



## MEET OUR SCHOOLS

CLICK ON LOGOS FOR THEIR WEBSITES

### Rhonda Moore, CEO



It's hard to believe that we're at the end of yet another school year! What is even more surprising is we're about to enter our tenth year of operation, having grown to five schools, based in Ferndown and Broadstone. Together we have worked on curriculum development, improving the facilities in our schools, sharing expertise and supporting each other in our day-to-day work. There is an army of people working hard to ensure our children get the very best!

In our schools, teachers and teaching assistants have shared their knowledge, understanding and resource with each other so that each school benefitted being part of Castleman. Our support staff have ensured those who work with children have everything they need to be able to do their jobs well – our office staff, our site staff, our lunchtime staff. Governors have supported their schools to ensure that the very best possible learning was being offered. They have worked hard to make sure schools had everything they needed to do their massively important work. Thank you to you all for your commitment and hard work. I am so proud to work with you all.

Behind the Schools sit the Trust team. This group of people provide support around learning but also help schools with the other day-to-day work that is very important to ensure our schools run smoothly. Help and support is provided around learning and curriculum, finances, human resources, governance, IT and Special Needs. This team is further supported by the Trust Board – a group of volunteers who support me as CEO to make sure our schools have all the help they need. These people are hugely talented, professional and kind and I am immensely grateful to them for all they do.

Our schools rely on so many people to ensure they run smoothly. The parents of our pupils are pivotal to this and we would like to thank you for all your support this year. Without it, things would be very tough indeed!

But all of this would be for nought if it wasn't for the truly wonderful pupils in our schools. Their enthusiasm and joy is contagious and I love visiting them all and seeing all they are doing. I am so proud of the work they do, the efforts they put in to being better every day and how they are so open to learning something new.

As we come to the end of the Summer term, I wish everyone a restful break. Thank you so very much to you all for all you do to make our schools such wonderful places to learn.

Rhonda



BROADSTONE  
FIRST SCHOOL



BROADSTONE  
MIDDLE SCHOOL



Ferndown  
Middle School



**CASTLEMAN ACADEMY TRUST** "Children First, Always"

## And we bid a fond farewell to . . . .

At this time of year, we're saying goodbye to pupils who are moving on to their next stage of learning.

Our Year 4 pupils are heading for their next Middle School and we look forward to hearing all about their successes in the future.

Our Year 8's are heading to their Upper Schools and we wish them the absolute best for the future. We hope you'll let us know how you get on. And let's not forget those of you who are heading to secondary schools for Year 7. We're sorry to see you go, but we know each and every one of you will do your best. Thank you for all your contributions to school life - and thank you to your families for all their support too!

You have worked so hard and let's not forget! You had a terribly interrupted school experience due to the pandemic. We are so proud of how you coped with this and how hard you worked to get back into the swing of things when we finally reopened again. There were challenges, but you faced them bravely.

I hope you'll take this resilience, can-do attitude and love of learning with you. New friends and experiences await you and we know you're more than ready.

Have a wonderful Summer!!!

From All at Castleman Academy Trust

GOOD  
Bye  
and good  
-LUCK!

## John Bagwell Head Teacher Parley First School



Children First, Always



### The Power of Intergenerational Learning

The children at Parley have, over the last year been actively engaged in learning alongside residents of the local care homes, in particular Ferndown Manor Care home in West Parley. The children have taken part in a variety of activities with the residents to benefit both residents and children. The aim was to improve children's understanding and awareness of Dementia and how to positively interact with anyone with this condition.

The children took part in a World Book day event sharing stories together and taking part in some book related activities. We have also had an intergenerational Sports day in which the residents came to School to take part in a range of accessible Sporting activities on the School field. It was supposed to be non-competitive but became more competitive as the morning went on but with a huge amount of enjoyment and laughter from all involved. Our aim is to become a dementia Friendly School as we continue to build the experiences for our children. The next session will be an art workshop followed by the choir visiting a number of homes in the Ferndown area.



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## Taking our learning outside!

Providing children with rich experiences outside of the classrooms is incredibly important. It secures knowledge that has been taught in school and allows children to see their learning in a new and real context. We know being outdoors has a positive impact on our health and wellbeing.

