching and holding snakes, tortoises and lizards!

Even though we are in the depths of winter, we are still tending those beds. This term the class teams have been trying to make them look nice and pretty until the real growth comes along in the spring.

On 1<sup>st</sup> February a talented group of students and staff from The Castle School provided catering at the West Berkshire Special Needs and Disability Information Day. They served about 200 people food with over 300 drinks being issued to happy customers. They all did an incredible job and we have been asked to do more catering!! This really does give our students such amazing work experience. Well done to all.

Please remember to visit our website at [www.thecastleschoolnewbury.org.uk](http://www.thecastleschoolnewbury.org.uk) where many more exciting things can be seen in the Castle News section.

Some photos of our learning



Discovering a dinosaur egg!



Our amazing catering students



Exciting reptile encounters



It might be winter, but class teams are still tending the beds

Please note that the last day of term is **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2017** and we return to school on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2017**. Have a really wonderful half-term.

Thanks, Jon Hewitt (Headteacher)

## Governors' News

Hi everyone, David Greenway here, I'm one of the Parent Governors at school.

Jon has recently sent communications out regarding a new initiative being launched; **'The Castle School Music Scholarship'**. In case you've missed this, it is an opportunity for pupils, who demonstrate the interest and ability to make significant progress in musicianship. It is a chance to receive funding provided from the Governor's Private Fund, to further develop their skills in either singing or playing an instrument. If you would like further details please contact your child's class teacher to discuss and to get an application form. The closing date for applications is **24<sup>th</sup> February 2017**.

I have been a Governor at school now for a number of years and have seen pupils, staff and our facilities develop over this period of time and I am always impressed by what can be achieved with the right leadership, support and dedication from both parents and the staff teams. The main focus of The Governing Board is to provide a safe and nurturing environment in order for our children to develop to their maximum potential. Here at The Castle I truly believe we continue to deliver outstanding teaching and support despite the current financial constraints we're all operating under.

If you'd like to find out more about the Governing Board and how we work or have any suggestions for us to consider, please feel free to contact me via the school reception and I'll get in touch with you.

Thanks for your time, David Greenway