



Cam Everlands News

We believe, achieve and celebrate

Rain, rain go away!



Dear parents and carers,

In my last newsletter, I said that Spring had sprung. Please accept my sincere apologies for jinxing the weather. As my gran would have said, at least the plants appreciate the rain!

This term has been quite a short one in terms of weeks, but seems to have been jam-packed with things going on.

World Book Day was held on the first Friday of the term along with a book sale at the end of the day. The children all loved being able to wear their comfiest clothes into school, lots of them also created fantastic book covers for a competition. Congratulations to our winners Finley H(Y1), Eleanor (Y3) and Daisy (Y6). The book sale was incredibly successful with £1250 worth of sales raising £125 for the school.

Our Year 5 and 6 classes were invited to Rednock to see their pupils perform 'The Wizard of Oz'. Some Cam Everlands alumni were in the cast and everyone enjoyed the spectacle.

Our Key Stage 1 and 2 classes also made the short journey to St George's church where Reverend Fiona and her team put on an 'Experience Easter' event for the children. I was fortunate enough to join Year 2 on their visit and they were amazing, well behaved and engaged throughout. The feedback I received was that the children represented the school brilliantly — well done everyone! A big THANK YOU to all of the parents who volunteered to join their children on the trip. Without you, we couldn't do these trips and we appreciate you giving up your time.

During this last week of term, we have been lucky enough to have had Reverend Fiona along with Reverend Catherine join us for our whole-school assembly on Monday. Along with some of our Year 5 children, they retold the Christian story of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection.

Then, on Tuesday, our junior classes enjoyed a performance of 'The Secret Garden' from our regular visitors M&M Productions. As usual, the children had a brilliant time and were waxing lyrical afterwards. Maybe a few have been inspired to pursue a career on the stage!

Finally, we've had our second parents' evenings of the year. These meetings are so important for us to share how your children are doing in school so thank you to all of you who made appointments to see your child's class teacher. If you haven't yet made an appointment, please get in touch.

All that is left for me to do is wish you all a very Happy Easter. I hope you all have a great holiday and we look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 17th April.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Dominic Knill

Headteacher

Everfest — Friday 23rd June



Our fabulous School Association have confirmed the date for our summer spectacular, Everfest. After the brilliant reintroduction post COVID last year, I have no doubt that it will be even bigger and better this year. Get the date in your diary

Term 4, March 2023

Diary dates

17/4/23	Term 5 begins
1/5/23	May Bank Holiday
8/5/23	Coronation Bank Holiday
9/5/23	Y6 SATs week begin
12/5/23	Y6 SATs end
26/5/23	End of term 5
5/6/23	Term 6 begins
8/6/23	Sports day (KS2 am, KS1 pm)
17/7/23	Reports sent home
21/7/23	End of term 6 and end of year

2022/23 Term dates

Term 1	6/9/22 – 21/10/22
Term 2	31/10/22 – 16/12/22
Term 3	4/1/23 – 17/2/23
Term 4	27/2/23 – 31/3/23
Term 5	17/4/23 – 26/5/23
Term 6	5/6/23 – 21/7/23

INSET staff training days (school closed to children)

INSET 1	5/9/22
INSET 2	25/11/22
INSET 3	3/1/23
INSET 4	24/7/23
INSET 5	25/7/23

Attendance

Overall attendance term 4:

92.7%

Year to date:

93.1%

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

Reminder!

Don't forget, Monday 8th May is an additional bank holiday to celebrate the King's Coronation. School will be closed on this date.



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Annette Heylings

For those of you who aren't sure who Annette is, she has played a huge role in the Cam Everlands Primary School story.

She joined the school as a teacher 1989. Possibly her most important role within the school at the time was as the formal 'piano player' who would accompany the children singing in assembly. It is very hard to overestimate how important this job was! She had many roles throughout her time and was very highly respected by her peers. Mr Dixon, once the headteacher of Cam Everlands, referred to her as 'the rock' of the school. High praise indeed.

She finally hung up her chalk and marking pens with her retirement from the classroom in 2012.

