

Castletown NEWS

NEWSLETTER 2, TERM 4

19TH DECEMBER 2025

A passionate learning community that inspires, challenges, and supports all students to succeed, and empowers them to be resilient and respectful

The Sea of Possibilities Awaits!

GRADUATING STUDENTS 2025



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's hard to believe we've reached the end of another school year! What a busy and rewarding year it has been.

Our Presentation and Graduation Assemblies were definite highlights. The organisation was seamless, and the speeches and performances truly reflected the passion and talent of our students and staff. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to making these events so special. Congratulations to all our award and book prize recipients, your commitment and effort throughout the year have been outstanding, and we can't wait to see what you achieve in 2026.

I know you'll join me in acknowledging our incredible staff. Their professionalism, care, and unwavering positivity have shone through every challenge this year. Their dedication to helping every child succeed makes a real difference, and we are so fortunate to have such a committed team.

To our families, thank you for your ongoing support and encouragement. Raising confident, capable young people is a shared responsibility, and the strong partnerships we have at Castletown Primary School are something to be proud of.

To staff members who are moving on or taking leave, thank you for everything you've given to our school community. You've made a lasting impact on the lives of the children in your care. For those starting new chapters in 2026, we wish you every success. Your new schools are lucky to have you!

A special thank you to our School Board and P&C for your tireless efforts behind the scenes. Your contributions help shape the future of our school. In particular, thank you to Mrs Tania Wright

for her years of service and invaluable insight on the School Board, and to our outgoing P&C President, Mrs Suzie Styles, for your passion and commitment to supporting our school, you've given so much, and we are deeply grateful.

To our Year 6 students and families, congratulations on reaching this milestone! We wish you all the best as you begin your high school journey. We know you'll continue to make positive contributions and embrace new opportunities.

Finally, to all the staff who have led initiatives and programs this year, thank you. Your leadership has been instrumental in our success as a school.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a joyful holiday season. May your break be restful, fun, and filled with the company of loved ones. We look forward to welcoming you back in the new year.

Kind regards,

Mr David Vooght-Simpson
Principal

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DEPUTY'S DESK

Cyber-Safety Over Summer: Keeping It Cool Online

The six-week summer holiday is here! While kids are excited for extra screen time, the online world can sometimes turn from fun to a little messy. A few friendly reminders to help keep things safe:

Words Can Sting

Online chats in games or social media can quickly turn sour. Without tone or facial expressions, even innocent comments can be misunderstood—and hurtful words can spread fast. What starts as “just joking” can end in tears and conflict.

Unsupervised Browsing = Risky Business

The internet is amazing, but it's not all kid-friendly. Without supervision, children can easily stumble across content that's confusing, upsetting, or simply not appropriate for their age. Sometimes it's just one click away.

The Classic Line: “Everyone Else Is Allowed!”

Kids are masters of negotiation. You'll probably hear, “But everyone in my class has this app!” Spoiler alert: they don't. Every family sets different rules, so hold firm. You're not the only parent saying “no”—promise!

Social Media Ban – Why It Matters

Primary-aged children are not permitted to use most social media platforms for good reason. These spaces can expose younger children to risks they're not ready to handle. But remember—a ban doesn't solve everything. Kids can still access chat features in games and other apps, so staying involved and setting boundaries is essential.

Top Tips for a Safe Summer

- **Stay Involved:** Know what apps and games your child uses.
- **Set Boundaries:** Keep devices in shared spaces and agree on screen time.
- **Talk Often:** Make online safety part of everyday conversation.
- **Check Settings:** Use parental controls and review privacy options.

Your awareness and involvement are the best safeguards.

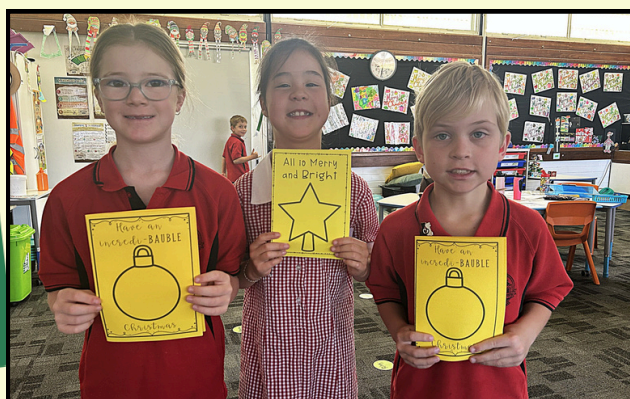
Wishing all our families a fantastic holiday break!