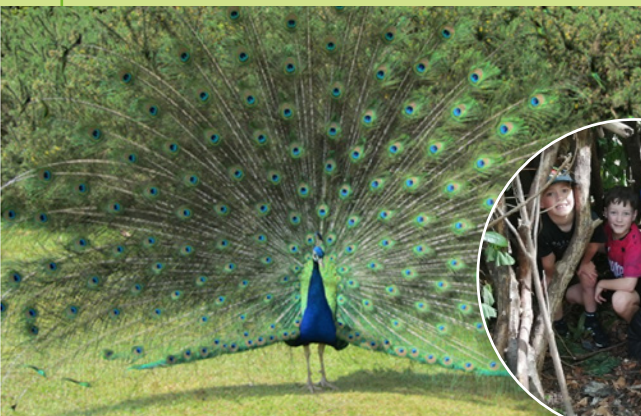
Reception children visited Blashford Lakes nature reserve. The children took part in pond dipping, meadow sweeping and den building. The children had a wonderful time and were impeccably behaved.



Year 2 had a great trip to Liberty's Owl, Raptor and Reptile Centre. They saw lots of different reptiles including a salmon pink bird-eating tarantula! They also met some birds of prey including a golden eagle called Jerry with wing span!



Year 3 children visited Brownsea Island. The sun shone all day and the children enjoyed developing their understanding of the geographical features of Poole Harbour and making drawings/rubbings of some of the local animals. Lots of island wildlife were spotted including a proud peacock showing off his tail feathers and a beautiful red squirrel. Our budding photographer, James in Year 3, took this stunning photo of a peacock using his own camera.



Year 4 visited Verwood Solar Farm which was organised by Earth Energy Education. The children enjoyed learning about what makes solar renewable and the benefits of using renewable power. The children explored why solar panels are constructed to face south at an angle of 30 degrees and learned about how electricity is generated and transported. Tracy from Earth Energy Education has also led workshops with each class to design and make a solar powered toy.



Our Year 4 residential to Avon Tyrrell is one of the opportunities that we offer as part of our personal development curriculum. We believe it is important that we support children to become responsible, respectful, and active citizens. We aim to develop pupils' character, giving them qualities they need to flourish in society. Developing pupils' confidence and resilience not only prepares the children for the next phase of their education journey but also the world of work in later life. Children took part in climbing, abseiling, shelter building and archery. A great time was had by all!

We haven't forgotten Year 1. They are off the Beaulieu Motor Museum tomorrow!



Ferndown First School  
*Where every child matters*



## Sean Watts Head Teacher, Ferndown First School

We are delighted to announce that Mr Sean Watts has been appointed as Headteacher at Ferndown First School.

Sean was Acting Headteacher and after a rigorous process, was appointed permanently to the role.

We are delighted that Sean has joined the team. He comes with a wealth of experience and is totally committed to making learning meaningful and enjoyable for youngsters.

**Congratulations Sean!**

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**Gill Allen**  
Head Teacher  
Ferndown Middle School



**Ferndown Middle School**

## CAREERS

### Employability and Careers Presentation

The education development trust Employability and Careers team came to speak to Year 8. Both presenters are qualified careers advisors and provided the pupils with lots of information and advice about thinking of the future, not only careers choices. The pupils were told that the top five soft skills employers are looking for are: communication (written and verbal), organisation, attention to detail, leadership and the ability to problem solve. So, if you get any opportunity to help your son/daughter practice these skills it would be highly valuable. The pupils were also encouraged to take active steps now to prepare themselves for the future choices they have to make and the careers they may want to explore. Some of these tips are useful now, others are worth remembering when your child is older.

#### The top tips were:

- Take part in extra-curricular activities.
- Engage in sports/leisure activities.
- Try some volunteering.
- Participate in a Duke of Edinburgh or Princes Trust activity.
- Get some work experience, evening/weekend jobs.
- Try some online courses in areas that are of interest; many are free.

Another lesson with the career's advisor involved the pupils completing a quiz. The quiz provoked lots of discussion. If you would like to try the quiz, go to [www.icould/buzz](http://www.icould/buzz)

### Year 8 Trip to Bournemouth University

The Year 8 pupils visited Bournemouth University for a taster morning where they had an opportunity to take part in workshops.

### Options and Choices: A Play for Year 8

Thanks to funding from Bournemouth University, we were lucky to host a play called Options and Choices for the Year 8 pupils. The play taught the children about different options available; like apprenticeships, T- levels, college and university in a fun and engaging manner. It talked about the importance of selecting the right GCSE options for you and the importance of not making a choice based upon friendship groups or the teacher.

