



Cam Everlands News

We believe, achieve and celebrate

Term 3, 2025/26

Dear Parents and Carers,

February half-term signifies half-way through the school year, a time where the weather *should* improve and the beginning and end of the day tend to be lighter signalling the arrival of spring. It is a slightly quieter term than the one leading to Christmas but there has still been plenty going on.

Our commitment to providing the best possible education and maintaining robust safeguarding standards was recently validated through an independent review by Melhoria Education Consultants. Both their teaching and learning and safeguarding reports were extremely positive, reflecting the dedicated efforts of our entire school community to ensure our pupils receive the highest quality education and care. Naturally, there are areas where we can improve what we do and we already have action plans in place which reflect these suggestions.

A particularly memorable highlight of this term was our pupils' participation in the Young Voices concert which took place at Pulse Live in Birmingham. Twenty-four of our pupils joined approximately 6,000 other young performers to create one of the largest choirs in the world. The children demonstrated remarkable enthusiasm, singing and dancing with exceptional energy throughout rehearsals and the performance. Their commitment was evident through consistent lunchtime rehearsals and remarkable stamina during the long day. I extend heartfelt gratitude to Mrs Sinclair for organising this extraordinary event, and to the parents who supported our pupils both in the audience and as part of the choir.

We have several achievements to celebrate this month. Our school cross-country team secured an impressive second place overall in the district competition. A huge thank-you to Mr Payne who could be found training our runners at 8am every Thursday and who supported the children at every one of the Saturday morning events. Thanks also to Mr Gibbs, Mrs Beasley and Mme Brunet-Lua who also gave up their time on the Saturdays to cheer on the children. Again, I must thank all of the parents who braved the conditions to support their children and the rest of the team as well. Additionally, our swimming team performed admirably, finishing fourth in the district swimming gala. Thanks must be given to Mr Payne and Mr Gibbs for organising this and also for accompanying the children.

Alongside this, we would like to say a huge "well done!" to Hannah Savigar-Jones, who raised an impressive £202.21 through a cake sale this week. This money will be added to the sponsorship she is collecting for the MS Society as she prepares for the London Marathon. Everyone wishes her the very best with this endeavour.

Looking ahead, I would like to draw your attention to some important upcoming dates:

- We have an INSET day scheduled for Monday, 23rd February.
- Parents' evenings will be held on Tuesday, 24th, and Wednesday, 25th February. I encourage all parents to book their consultation slots and contact the school office if you encounter any difficulties with the booking system.
- We are also looking forward to celebrating reading on World Book Day, Thursday, 5th March. Detailed information was previously communicated in an email sent on 4th February, which I recommend reviewing.

We wish each and everyone one of you a restful and fun half term and look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 24th.

Dominic Knill, Headteacher



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Sports News

As mentioned previously, the children of Cam Everlands have been shining in the district sports events which have been on this term.

Cross Country



Our cross country team did exceptionally well, maintaining the excellent tradition which we have built over the years. We have 4 teams entered to the cross country competitions, and this year, 3 have come away with trophies.

Our Senior Girls and Boys teams (Year 5&6) were both victorious in their categories reflecting the excellent team results. Our Junior Girls team (Year 3&4) came a fantastic second in their competition too. The Junior boys team, which included two Y2 boys, weren't in the top 3 but were as brilliant as all of the other teams and should be very proud of themselves.

These team results mean that Cam Everlands came 2nd place in the overall competition but we know that we stand a great chance of regaining the shield next year as we had quite a young team this year.

We also have 4 athletes who have been invited to compete in the Gloucestershire County Championships in March. We wish Isabelle S, Jacob C, Ted F and Stanley B all the best for these races.

Huge thanks to everyone who came along to support the team in all weathers—it means everything to the children. Thanks again to Mr Paine, who is the driving force behind the team, Mrs Beasley, Mme Brunet-Lua and Mr Gibbs, all of whom supported the team across the 4 events.

Swimming

Every year, we send a team of Y5 and 6 children to represent the school in the district gala. This year, our team competed excellently with many fantastic results among the team. When the points were tallied up at the end, we came away with a hugely creditable 4th place.

OPAL Play News

It is all-change for our OPAL play this term. Due to increased hours spent in the classroom supporting our learners leading to reduced time available to undertake her Play Leader role, Miss Edwards has decided to step down from her role and allow someone else to take up the reins and drive further improvement to our play provision.

We are delighted to share with you that Kim Haines has been appointed as our new Play Leader and she will be starting her role in January. Kim is someone who is well-known to the children because she currently works for Caterlink, our hot meal providers and serves dinners to the children. She is also volunteering in our Reception class. Talking to her, she has lots and lots of great ideas to improve the lunchtime experiences of our children.



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Attendance

Attendance this term has been much better than before Christmas and, for term 6, our attendance was **95%** across the school.

This improvement means that our attendance for the year so far is **94.3%**, getting towards our target of **96%**.

Whilst many of these absences have been due to illness, there have also been many days whereby children have been absent for other reasons which cannot be authorised by the school. We are working hard to encourage the children to be in school as much as possible but this message is being undermined when parents choose not to send in their children or take holidays during term time.

We want to work with families and improve attendance without needing to resort to legal intervention, but there is an expectation from the Local Authority and government that we use these tools when needed. We have successfully applied for one fixed penalty notice from Gloucestershire County Council and may apply for more next term if children are absent for 10 or more sessions (5 days) which are unauthorised.

For this term, the class attendances were:

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
95.5%	96.4%	94.5%	96.7%	94.5%	92.8%	94.6%

Well done to Year 1 and Year 3 met out target of 96%. Hopefully, more classes will reach our target in term 4 and the whole-school number continues to rise.

Holiday during term time

We are still receiving a large number of requests for holiday during term time. It is extremely unlikely that this is going to be authorised as we can only authorise them in exceptional circumstances. You may receive a penalty notice if your child is absent for 5 days because of an unauthorised term-time holiday.



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Key dates 2025-26

Term dates

Term 1: 2nd September to 23rd October

Term 2: 3rd November to 19th December

Term 3: 6th January to 13th February

Term 4: 24th February to 27th March

Term 5: 13th April to 22nd May

Term 6: 1st June to 17th July

INSET days

Monday 1st September

Friday 24th October

Monday 5th January

Monday 23rd February

Monday 20th July

Key Dates

.Monday 23rd February — INSET day #4

Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th February — Parents' evenings

Friday 27th February — Reception class Dinosaur Workshop

Thursday 5th March — World Book Day

Friday 6th March — After-school book fair

Thursday 12th March — M&M theatre production—Oliver Twist

Friday 13th March — Y4 'In the Net' online safety @ Cam Woodfield Junior
— World Sleep Day activities

Monday 16th to Thursday 19th March — Bikeability for Year 5

Wednesday 18th March — Y3 visit to Westonbirt Arboretum

Friday 27th March — end of term

Monday 11th May to Thursday 14th May — Year 6 SATs week

Monday 13th July — End of year reports sent home

Wednesday 15th July — Optional drop-in parents' evening