David McLaren
Deputy Principal

ROOM 3, YEAR 2

This week, our class got creative making Christmas cards and crafts for the residents at Esperance Aged Care Facility. Students brainstormed what makes a great card, drafted their messages, then published and decorated them with festive designs and stickers.

The cards looked amazing!



Congratulations to our **SUPER!** R.I.B.I.T Readers

50 Nights of Reading

EC4 - Lola Heaton, Glenn Oliver, Tanner Pascoe
EC7 - Chelsy Chigudu, Jax Nankivell

80 Nights of Reading

EC4 - Finn Thompson, Avery Wykes,
Paige Smith, Lukas Batley
EC7 - Henry Lay, Jasper Shanhun

100 Nights of Reading

EC4 - Diego Travessini, Quinton Lister,
Dihein Premathilaka
EC7 - Aela Lelieve, Georgie Ballard, Ysobel Carmody,
Laura Popp Brlekovic, Mark Timms, Luka Ramm

120 Nights of Reading

EC4 - Archer Harding, Joseph Woosnam, Ayla Turrell
EC7 - Hunter Hurley

150 Nights of Reading

EC4 - Mylah Bell, Ella Willsher, Tilly Tyrrell, Charlotte Eves
EC7 - Amara Funneman

180 Nights of Reading

EC7 - Brock Elliott



RIBIT

Reading in bed is terrific!



PRE-PRIMARY SPORTS DAY

Pre-Primary Sports Morning was full of energy, laughter, and fun! Our students had an amazing time rotating through exciting activity stations. The running race was a clear crowd-pleaser, while the long jump had everyone leaping with joy. And the egg-and-spoon race? That brought out some serious concentration and plenty of giggles!

It was fantastic to see families cheering from the sidelines, creating such a supportive atmosphere. A huge thank you to our incredible staff for organising a smooth, fun-filled morning. And how did we wrap it all up? With a well-deserved icy pole treat!



KINDY SPORTS DAY

What a perfect morning for Kindy Sports Day!

After a short weather delay, the sun was shining and our Kindy kids had a blast! They raced, jumped, balanced, and laughed through a variety of fun activities before enjoying a shared morning tea.



A big thank you to our fabulous faction captains and all the families who came to cheer!



ASSEMBLY HIGHLIGHTS

Room 3 & 4 Shine in Week 6 Assembly!

Our talented Room 3 and 4 students wowed us with a vibrant Week 6 assembly! They shared a wonderful snapshot of their year, celebrating how they've grown in bravery, creativity, curiosity, and resilience. Their heartfelt performance of *Count on Me* was a real highlight, filling the room with smiles and pride.

We also cheered for two Aussies of the Month, applauded by our PBS team, and awarded the Golden Broom to EC7 for keeping things sparkling! Huge congratulations to all our Merit Certificate recipients, Aussies of the Month, and EC7.



ESHS TRANSITION DAYS

Year 6s Get a Taste of High School Life!

Our Year 6 students heading to Esperance Senior High School next year enjoyed an amazing two-day transition experience! They got a real feel for high school life — making new friends, exploring the big campus, and jumping into exciting activities like keyring-making and Lego challenges.

The highlight? Experiencing real Year 7 classes and tasters, and spotting some familiar faces — former Castletown PS students now shining as ESHS school leaders!

A huge thank you to the ESHS staff for welcoming our soon-to-be Year 7s and making their transition so memorable!



STUDENT COUNCILLOR SPEECHES SHINE!

Our student councillor nominees absolutely wowed us with speeches that were eloquent, funny, and full of meaning — all delivered with confidence! Every single student impressed the audience.

A huge congratulations to all our nominees on such an outstanding effort!



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2026 COUNCILLORS

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Morgan Guest | Poppy Trocinski |
| Ted Graham | Chloe Stephen |
| Elias Yorkshire | Amelia Dhue |
| Archie Johnson | Ella Chapman |
| Olivia Richardson | Haize Lilo |



VOLUNTEER MORNING TEA

We are so grateful to our incredible volunteers for the time, effort, and dedication you give. Your support truly makes a difference and helps our school community thrive. Thank you for everything you do — you're an essential part of our team!