That wasn't her last involvement with the school, however. She then became a governor and most recently has been the Chair of Governors. This voluntary role comes with a great deal of responsibility and she has overseen the appointment of 3 headteachers. She has provided support, friendly challenge and stability, ensuring that the strategic direction of the school is in the right direction.

On behalf of all the children, staff and parents who have been through the school since 1989 and thus had their lives influenced by Annette, we wish her the very best for her second (and final) retirement. She will be sorely missed!



Sickness — 48 hour rule



Whilst we love seeing our pupils every day and encourage their attendance in school, please can you remember that, if they have been sick or suffered from diarrhea, they must not return to school before 48 hours since the final episode has passed. This is taken from national guidelines and is in place to minimize the risk that any contagious illnesses should have passed by then. Ultimately, the rule is in place to prevent the spreading of infections to the other members of the class and wider school community so please can you ensure that you are not bringing children back too soon. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

INSET days for 2023-24 and 2024-25

In order to help with your future planning, we have scheduled our INSET days for the next two academic years. They will be as follows:

2023-24

Monday 4th September 2023
Friday 27th October 2023
Friday 22nd December 2023
Monday 19th February 2024
Monday 22nd July 2024

2024-25

Monday 2nd September 2024
Monday 4th November 2024
Monday 6th January 2025
Monday 24th February 2025
Monday 21st July 2025

Healthy schools and snacks



We aspire to be accredited as a healthy school and we work hard to educate the children about how to eat healthily and have a healthy lifestyle. Part of this is making sure that the children have healthy lunchboxes and healthy snacks at break time. Please can we remind parents that snacks should be healthy and not chocolate or crisps. Thank you.



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Housekeeping

Contact details

If you have recently changed your mobile phone number or email address (or any other contact details), please can you ensure that our admin team know. It is vital for the safeguarding of the children that we have **at least two current contact numbers**. Thank you.

Labelling

By the nature of school uniform all looking the same, it is essential that all clothing is clearly labelled. Should items then be 'misplaced', they are much more likely to be reunited with their owners.

Earrings

If your child has earrings, please make sure that they can either remove them for PE or have micropore tape with which to cover them. This is to prevent them from potentially being torn out during PE lessons.

Out of school achievers

Should your child do something amazing out of school, please let us know. Our celebration assemblies are on a Friday afternoon and it is a joy to be able to share what great things our children have been up to outside of school. You can either send the information (and any photos) to Mr Knill directly or their class teacher. Email addresses are available on the 'Teaching Team' section of the school website.

Club attendance

When signing up for clubs, we feel that a commitment is being made for the child to attend the club. Should they not be able to attend a session, please can you let the person running the club know in advance. If your child no longer wants to attend, please let us know as many clubs have waiting lists and we can offer their place to someone else.

Cross Country



Following his exceptional performances representing Cam Everlands at the local cross country events, Kai B was chosen to run in the county finals against the best runners from across Gloucestershire.

This is a great achievement in itself but Kai, as a year 4, was competing against year 5s from other schools so it was a stiff challenge.

Undaunted, Kai turned up and gave 100%. At the end, Kai had done himself proud and came 47th out of 85 competitors.

No doubt next year, when competing against his own age group and with the experience he's gained this year, Kai will be able to climb the results table.

We're all very proud of your achievements this year. Well done!

School Association

Following the School Association Annual General Meeting on 13th March, the Committee have been elected for the forthcoming year. They are: Jennie O'Reilly (Chair); Charlie Taylor (Treasurer); Claire Wheeler (Secretary) and Tom Payne (School Representative).

All of the above are also trustees along with Lucy Siggers and Laura Williams, and they are very busy looking into events which bring our school community together and raise money for the children of Cam Everlands Primary.

If you would be interested in helping our small but very committed School Association, I have no doubt they would appreciate the support.



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Attendance

Our attendance this term improved slightly from last term but is still not where we would like it to be. There have been a few winter bugs circulating which means that our **attendance has remained at 92.7%** for the term and brought our total for the school year down to **93.1%**. Hopefully, the next term will see an improvement so that we can bring our figures closer to **our target of 95%**.

