



Cam Everlands News

We believe, achieve and celebrate

We wish you a merry Christmas!

Dear parents and carers,

We've finally crawled over the finishing line of what has seemed like an endless term and I think everyone is ready for a well-earned break.

As ever, it has been a very busy and action-packed term for our children with lots going on.

The term began with the our intrepid Year 6s heading off to PGL Liddington for the annual residential. On Monday 6th of November, they headed off on the coach to begin a week of amazing activities. Throughout the week, the children challenged themselves to do things they hadn't experienced before, worked together and supported one another and they all survived their week away. They were a real credit to the school (and families!) with staff at the site commenting on their manners and good behaviour. And they will all have made memories which will last a lifetime.

We've also had some sporting events which have taken place this term. A team of Y5/6 boys attended a football tournament at Rednock and came a very creditable 3rd place. We've also seen our cross country team compete in 2 events so far (the 3rd was unfortunately cancelled) with all of the children competing incredibly well and showing true grit and determination. We will go through the final results in the next newsletter, once all events have taken place.

Our junior classes took part in a range of virtual activities which were put on by the Stroud Book festival and Year 3 visited St George's Church with Reverend Fiona.

Staff have been busy too. There has been training on our new Phonics scheme — Unlocking Letters and Sounds — for all staff which is vital as having good phonics knowledge underpins the children's ability to read. We've also had neurodiversity training from the ADHD Foundation entitled 'Leading a neuro-diverse Classroom'. Ongoing staff professional development is essential in ensuring that we are fully aware of the needs of our pupils so that we can meet their needs effectively. Along with that, we've had information from Young Minds Matter (supporting children's mental health) and from a play therapist, explaining what their role includes.

We have ended the term with 2 of the highlights of the school year. Our infant classes were amazing in their two performances of the 'Bethlehem Bakeoff' nativity and our junior classes sang like angels in the Key Stage 2 Christmas sing-a-long. I have no doubt that everyone who saw either or both of the events would agree that the children were completely brilliant and we're hugely proud of them all. There are pictures in the gallery on later pages.

So, as we reach the end of term, it just leaves me to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year from everyone here at Cam Everlands.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Dominic Knill

Headteacher

Term 2, 2023/24

Diary dates

2023-24 key dates

9.2.24	Mid-year reports to parents
10.2.24	Half term holiday
19.2.24	INSET
20.2.24	Children return to school
21.2.24	Parents' evening
22.2.24	Parents' evening
20.3.24	Y3&4 Performance (1.30pm)
8.5.24	Class photos
6.6.24	Sports day
10.7.24	Year 6 Production (TBC)

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 2:

91.8%

Year to date:

93.4%

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

Change of date!

Our Year 6 performance date is changing due to a clash with the Nibley Festival. We have pencilled it in on Wednesday 10th July and will confirm that date in the new year.



Cam Everlands News

We believe, achieve and celebrate

Attendance

Attendance continues to be a concern for us. The Department for Education states that 'good' attendance is 95% or above. Across the school, our attendance for the year is 93.4%.

More worryingly, we have 24.8% of our pupils who are classified as 'persistently absent' (attendance below 90%). This means that, on average, 7 pupils in every class are missing at least half a day of school each and every week. Over the year, this will equate to at least 19 days of missed learning (or approximately 114 hours of lost learning time).

Whilst children will get ill from time to time, please do think very carefully about keeping your children at home if they have minor ailments. Equally, whilst we are sympathetic about the cost of holidays during school holidays, please try and minimise time taken off for this reason.

If you are struggling to get your child(ren) into school, please do come and have a talk with either Mrs Latuszka or Mr Knill. We want to work together to support you in getting your child into school as often as possible.



Nits!

We have had a number of sightings of these unwelcome creepy crawlies in the past couple of weeks. Please can you check your children's hair and treat if necessary. Thank you.

School Association

Once again, our incredible School Association have worked tirelessly to put on a number of events this term to raise money which supports the children in school.

On 24th of November, a good number of teams attended the Quiz Night which was held in Dursley Community Centre. A great time was had by all and the scores were very close but the staff team were deposed as champions. We'll be back next year to try and reclaim the crown!

Then on the evening of Friday 8th of December, the Christmas Fair was held at school. It was amazing to see so many family and friends, pupils and past pupils in the building enjoying the multitude of stalls and activities. Everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves and getting into the spirit of the event.

On behalf of the school, I'd like to send a huge thank you to the School Association team and also all of the parents and wider families who have supported the events so far this year.



Cam Everlands News

We believe, achieve and celebrate

Gallery, part 1



Some of the events which our Year 6 pupils enjoyed on their residential at PGL Liddington in November.



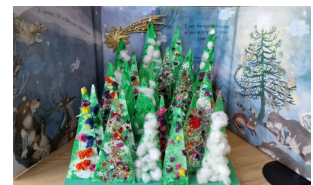
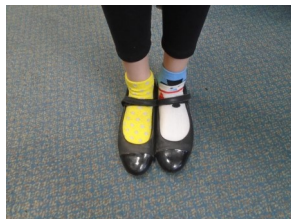
Lucas and Evie, our Y6 School Councillors, took donations to the GL11 Foodbank.



Year 4 created some amazing weaving projects in their DT lessons.



The children enjoyed wearing odd socks to support Anti-Bullying Week.



The children in Reception collaborated to make a great Advent display for Quarry Church.

Continued overleaf...



Cam Everlands News

We believe, achieve and celebrate

Gallery, part 2



There was plenty to see and do at the Christmas Fair so kindly organised by the School Association.



Key Stage 2 were amazing in the Christmas sing-a-long. They sang so well and the rain even relented!



Our infants did an amazing job in bringing their Nativity to life. Everyone loved listening to their performance.

