



# CASTON NEWS

---

## Weekly Attendance

---

**Whole School Attendance –96.52%**

**Little Sparrows** – 100%%

**Finches** – 92.5%

**Swifts Class** – 88 %

**Robins Class** – 100%

**Owl Class** – 98.08%

Congratulations to Finches & Robins Class for having the best attendance figures this week.

---

## P.E Days

---

Please ensure your child/children has a named P.E kit in school for their P.E Days.

**Sparrows & Finches** - Tuesday

**Swifts** – Monday & Tuesday

**Robins** – Tuesday & Thursday (swimming)

**Owls** – Tuesday & Thursday (swimming)

---

## Coats & Umbrellas

---

With the changeable weather can all parents/carers ensure children have a coat in school and wellies if they wish to play on the field. A polite reminder also that umbrellas are not to be taken into school.

---

## Dates for your Diary

---

**20<sup>th</sup> Oct** – Robins Parent event 2:00-3:00pm

**23<sup>rd</sup> Oct** – Swifts Parent Event 2:00-3:00pm

**24<sup>th</sup> Oct** – Last day of half term

**27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> Oct** – Half term

**3<sup>rd</sup> Nov** – Children return to school

**18<sup>th</sup> Nov** – Sparrows & Finches Parent Event 2:00-3:00pm

**10<sup>th</sup> Nov** – Pupil Photos

**3<sup>rd</sup> Dec** – Owls Parent Event 9:30-10:15am

**19<sup>th</sup> Dec** – Last day of term

**6<sup>th</sup> Jan** – Children return to school

---

## Celebration Worship

---

Congratulations to all the children who received a certificate or gold star badge in our celebration worship.



**Sparrows & Finches Class** – Archie, Hudson

**Swifts Class** – Kayleigh, Stanley

**Robins Class** –Freddie W, Bear

**Owls Class** – Lucas B, Rylee, Skye

---

## Parents Evening

---

Parent Evening letters have been sent home. Please return the slip to the office if you would like to see your child/ren's class teacher and even if you do not require an appointment. Appointment slips will be going home next week.



# CASTON NEWS

---

## Parent Event Dates

---

**Class teachers would like to invite parents/carers to class events over the school year.**

**Sparrows & Finches** – Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> Nov 2:00-3:00pm

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2:00-3:00pm

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June – 2:00-3:00pm

**Swifts** – Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2:00-3:00pm

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 9:15-10:15am

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2:00-3:00pm

**Robins** – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2:00-3:00pm

**Owls** - Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 9:30-10:30am

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 9:30-10:30am

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2:00-3:00pm

---

## Vacancy

---

### **School Cleaner Vacancy.**

The contracted hours are **3 hours per day, Monday to Friday**, anytime after **3:00 PM**. The position covers **37 weeks during term time** plus **2 weeks of deep cleaning during school holidays**.

**Duties include:** Cleaning and sanitizing all offices, corridors, welfare facilities, and classrooms.

For more information, please

contact [info@spirecleaningservices.co.uk](mailto:info@spirecleaningservices.co.uk) or

call **01603 926100**.



# CASTON NEWS



**Year 5 and 6 girls visited Thetford Leisure Centre to play in a 5-a-side football competition against other local schools. There were 6 games in total. Caston got off to a flying start winning their first three games 1-0. After a short break the girls came back stronger than ever and won 3-0. The last two games we lost and drew. The girls were absolutely fantastic, working as a team and cheering each other on from the sides. Out of 7 teams, Caston came joint runners up of the competition. We are so proud of you girls! Well done!**

**Mrs Hodgson and Mrs Quick**



# CASTON NEWS

## How parents/carers can help their child have good attendance?

From starting at nursery, make sure your child arrives at school on time, every day. If your child must miss school it is vital that you let the school know why, preferably on the first morning of the absence. (All schools will have an attendance policy explaining how this should be done).

- Show an interest and attend parents meetings, concerts and other school events and ask about what your child is doing at school.
- Encourage your child to take part in school activities.
- Don't let your child take time off school for minor ailments - particularly those which would not stop you from going to work.
- Where possible, make appointments after school, at weekends or during school holidays. Remember, a morning appointment does not mean a whole day of absence. Bring your child back to school in the afternoon.
- Take family holidays during school holiday time only. Schools publish term time dates well in advance – use these to plan your family holiday.
- Encourage your child to tell you about any problems they may have at school. If you know or think that your child is having difficulties attending school, you should contact the school straight away.
- Find out regularly your child's attendance and absence record and check that this matches with your own records.

- Acknowledge, praise and reward good or improved attendance, even small successes.
- **90% attendance =**  
½ day missed every week!
- **One school year at 90% attendance =**  
4 weeks of learning missed!
- **Over 5 years of school =**  
½ school year missed!
- DFE guidance from September 2015 states all children and young people whose school attendance is 90% or below are considered to be persistent absentees.

Of pupils who miss between 10-20% school only 38% manage to achieve five or more GCSE grades A\*-C, including English and Maths."

Department for Education

### For further information

For information on school-related attendance, please contact your child's school and ask to speak to the Attendance Lead.

For all other attendance enquiries please contact:

Norfolk County Council Attendance Team

☎ 01603 223681

✉ [csattendance@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:csattendance@norfolk.gov.uk)

© Norfolk County Council 2019

## Improving Pupil Attendance in Norfolk:

### The Role of Parents/Carers

Good attendance at school is the single most important factor in ensuring that children and young people have the best opportunities in adult life.

#### Good attendance means...

being in school at least 96% of the time  
365 days in the calendar year  
175 non-school days a year! (all this for shopping, holidays and appointments)





# CASTON NEWS

## It's your responsibility

Parents/carers have a legal duty to make sure their child receives a suitable education. Most parents/carers do this by registering their child in a school.

If a child is registered at a school, they must by law attend that school regularly and punctually. Children should only miss school if they are ill or unable to attend for some other unavoidable reason.

If a child is absent and the school either does not receive an explanation from the parent/carer, or considers the explanation unsatisfactory, it will record the child's absence as 'unauthorised', and the parent/carer could be at risk of receiving a penalty notice or being prosecuted.

Promoting positive school attendance is everyone's responsibility.

**Most absences for acceptable reasons will be authorised by the school:**

- Illness.
- Unavoidable medical or dental appointments (if possible, these should be arranged for after school or during school holidays).
- Day of religious observance.
- Exceptional family circumstances, such as bereavement.
- An interview with a prospective employer or college.

**Some of the following examples are reasons why a school may NOT authorise absence:**

- Shopping during school hours.
- Day trips.
- Birthdays.
- Looking after brothers or sisters or ill relatives.
- Term-time holiday.
- Caring for a disabled parent.

**Failure to ensure a child's regular attendance at school is a criminal offence.**

If, with support from the school's attendance officer and/or the Local Authority, the child's attendance fails to improve, the school and/or Local Authority will consider any of these courses of action:

- Issuing a penalty notice (fine).
- Prosecution in the Magistrates' Court.
- Application for an Education Supervision Order in the Family Proceedings Court.

*"Young children don't play truant from school, they are off because their parents allow it."*

Charlie Taylor  
Government's expert advisor on attendance and behaviour

Research has shown that there is a strong link between levels of attendance at school and levels of achievement. Students with high levels of attendance tend to gain better results in tests and examinations than students with lower attendance levels.