We ♥ our Volunteers



KINDY CONCERTS

A Merry Kindy Christmas!

EC5 and EC6 filled the air with festive cheer — drums, bells, maracas, and joyful voices! Our little stars sang and danced in colourful outfits, then proudly received certificates and gifts. Families enjoyed a warm morning tea to end a truly magical celebration.

Well done to all our Kindy performers for spreading Christmas sparkle!

EC5B
EC6



Festive assembly from EC2 and EC7!

Students shone in Christmas colours and reindeer antlers, presenting with confidence and style. Their performances of All I Want for Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth and Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree were a hit, complete with bells, saxophones, and great choreography. Congratulations to Alex, our Aussie of the Month, Room 2 for the Golden Broom Award, and all our merit certificate recipients. Fantastic effort, everyone!



EARLY CHILDHOOD MESSY PLAY DAY

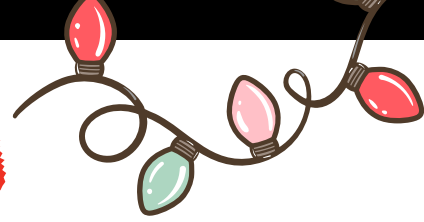


We celebrated our Early Childhood students with the ultimate messy play — jelly, spaghetti, orbeez, coloured ice, shaving foam, and more! Water games kept everyone cool, thanks to Mrs Bock, and icy poles were the perfect finish to a fantastic day! ☀️💧



Christmas

Fiesta



Students and teachers in rooms 1-4 dressed in their festive best last Wednesday to enjoy a Christmas Fiesta! The celebration included delicious food, exciting games, music filling the air, and a lively scavenger hunt that had everyone exploring together. It was finished off with a Christmas disco and bubble play. Most importantly, the fiesta was a chance to celebrate the hard work, growth and achievements of our students and staff throughout the year!



LUNCH WITH THE PRINCIPAL

A Special Celebration!

Students who earned PBS points throughout the year enjoyed a fantastic reward — Lunch with the Principal! Our Aussie of the Month winners joined the fun too. It was a festive gathering with pizza, bon bons, party hats, and plenty of laughs. Mr Vooght-Simpson loved spending time with such deserving students. Well done, everyone!



EPIC HANDBALL COMPETITION FINALS

Handball Showdown!

What an epic afternoon of handball action! Our top players battled it out in thrilling rallies that had everyone on the edge of their seats.

🏆 Champions:

- Year 4: Mini Mans – Louis & Lincoln
- Year 5: Deadly Duo – Ted & Morgan
- Year 6: Wannabes – Lincoln & Jaxton

Well done to all competitors — your skills were amazing!



PRESENTATION ASSEMBLY

Mr Vooght-Simpson delivered a heartfelt speech, thanking everyone who makes up our school community and reflecting on our five Behaviour Expectations. Students joined in to remind him of Miss Nova's official title as Super Reader during farewells to her and Ms Coleman, who are heading north, as well as Mrs O'Sullivan and Mrs Burton, who are taking a short break from CPS.

Sandra Prosser shared an insightful comparison of the school board to a school project, emphasizing teamwork and the satisfaction of completing tasks. She also expressed gratitude to Tania Wright for her valuable contributions as a P&C committee member and school board chair.

EC2 and EC7 delighted us with their lively performance of Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree. Denise Hargreaves presented the ELF awards, celebrating our Year 3 readers and our student leaders showcased a vibrant display of student artwork in our undercover area. Mrs Fetherston led a thoughtful reflection on the year.

Congratulations to Boodja for winning a closely contested Faction of the Year competition, and to our newly announced 2026 student leaders!



KINDY & PRESCHOOL



YEAR 1 - 2



YEAR 3 - 4



YEAR 5 - 6

Congratulations! TO ALL THE BOOK WINNERS



SPECIALTIES



READER ENCOURAGEMENT



FACTION SPORTS SHIELD



SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR-PERSON
SANDRA PROSSER



MISS W'S SPECIAL HELPER

Thank You TO OUR SCHOOL BOARD AND P&C COMMITTEE

2026 STUDENT LEADERS



A huge congratulations to our incoming student leaders:

Ella, Elias, Olivia, Chloe, Haize, Poppy, Morgan, Archie, Ted and Amelia.

