



MEET OUR SCHOOLS

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Rhonda Moore, CEO



The Castleman Academy Trust is a registered charity and our sole purpose is to “advance for the public benefit, education in the United Kingdom offering a broad and balanced curriculum”. The curriculum is the most important tool we have to help our learners make great progress.

All schools in the Castleman Academy Trust are committed to offering our children every subject in the National Curriculum. We don't just focus on Maths and English – although they are so very important and without them, the other subjects would be tough to cover! But we know that in our classrooms are the Harry Kanes, Mother Teresas, Beethovens, Steve Jobs, Tim Peakes, Einsteins and Renoirs of the future. We know we are going to need skilled plumbers, plasterers, mechanics, computer programmers, nurses, doctors and police to help us live. We are going to need great parents who can guide their own children through their own lives.

The world has, and will continue to have, big problems to sort out. If we don't have children who grow up to be educated great adults, who are compassionate, kind, hard working and hopeful, how will those problems be solved? The children of today need to learn how to question and not just accept what they hear as total truth, by only listening only to those who agree with them.

With a broad and balanced curriculum, we can enable children to try things they never thought they could, discover interests and passions that lead them to doing innovative things when they're older and most importantly, enjoy their school days. Childhood passes all too quickly, so we need to make sure our children milk every bit of it and look back on it with joy. No one ever remembers running in from the playground to fill in a maths sheet. But they do remember the science experiment that made their hair stand on end, the shop they ran where they learned all about money or the trip they went on to learn about the coastline.

They remember the visitors that came in to school and inspired them to be musicians, astrologers, authors and sports enthusiasts . . . the visitors and their stories of achieving their goals, even though it was tough and took a lot of time to be an “overnight success”. The children learn how people who do great things rarely do it on their own – there are always people who have helped them along the way, believing in them and cheering them on.

All the schools in our Trust are working on their curriculum so that it really excites our youngsters and prepares them for an unknown future. We are working to make them independent thinkers and learners, but confident to ask for help when it's needed – and give it joyfully when asked! We're developing a curriculum that helps them understand how to take care of our planet and each other. We're developing a curriculum that teaches them kindness and compassion – the sort of people we as adults want looking after us when we are old.

Our schools are working hard to make school joyful for our children. Thank you for your continuing support and hard work as we continue to learn together.

Rhonda



BROADSTONE
FIRST SCHOOL



BROADSTONE
MIDDLE SCHOOL



Ferndown First School
Where every child matters



Ferndown
Middle School



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Mark Grigsby Chair of the Trust Board



The school year continues to fly by, with so many amazing things going on across our five Trust schools. It is a pleasure for the board for see all the great work being done to drive excellence in curriculum delivery in every school, as well as so many extra-curricular opportunities for our children.

Growing and developing the quality of education in each of our schools is one of the most important things that we support as a board, and the collaboration between the staff across all our schools is one of the best ways in which this comes to life. Our Trust expansion happened during the pandemic, and as restrictions were relaxed one of the most eagerly anticipated things for our staff, especially for our senior leaders, was being able to get together in person to learn and grow together. This has continued to come on leaps and bounds this school year, with a genuine sense of excitement from our school leaders as they learn from one another. While we proudly maintain the unique identity in each of our schools, it is exciting when we find each school has the same need and that by working together we can find a better solution for all at the same time.

As a group of Trustees and Governors, we also get great value from getting together in person, which we do several times a year to learn from one another and to develop our skills. We are lucky to have so many committed volunteers taking up governance/trustee roles, and without exception each person adds value to the team.

If you've always wondered 'What do governors/trustees really do?' or have any questions at all, please do get in touch with me via email at mgrigsby@castlemanacademytrust.co.uk and I'd be happy to chat.

John Bagwell Head Teacher Parley First School



Children First, Always

Turn Tabling at Parley

You definitely know that we are in 2023 when you see a class of Year 3 children in deep concentration all with headphones on and intently focused on the beat!

Turntabling has come to Parley as we pilot a project across Dorset. The school has been provided with a set of turntables and the teachers have been trained to give lessons as part of the Music for All philosophy. This is a very modern twist on everyone learning a traditional instrument such as the Violin or Samba.

Although in the very early stages, the children have improved their skills very quickly using vinyl records to compose sets with different rhythms and beats. The technology is also being used as children can share their 'sets' via Bluetooth technology across the classroom.

You never know! We may well have the world class DJ's of the future and if we don't, hopefully children will be inspired to use music as another tool to improve their own well-being and mental health.



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Ferndown First School
Where every child matters



Sean Watts
Head Teacher
Ferndown First School

Spotlight on Year 2!

Year 2 have been enjoying lots of exciting opportunities!

Children enjoyed the opportunity to take part in a Chinese music workshop at Ferndown Middle school. They loved playing the large drums, learning simple rhythms and learning about Chinese New Year. Seeing the Chinese Dragon was a hit!



Dorset Art Prize - Primary School Category First Prize Winners

We were delighted to have won first place in the 2022 Dorset Arts Prize.



The theme for the 2022 Dorset Art Prize was Messages. Entrants were encouraged to interpret and explore this theme in broad and figurative ways, as well as more literal considerations on the theme.

Themes that children considered included challenging gender stereotypes, protecting the environment and messages written to our future selves. Children took inspiration from artists such as Keith Haring, Jaume Plensa, Henry Moore and Andy Warhol.

The results were striking and the messages powerful.

Children enjoyed learning about The Titanic.

