



# Cam Everlands News

We believe, achieve and celebrate

## Term 4, 2023/24

Dear Parents and carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you all well. As we approach the end of another busy term, I wanted to take a moment to share some of the exciting events that have been taking place at Cam Everlands Primary School.

Firstly, 52 of our pupils recently visited Westonbirt Arboretum as part of the Silk Wood Community Planting Project. Together, they planted an impressive 145 trees, showing their commitment to environmental conservation and community engagement. More details overleaf.

In addition, a group of 30 pupils had the opportunity to explore the fascinating habitats of animals and insects at Robinswood Hill Country Park. This hands-on experience allowed them to deepen their understanding of the natural world and appreciate the importance of biodiversity.

Our Key Stage 2 students were treated to a mesmerizing performance by the Bourne-mouth Symphony Orchestra in Bristol. The trip gave them a wonderful opportunity to see professional musicians performing, hopefully inspiring some to pick up an instrument for themselves.

The Wizard of Oz was brought to life thanks to the incredible M&M Theatre Productions. The children were captivated by the performance, which transported them to the magical land of Oz.

Year 5 children have successfully completed their Bikeability training, equipping them with essential cycling skills and knowledge to navigate the roads safely. The instructors commented on how polite and sensible the children were, noting that Cam Everlands was one of the schools they enjoy visiting most. Well done to all those involved!

The creativity and talent of our pupils were showcased in the fantastic play, "You Are Special," performed by Years 3 and 4. Their hard work and dedication truly paid off, leaving everyone who watched them really proud.

Our school choir showcased their musical talents by performing a medley of Peter Pan songs. Their talent and dedication to their lunchtime rehearsals shone through in their confident delivery, impressing everyone who saw them.

We also had a blast on Comic Relief day, as almost all our children came in with crazy hair, adding a touch of fun and excitement to the school day. Thank you to all the parents and carers who supported this worthy cause.

Lastly, I want to express my gratitude to all the children who sent in photos of themselves engaging in extreme reading. It is heart-warming to see their enthusiasm for books and the joy they find in exploring different worlds through literature.

As always, I am immensely proud of the achievements and experiences our pupils have had this term. Their dedication, enthusiasm, and zest for learning continue to inspire us all.

Wishing you a restful and enjoyable break over the upcoming holidays.

Dominic Knill  
Headteacher

### Diary dates

#### 2023-24 key dates

6.5.24	Bank Holiday
8.5.24	Class photos
6.6.24	Sports day (Y3-6 am, YR-Y2 pm)
10.6.24	Real world maths morning
17.6.24	Y6 transition My Plan re view meetings
9.7.24	Year 6 Production
10.7.24	Y6 Meet the tutor
12.7.24	Y6 Rednock Induction day
15.7.24	Reports sent home
17.7.24	Optional parent's evening
19.7.24	End of term
22.7.24	INSET 6

#### 2023/24 term dates

Term 1	5.9.23 — 26.10.23
Term 2	6.11.23 — 21.12.23
Term 3	8.1.24 — 9.2.24
Term 4	20.2.24 — 22.3.24
Term 5	8.4.24 — 24.5.24
Term 6	3.6.24 — 19.7.24

#### 2023/24 INSET staff training days

4.9.23	INSET 1
27.10.23	INSET 2
22.12.23	INSET 3
19.2.24	INSET 4
22.7.24	INSET 5

### Attendance

Overall attendance term 4

**93.2%**

Year to date:

**92.1%**

"Good" attendance is **95%** or above  
(source: DfE).

### Reminder!

Sports day for both infants and juniors is on 6th June — please come and support if you can!



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## Goodbye, Mrs Longden!



It is with a very heavy heart that I have to share with you all that our amazing office administrator, Carol Longden, has made the decision to retire at the end of next term.

Carol has been a constant present in the office for just over 20 years and will have seen hundreds of children pass through the school during this time (you may well have been one of those pupils!) along with a lot of staff too!

Throughout her time at Cam Everlands, Carol has supported a 4 headteachers, 2 school business managers, tens of teachers, teaching assistants, lunchtime staff, cleaners, site managers, children, parents, delivery drivers and tradespeople. She has an encyclopaedic knowledge of the workings of the school as well as an in-depth understanding of the building itself. If there is something you want to know, Carol is the person to ask!

Not only has she been a member of staff — her two children, Jake and Karis also came to the school so she has been a parent too. The family connection doesn't stop there though. Ian, Carol's husband, served on the Governing body for years too.

With her time in the office being over 2 decades, Carol has been a member of staff for almost half of the school's lifetime and this is a reflection of her commitment to Cam Everlands. She has been a lynchpin in helping organise trips and book coaches which the children have enjoyed so much and has been our main liaison with Caterlink to ensure that all children receive the meals which they've ordered.

There is no doubt that Carol's shoes will be very difficult to fill but we wish her a very long and happy retirement. She will be hugely missed by the whole Cam Everlands community so please do come and see her when you get the chance.

## Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra trip

Over the past few years, it has become something of a tradition for the children of the junior classes to assemble in the hall to watch streamed performances of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra. This year, however, they announced that they were going to perform at the Beacon Theatre in Bristol, so Mrs Butler jumped on the chance to buy some tickets for the children.

Weeks later, 3 coach loads of children, staff and parent volunteers headed off to Bristol to see the orchestra in person.

The performance by the orchestra was awe-inspiring and the children loved the experience of seeing an orchestra play live. Not only did they hear the music, they also felt it. Thank you to Mrs Butler for organising this for the children and thank you to all of the staff and parents who joined the trip to help out.