The play also emphasized the importance of gaining other skills through hobbies or voluntary work. All really valuable food for thought as the Year 8 pupils are now considering moving to their next school. If you would like more information these websites are recommended.

[www.bournemouth.ac.uk](http://www.bournemouth.ac.uk)  
[www.careerpilot.org.uk/information/your-choices-at-14](http://www.careerpilot.org.uk/information/your-choices-at-14)



### Year 7 Careers Visit – Butchers Coppice

The Year 7 pupils had an amazing day at Butchers Coppice. As well as learning about the different career paths the adults had followed, they also tried a range of new experiences like bushcraft, rock climbing, archery and a Powerfan jump.

The groups showed great transferable skills like enthusiasm, a willingness to learn, and a determination to face some daunting challenges and everyone seems to have enjoyed the day.

Pupils will follow up this visit with more careers teaching in the classroom.

### Careers Talks

If you are an employer who would be willing to talk to the pupils via ZOOM or TEAMS and better still in person; about your industry and the skills and attitudes employers are looking for in young people, please contact Mrs Baynam (Careers Leader) for more information.



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## New Forest Wildlife Park

Year 1 had a fantastic time at the New Forest Wildlife Park. The learners got to see lots of animals around the park, including otters, lynx, wolves and wallabies. They used their knowledge from the classroom to solve what food the animals would eat.



**Rebecca Wood**  
Head of School  
Broadstone First School



**BROADSTONE**  
FIRST SCHOOL

At Broadstone First, we are really passionate about ensuring children experience a variety of enriching educational visits. We believe these exciting and valuable trips give learners the chance to take part in and experience activities which we would not be able to facilitate within school. This gives further opportunities to prepare them for 'a life well lived' through developing our four pillars; knowledge acquisition, preparation for work, self-agency and taking positive action. This year we have embarked on many adventures from Marwell Zoo to Compton Acres, residential to Hooke Court and the Ancient Technology Centre as well as a trips to the Beach, Poole Quay and many more. It is safe to say that all have been thoroughly enjoyed by the learners and staff!

We have had a pretty busy and exciting year making memories. We can't wait to see what next year's visits and visitors entail.

## Hooke Court

Our Year 4 learners experienced an incredible residential to Hooke Court. Each of the learners engaged in an active programme over one and a half days made up of a variety of pursuits linked to the Romans. They took part in making shields, catapults and Roman food whilst living like a Roman in Hooke Court's Ancient History Settlement. including otters, lynx, wolves and wallabies. They used their knowledge from the classroom to solve what food the animals would eat.

## The VR Centre

All of our KS2 learners have experienced the realms of virtual reality. Our Year 3's explored the depths of the Amazon Rainforest as they came face to face with jaguars, river dolphins and many more animals as they sailed down the river.

As part of their 'Can't Stand the Heat' module the Year 4 children got to visit some famous mountain ranges across the world before embarking on the steep climb up Mount Everest.



## Ancient Technology Centre

Year 3 had a fantastic time at the Ancient Technology Centre. The children were excited to take part in a variety of Stone Age activities such as: mining chalk using animal antlers, tanning animal skins, sawing wood for the fire and learning about flint knapping. The day ended with chopping their own vegetables for their stew, before toasting marshmallows and snuggling down for the night in the long house. An amazing experience had by all! New Forest Wildlife Park. The learners got to see lots of animals around the park, including otters, lynx, wolves and wallabies. They used their knowledge from the classroom to solve what food the animals would eat.

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**Dawn Wilks**  
Executive Headteacher



**Amber Barter**  
Acting Head of  
Broadstone Middle School

*Images Top to Bottom:  
Sports Day 2023:  
tug of war, running races and high jump.  
Design a business:  
face painting and hair scrunchies*

We have recently had a few changes at Broadstone Middle School within the Senior Leadership Team with Mrs Barter stepping up as Acting Head of School.

Miss Palmer went on maternity leave at May half term and has since given birth to a beautiful baby girl. Mrs Barter has been working at Broadstone Middle School for 3 years with a background in secondary education; previously working at The Bourne Academy.

