



Cam Everlands News

We believe, achieve and celebrate

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas...



Dear Parents and carers,

Christmas time is probably the busiest time of the year in a primary school with nativities, carol concerts, Christmas meals, fairs and more going on. It brings a really exciting energy to the school and it's so lovely seeing all of the children collaborating and getting involved with everything going on.

It is also tempting to forget that the term actually began at the end of October, 7 weeks ago and so much has happened throughout this time.

The first adventure was the departure of our Year 6s to their residential at PGL Liddington. The week was a great experience for all, with many lifelong memories having been made. All of the children deserve a huge 'well done' for their great attitudes and Mr Easey, Ms Fernandez and Miss Conner earned a huge 'thank you' from parents, children and the school.

We've also had two major School Association events this term: a disco and the Christmas Fair. The disco proved incredibly popular with around 195 of our children dancing the night away. The Christmas Fair was also incredibly well attended and it was brilliant to see so many of you supporting the school. From all of the children and staff, we'd really like to say thank you to our incredible School Association team.

In the past couple of weeks, the school has seen two nativity performances along with a carol concert. Being able to welcome parents and carers back has meant the world to the children and they've done themselves proud!

Our Gardening Club and Eco Council were invited to take part in the Dursley Lions Platinum Jubilee tree planting too. A group of 13 children walked across town on a cold but beautiful day and represented the school really well. Hopefully, they'll be able to revisit the trees they planted in the future with their children.

Throughout this term, the site has been abuzz with the sounds of children taking part in extra-curricular clubs. These clubs have been held through all weathers — although I did wonder if cross country club may have needed rescuing by the RNLI after one particularly wet session — so I'd like to pass on my thanks to all of the staff who gave up their time to share their love of the clubs they have run.

But, as the term draws to a close, on behalf of all of the staff at Cam Everlands Primary, please can I wish you all a happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Dominic Knill

Goodbye Mrs Coombs

At the end of this term, we have to say a very sad goodbye to Mrs Coombs who is leaving us today. She has worn many hats over the past few years, firstly as parent, then volunteer, governor and, for the past 2 and a half years, as an SEND teaching assistant. Through all of these roles, Mrs Coombs has helped to ensure that the children get the very best they deserve and she will be missed by all members of the school community. We all wish her the very best in the future and hope that she comes back to visit. Thank you!

Term 2, December 2022

Diary dates

3/1/23	INSET day
4/1/23	Term 3 starts
29/3/23	Parents evening
30/3/23	Parents evening
8/5/23	Y6 SATs week begins
8/6/23	Sports day (KS2 am, KS1 pm)

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 2:

92.0%

Year to date:

93.5%

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

Reminder!

Staff have an INSET day on Tuesday 3rd January so children return on Wednesday 4th.



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Attendance

Like many schools, our attendance has been hit by a number of 'bugs' which seem to be doing the rounds this winter. This means that our **attendance has dropped to 92.0%** for the term and brought our total for the school year down to **93.5%**. Hopefully, the new year 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/>

Top attendance tips

1. Get routines in place! Try and ensure that your weekday routine is in place and allows for a calm start to the day
2. Get everything ready the night before. This way, there is no panic and stress because shoes or book bags can't be found
3. If your child is feeling under the weather, send them in. If they don't perk up during the day, we can always contact you. Equally, if they are absent for the morning but improve by lunchtime, send them in for the afternoon.
4. Try to book doctors and dentist appointments outside of school hours wherever possible. If it has to be during

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.

Parking

Once again, please can I remind parents to ensure that they are parking in a considerate way when dropping your children off at school or collecting them at the end of the day.

We currently have a number of parents parking on the yellow zig-zag markings close to the school entrance on a regular basis. These markings mean that you **must not park there** and are there to help ensure the safety of the children and staff who are using the drive in the morning.

In recent weeks, we have had a number of occasions where cars, vans and lorries have had to pull into the driveway to let traffic by and they have got very close to people nearby. This has been caused by the inconsiderate parking of a few parents.



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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.

Gallery



Cross Country

The photos above show our amazing cross country runners who competed at the first event of the year at KLB school in Wotton-under-Edge. They all performed brilliantly, showing great courage and determination and they can all be very proud of themselves. Thank you to Mr Payne and Mr Easey for both training them and organising them at the events.



Food bank

Food kindly donated by our families was taken to GL11 by our school council members. The food delivery was incredibly well received by the staff at GL11. Thank you to everyone who donated and to Mme Brunet-Lua who accompanied the children and took the food.



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Key Stage 1 Nativity

Our Year 1 and 2 children put on an amazing performance of the nativity this year. We were treated to some amazing dancing, great acting and really clear narrators who overcame the loss of the microphone at the last minute. The show was put on despite a large number of pupil and staff illnesses in the lead up to the show. You wouldn't have realised this, though, as they put on such a slick show. Well done children and thank you to all of the staff members who helped bring it all together.



Tree Planting

Last week, a group of pupils made up of our gardening club and Eco Council helped the Dursley Lions Club plant some trees to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of the late Queen Elizabeth II. They coped well in the freezing weather, planted lots of saplings for future generations to enjoy and had a hot chocolate on their return to celebrate. Thank you to Miss Edwards and Mme Brunet-Lua for organising.