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## Westonbirt tree planting

On a grey and damp day at the end of February, over 50 Cam Everlands pupils, staff and parents ventured to Westonbirt Arboretum to help them with a new planting project.

The Silk Wood Community Planting Project aims to revive an area of the arboretum which has been ravaged by ash die-back. The aim is for over 9000 trees to be planted over the next 3 years, and they are being assisted by over 1000 individuals.

Cam Everlands has a special link to the project. Last school year, our Eco Council were given the task of sending designs for the area to the staff at Westonbirt who would choose a winning design from 8 schools. The winning design was created by Emily Fletcher who was in Year 6 at the time (and who joined us on the day).



So, having provided the winning designer, we were invited to plant some of the trees which are starting the regeneration of the area.

Mme Brunet worked incredibly hard to organise the logistics for the day and it ran like clockwork. Pupils from Years 1 to 6 came along and spent the day learning about how to plant trees and actually getting their hands dirty by planting saplings of many different varieties.

The children were brilliant throughout the whole day, showing very good stamina and determination to plant as many saplings as possible whilst ensuring that they had the best chance of survival.

Meg, who liaised with us throughout the day said, "I'm glad to hear that you all enjoyed it! We had a really lovely day as well and I was so impressed by how organised, polite and engaged all of your students were. I know it can be quite hard work with such a large group especially in the drizzle so I want to say a massive thank you to you, your staff and students for all of their hard work!"

I would like to pass my thanks on to Mme Brunet who organised the day and leads both our School Council and Eco Councils with great enthusiasm. I would also like to thank all of the other members of staff and parents who volunteered on the day. Without you, events like this cannot happen.

If you would like to read more about this, please go to: <https://www.fowa.org.uk/blog/young-conservationists-plant-the-next-generation-of-trees>

## School Choir

During the last week of term, our school choir performed a medley of songs from Peter Pan to their parents and families. Everyone who watched them was deeply impressed by the talent on show and we think there may be a couple of musical theatre performers among their ranks.



Well done to every single one of them for their confidence in performing so well and a big thank you to Mrs Sinclair who gave up many lunchtimes to help the children rehearse,



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## Robinswood Hill visit



In early March, 30 Cam Everlands children visited Robinswood Hill Country Park in Gloucester.

The purpose of this visit was for the children to explore the habitats of different species. They all reported that they had had a great time and learned lots. Thank you to Mme Brunet who organised the day.



## School Association

The School Association held their AGM on the evening of 20th March. The online meeting was very well attended with some eager new supporters to join the existing team.

Key roles within the School Association have been elected and these are listed below:

Chair—Jennie O'Reilly

Secretary—Claire Wheeler

Treasurer—Nathalie Wood

Teacher Representative—Tom Payne

All of the above are trustees of the School Association. Other trustees are Lucy Siggers, Laura Williams and Stuart Newman.

Alongside the trustees, there are additional committee members who are Debbie Ford, Shane Bennett, Charlie Taylor and Dominic Knill.

The School Association do a really great job in raising money which is spent to solely benefit the children of Cam Everlands. Any additional support to support their events is always very welcome.



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## Year 3 & 4 performance, "You Are Special"

In another showcase of the singing and acting talents of the Cam Everlands pupils, our Year 3 and 4 classes put on a show called 'You Are Special'.

We were treated to a series of brilliantly performed songs interspersed with excellently delivered dialogue — a true ensemble cast play.

Well done to all of the children who worked so hard and performed with such confidence, thank you to the teachers and staff who helped rehearse the children and a huge thank you to everyone who came and watched.





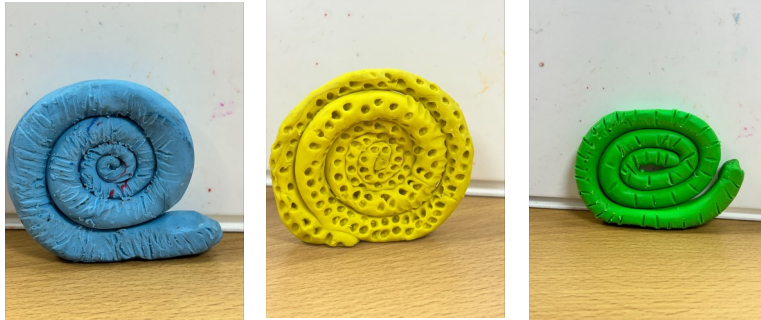
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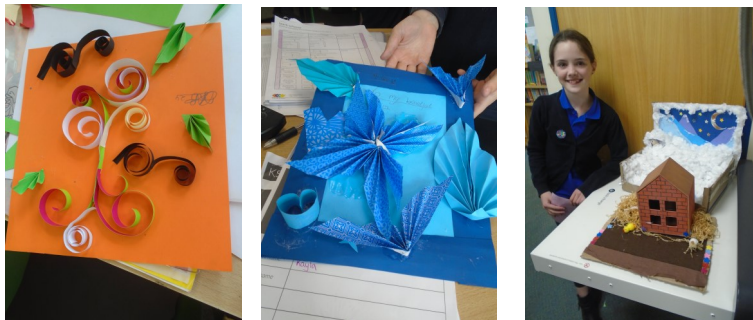
## Gallery



This term, our Reception class have produced some amazing Easter artworks, featuring chicks, daffodils and cockerels.



In Year 3, the children have been studying ammonites and also colour and shade. They have then sculpted their own ammonites.



Year 5 have done some fantastic home-learning activities as well as some brilliant artwork.