Thank you to our outgoing student leaders:

Lilah, Sophia, Fionn, Asha, Grace, Kateri, Lincoln, Seb, Devyn and Judd.

YEAR 6 GRADUATION ASSEMBLY

Celebrating Our Year 6 Graduates!

The Year 6 Graduation Assembly was a truly special occasion, honouring the achievements of our graduating students and those who excelled across various learning areas.

Logan presented the Acknowledgement of Country with great confidence. Our School Captains, Lincoln and Grace, entertained everyone with a creative wrap-up of their primary years, beautifully tied to our Sea of Possibilities theme. Each graduate proudly received their photo and certificate, marking this important milestone.

The Year 5 students wowed the crowd with a heartfelt farewell performance of *One Call Away*, complete with big voices and beautiful actions. Our Principal delivered an inspiring address, leaving students with thoughtful advice for their learning journey ahead.

To finish on a high note, the Year 6 students sang their hearts out to *A Million Dreams* from *The Greatest Showman*, before Mr David McLaren closed the ceremony with warm congratulations to all award recipients, graduates, and our generous sponsors.



Lincoln Humphrys

Dux: Lincoln Humphrys
Mathematics: Kristian Wright
English: Addison Robins
STEM: Fionn Murphy
HASS: Kateri Miller
Health: Xavier Oliver
Indonesian: Kateri Miller
Visual Arts: Addison Robbins
IMSS: Peter Burgess
Sportsmanship: Jaxton Schultz
Endeavour: Lacey Hawke
Citizenship: Fionn Murphy
Youth Care Award: Kayla Mackenzie



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

CBH
 Esperance Lions Club
 Goldfields Esperance Community Trust
 Peter Rundle MLA
 Rick Wilson MP
 Rotary Club of Esperance
 Rotary Club of Esperance Bay
 Shire of Esperance
 The Fetherston Family
 The Mather Family
 Twilight School of Surf
 Youth Care



YEAR 6 GRADUATION DINNER

Students celebrated the end of their primary school journey with a wonderful evening alongside their parents. There were plenty of laughs during class videos by Mr Chamberlain, photo booth fun, and a delicious meal from Lauren's Larder. The dance floor was buzzing thanks to DJ Mr Jake!

Underwater-themed decorations by our Year 6 parents set the perfect scene, and students loved receiving their graduation books created by Mrs Tucker and Mrs Coates. An unforgettable night of memories!



LIBRARY BUZZ



Poinsettia bookmas tree before the elf made mischief!



"Awwww Mrs Castledine, the elf is knocked out!"



This year's library Christmas display featured The Legend of the Poinsettia, a beautiful story set in Mexico that celebrates kindness and tradition. It brought festive cheer and a splash of vibrant colour to our space and Bunnings sold a few more poinsettias!



"We found the elf!" He was hiding in the piano composing his next festive tune!

*Thank
you*



We would like to acknowledge **Sue Geary** for her incredible commitment to our school. Sue has generously volunteered in the library every Thursday for several years, and her dedication has made a huge difference. We are so fortunate to have her support—she helps create the welcoming and resourceful space our students enjoy today.

Thank you, Sue! Your efforts are truly appreciated by all of us!



Well, that's done and dusted for another year! Thanks Ada, Jade, Harlo & Rosalina for sorting and packing the Christmas tree books up – a huge help!

Thanks for sharing another wonderful year of reading with us! Wishing you a joyful festive season and a bright, book-filled New Year. See you in 2026 for more stories and fun!

Sally Castledine, Library Officer



YEARS 1 - 5

Years 1-5 finished the year with a splash of excitement at our annual PBS Bike-Scoot-Skate Day!

Students turned verandahs and pathways—usually off-limits—into their own adventure tracks, zipping through jumps, bubbles, and sprinklers. From the slowest ride challenge to the longest wheelie competition, the fun never stopped! And what better way to cool down than with an icy pole. It was the perfect celebration of positive behaviour and an amazing year!

BIKE SCOOT SKATE DAY

Our PBS
Celebration Day
was pure
epicness!