This is always a popular history unit that children look forward to. Key learning includes the events that led up to the fateful sinking, how life on board was different for first, second and third class passengers and the legacy of the Titanic being the provision of lifeboats for all passengers and crew.

As part of the topic, Year 2 welcomed a visit from the Sea City Museum, Southampton. Children enjoyed handling artefacts, listening to the stories of people who were on board and dressing up as passengers. The culmination of the children's learning was a special assembly for parents to show off their learning. It was fab!



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Gill Allen
 Head Teacher
 Ferndown Middle School



**Ferndown
 Middle School**

School Council

Since reforming the Student Council, we have assisted the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) with decisions regarding the new reward and house-point system, as well as how we promote diversity and inclusion.

Most importantly, we have written to our local MP, Sir Christopher Chope. We felt that we had to do this following so many issues with parking outside of our school in both the mornings and afternoons. Whilst we appreciate the need to drop off children, we are very concerned that by doing this, the children are placed in significant danger. We have had too many near misses and accidents. Recently, five cars were involved in an accident – thankfully, no-one was seriously hurt but for those involved and those who witnessed this, it was quite traumatic.

We have also been out to monitor the situation for ourselves, which was very interesting. Sir Chope came to Ferndown Middle and listened to our very real concerns and has given us some advice. We are in the process of contacting the council and Mayor to seek their assistance in managing this issue; leading to a safer environment for all.

Eco Council News



The Eco reps have been working really hard this year on our energy topic for the renewal of our Eco Schools Green Flag award. We launched “Switch It Off Fortnight” back in October. Energy reminders for lights and whiteboards are in all classrooms and we regularly spot-check rooms and challenge the staff (we enjoy this part!). We are really pleased to see everyone being conscious of their energy use and less energy being wasted. Eco reps also enjoyed getting mucky one lunchtime planting shrubs, flowers and bulbs in our new gazebo area.

This term, we are excited to be working with a Bike It officer from Dorset County Council to promote and raise awareness of alternative travel to school and the potential effects of travelling by car. We have lots of activities planned. Watch this space for further updates!

We are also busy continuing the eco actions which we started last year. A bird feeder is topped up at the front of the school and we look forward to the birds using our many homemade birdhouses in the spring to raise their young. Reps continue to look after their class plant with some even taking them home over the holidays.

Finally, we have collected an impressive three large boxes of broken pens over the last six months which have been sent to Ellie’s Fund - Yorkshire’s Brain Tumour charity via Win on Waste to be recycled and raise money for the charity. The Eco reps have worked so hard, are passionate and have brilliant ideas and are ready to tackle any challenge. We are really proud of what they have achieved.



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Dawn Wilks
Executive Headteacher



Jade Palmer
Head of School
Broadstone Middle School

At Broadstone Middle School we have been busy developing our curriculum and ensuring the key learning is explicit and progressive. Alongside our mainstream curriculum we are passionate about developing our pupils' extra-curricular opportunities. Through our University of Broadstone Curriculum we provide planned modules that are in addition to our curriculum offer. Pupils have an opportunity to try something new and see if they have a talent or passion for this and potentially explore further outside of school. We have reviewed our after-school clubs and these are now much broader than sporting activities. From Cartoonist Club, Puzzler Solvers to Warhammer, the pupils have a wide variety of options and possibilities to get involved, learn new skills and meet new people!

During the autumn and spring term our pupils have been busy showcasing the outcomes at the UBC outcome day and representing the school in fixtures. Our year 8 boys football team have been playing incredibly well as a squad and even secured a 17 – 0 win against a local team! Our KS2 girls football team recently took part in a tri-school tournament after topping their group in the Autumn. Stepping up to a higher level, the team put in two great performances, narrowly losing each game. It was great to see how much the girls have built their skills with all of the team showing resilience and determination.

After the half term we have a number of pupils who will be representing the school at 'The Great Big Dance Off' in Bath, 'Dance Live' at the Poole Lighthouse and 'Voice in a Million' at the Royal Albert Hall. The pupils have been busy rehearsing and are working towards their final performances. We are so proud of each and everyone of them and wish them the best of luck in their events.



After School Clubs

BFS are committed to supporting our learner's social, emotional and cognitive development beyond the school day.

We offer a variety of Key Stage specific clubs from Gardening to Lego and Boogie Bounce to Ukuele, to name but a few.

All our clubs are delivered by BFS staff and Sports Coaches who have a wealth of experience and more importantly know our learners. We celebrate the success of our after-school provision with new clubs being released termly.

We are very much looking forward to the launch of our Summer 2023 club provision which sees our learners being given the opportunity to take part in Story and Draw, Musical Games, Athletics, Just Dance, Mini Movie and Karaoke.



Rebecca Wood
Head of School
Broadstone First School



BROADSTONE
FIRST SCHOOL

At Broadstone First School, we are passionate about 'preparing children for a life well lived.' It is important to us that we provide a range of opportunities for our learners in order to develop well rounded individuals.

Sporting Events

BFS believe that every child from EYFS through to Year 4 deserves the opportunity to fall in love with Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport. Through providing our learners with opportunities to represent the school in targeted cohort events, developmental festivals and competitions with local cluster schools, our learners have fun, develop friendships, become more determined and demonstrate resilience whilst being educated in the value and lifelong benefits of a healthy active lifestyle. Since September we have already engaged in a range of events such as multi-skills, dance festivals, cross country, badminton and football to name a few.



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