Attendance in school is so important as it means the children are present for as many lessons as possible. Absence has a negative impact on children's learning but can also impact their mental health. Worries can be brought on because of missed lessons, or missed friends. Typically, the more absence, the higher the levels of worry.

If you are uncertain whether you should send your child in or not, please have a look at the NHS advice on the link below:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

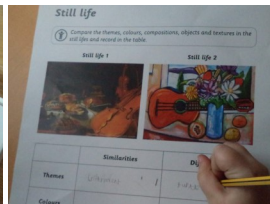
Termly highlights

Year 5



In Year 5, the class enjoyed a walk to Holywell Orchard where they re-enacted a passage from the class text 'Wolf Brother' by Michelle Paver. Bailey got busy baking and the year 5 children were unanimous in saying that the cakes were delicious! There have also been some amazing creations being built out of Lego — the imagination of the children is genuinely impressive! The class have also had Mrs Hyde working with them for 6 weeks to help the children prepare for their very own Dragon's Den activity.

Year 2



The focus for the art lessons in year 2 this term has been still life. The children have looked at a range of paintings by notable artists, compared the similarities and differences and had a go at painting their own still life painting using the techniques taught in class.



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Termly highlights continued...

Year 6



Year 6 have been busy again! There has been a lot of art going on with skills including stencilling and printing using sponges and carved soap! A great deal of fun was had by all and some very impressive pieces of artwork were produced. The Year 6 children were also lucky to be able to take part in a workshop with the theatre group who performed 'The Secret Garden'.

Year 4



Year 4 took a stroll along the River Cam as part of their topic to identify the features of rivers and also hunt for evidence of river creatures. For World Book Day, the children used watercolours to create alternative book covers for their favourite books. In PE, the children have been studying dance. They choreographed routines for their group which were about the water cycle.

Year 1



Year 1 have been working very hard in their Design and Technology lessons. They have been learning about building vehicles, focussing on the design of the chassis and how to install axles into them.

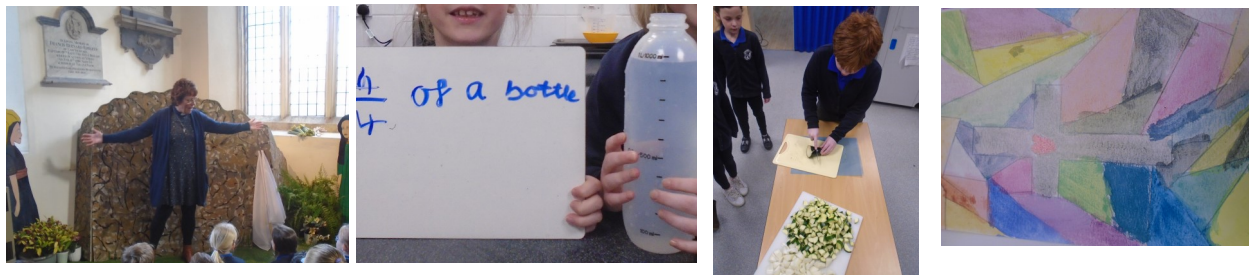


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Termly highlights continued...

Year 3



As mentioned elsewhere in the newsletter, Year 3 visited St George's Church for 'Experience Easter' this term. All of the children left the church with a better understanding of the Easter story. Year 3 have also been learning about fractions in maths. To add some real-life relevance to the work, they used practical resources and also learned about scales and measurements. They also made some delicious ratatouille which (most) enjoyed and, using skills learnt in art, created some Easter-themed art.

Year Reception



Our Reception class had a very exciting day out this term. They hopped onto a coach and were driven to Cirencester where they spent the morning making what look like absolutely delicious pizzas in Pizza Express. As you can tell from the photos, they all had a great time stretching dough, spreading the sauce and adding toppings. Sadly, there were no seats left on the coach so I couldn't join them but I'm determined to go along with next year's cohort when they go!