WHAT A SEND-OFF FOR YEAR 6!

Students rode to the Whale Tail for a beach adventure packed with swimming, games, a sausage sizzle, and pump track fun. The sweetest surprise? An ice-cream truck treat on the ride home! Huge thanks to the Shire of Esperance for the games and Rotary Club for donating bikes so everyone could join in.



fun



Dates to Remember

Tuesday 27 th January 2026	School Office open
Friday 30 th January 2026	Uniform Shop Open 10am - 12pm
Monday 2 nd February 2026	First day of Term 1, 2026
Wednesday 4 th February 2026	Uniform Shop Open
Friday February 20 th 2026	Assembly
Monday 2 nd March 2026	Labour Day holiday - No students attend

Community News

PLEASE CLICK [HERE](#) TO VIEW THE COMMUNITY EVENTS PAGE ON OUR WEBSITE

ESPERANCE SERVICES CHRISTMAS Closing Times 2025 Opening Times 2026

- APM Employment: Closed from 12:30 24 December - reopen 2 January
- BOICO: Closed from 12pm 18 December - reopen 5 January
- CARERS WA Closed from 23 December - reopen 5 January
- CENTRECARE: Closed public holidays
- CENTRELINK: Closed public holidays and 27 December
- CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Closed from 23 December - reopen 5 January
- DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITIES: Closed public holidays
- ESPERANCE CARE SERVICES: Closed from 23 December - reopen 6 January
- ESCARE: Closed from 24 December - reopen 5 January
- ESCARE EOSHC VACATION CARE: Closed from 23 December - reopen 5 January
- ESPERANCE CRISIS ACCOMMODATION: On-call 24/7 (90714395) Office closes 12pm 24 December - reopen 5 January
- GOLDFIELDS COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICE: Closed from 19 December - reopen 5 January Info line 1300650579
- HEADSPACE: Closed from 1pm 24 December - reopen 5 January
- HOPE COMMUNITY SERVICES: Closed from 1pm 24 December - reopen 5 January
- IMPACT closed from 19 December - reopen 5 January and closed 9-16/1/2026
- MEEDAC: Closed from 24 December - reopen 5 January
- POPULATION HEALTH: closed from 25 December - reopens 5 January
- SML: Closed from 22 December - reopen 5 January (local office reopens 21/1/26)
- TRAINING ALLIANCE GROUP: closed from 12:30pm 24 December - reopen 2 January
- WORKFORCE (Employment Facilitator): Closed from 24 December - reopen 5 January

PEACE
ON EARTH

LIFELINE 131114
KIDS HELPLINE
1800 551 800

BETTER HEALTH PROGRAM

Want to prepare your kids for a healthier future?

Is your child...

- 6-12yrs old?
- Above a healthy weight?
- In need of support to improve eating and activity habits?

The Better Health Program is a **free**, flexible healthy lifestyle program for you and your child.

Meet regularly with a personal health coach to cover topics such as good nutrition, forming positive habits, becoming a healthier family and being physically active.

The program is available in **online** and **face-to-face** formats.

Both versions include a bunch of **great freebies**, and a **reward** at the end!

Sign up today!

betterhealthprogram.org
1300 822 953



For health tips follow us:

@betterhealthco
@betterhealthcompany



"The program was fantastic. So great that I didn't have to coax my daughter to come every week. She loved it and she couldn't wait to come. It's made a huge difference in our life!"
- Better Health Program Parent

BETTER HEALTH PROGRAM

Want to prepare your kids for a healthier future?

The Better Health Program is a **FREE**, online and flexible program for you and your 6-12 year old child.

The program includes



Health coach support - Families will be paired with a qualified health coach who will take the time to learn about their health goals and provide personalised support over 10 calls that last up to 30-minutes each. These calls offer flexible timing so busy families can still get support.



Online learning modules - Families also get access to a library of bite-sized learning resources and fun online activities to enjoy with their child, and will receive a voucher for completing the program.

INCLUDES
FREE
RESOURCES!

Sign up today



Learn more

betterhealthprogram.org
1300 822 953



Government of Western Australia
Department of Health

Powered by
BETTER HEALTH CO.

Wishing all our parents and family carers a

SAFE & MERRY CHRISTMAS

We look forward to seeing you all again in 2026!