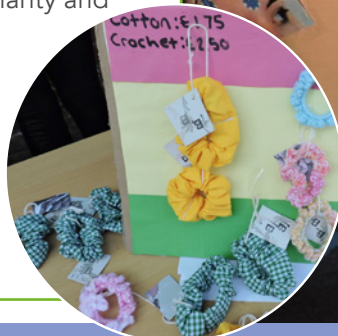
At Broadstone Middle School we have really focused on personal development this year and have ensured every child in school has a role or responsibility to support their school community. This includes roles such as Admin Assistant, Dog Walkers, Display Monitors and even PAs to our Senior Leadership Team! It has been a delight to watch the children flourish in their roles and rise to the challenge of having a responsibility. We are keen to develop this further, with the upcoming launch of a community volunteer project in conjunction with The Steve Bernard Foundation and the further development of our house system.

This term has been busy but exciting, with University of Broadstone Outcome days, Sports Days and a huge number of trips and visitors.

As part of our year 7 PSHE curriculum, the children designed their own business and were given £10 as a group to support their start up costs. The aim was to make as much profit as they could by selling their products or services to students and parents on the afternoon of KS2 Sports Day. We had everything from car washing, temporary tattoos and hair bands to homemade lemonade and raffles.

Every year we hold a fun run for the children where they can choose either 1.5k, 3k or 5k to raise money for charity and our Performing Arts, Music and Art department. It is lovely to see all the children and staff getting involved with this event. We were blown away by the fundraising efforts of our students who raised just over an incredible £11,000.

The charity money was split between Julia's House and The Azaylia Foundation this year.



# Mark Grigsby

Chair of the Trust



It only seems minutes ago that I was writing to you at the start of the academic year, yet here we are in the sunshine with the end of term fast approaching!

I am once again so proud of the work of the Board, our local school Governors and all staff through the year – the list of achievements is too long to mention but the most striking thing once again is the way that we bring the governance mantra of ‘support and challenge’ to life to continue to strive for excellence while being kind and supportive.

This approach is seen all across the Trust, and the collaboration between our schools and their leaders is another shining example. We have faced challenges together – not least the ongoing strikes and increasing cost pressures – but not once has anyone lost focus on our core objective to put the Children First, Always.

Thank you to all those who were involved in the two Ofsted inspections this term and worked so positively with the inspectors – the outcomes of which will be published in due course.

All that remains is to wish everyone a restful and enjoyable summer break.

As always, you’re welcome to get in touch with me directly at [mgrigsby@castlemanacademytrust.co.uk](mailto:mgrigsby@castlemanacademytrust.co.uk).

Further information about governance within our Trust can be found on the website - [www.castlemanacademytrust.co.uk/about-us/governor-and-trustee-vacancies/](http://www.castlemanacademytrust.co.uk/about-us/governor-and-trustee-vacancies/)

If you are interested in exploring one of these opportunities, please contact Gill McDonald, Director of Governance Operations, on [gmcDonald@castlemanacademytrust.co.uk](mailto:gmcDonald@castlemanacademytrust.co.uk)



## WE ARE SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

- Do you have a little time to give something back to our community?
- Are you a strategic thinker?
- Are you keen to support the vision of an inspirational education for all children?

If you can answer yes to one of these questions, why not consider volunteering as a governor in one of our schools.

### What is a School Standards Board?

School Standards Boards are made up of elected parent governors and appointed community governors. Some boards also have an elected staff governor. The School Standards Boards monitor school standards and support the Senior Leaders to ensure the very highest quality provision for our children. In essence, local governors “champion the school experience for the child, the family and staff”.

### What does a school governor do?

School governors will fulfil their functions in a variety of ways, including:-

- Contributing to strategic discussions at meetings, to ensure the very best opportunities for all learners.
- Reading reports prior to meetings and asking questions of challenge at the meeting.
- Challenging and supporting Senior Leaders to achieve ambitious strategic priorities and targets for the school.
- Taking on a link governor role with a particular focus, based on your skills and available time, and linking this into occasional school visits.

There is a short video clip on the website of the National Governance Association about the role of school governor [www.nga.org.uk/Governance-Recruitment/Be-a-school-governor-or-trustee.aspx](http://www.nga.org.uk/Governance-Recruitment/Be-a-school-governor-or-trustee.aspx).

Our governors will normally attend six meetings a term and probably visit school once or twice during the year to fulfil their function.



A number of our schools are looking to recruit to community governor vacancies. You cannot volunteer to this role of your child’s school, but had you considered volunteering to this role in one of our other CAT schools? Do you have friends/ neighbours/work colleagues who might be interested in supporting local education?



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