



# Cam Everlands News

We believe, achieve and celebrate

Term 2, 2025/26

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the autumn term, I am delighted to share the numerous achievements and events that have taken place here at Cam Everlands. Our pupils have excelled in many areas, demonstrating enthusiasm and talent in many different scenarios. We are proud of every one of them!

Our school community has been particularly active this term. The infant nativity, Christmas with Aliens, was a highlight, with two outstanding performances that filled our school hall with joy and festive spirit. It is always wonderful to see our youngest pupils perform with such confidence at such a young age. A huge thank you to both the staff who put it together as well as everyone who came to watch and support them. I know everyone was richly entertained!

Complementing this, our Key Stage 2 pupils delivered an engaging Christmas sing-a-long, which was well-attended by family members and showcased the musical abilities of our pupils. We take great pride in the quality of singing here at Cam Everlands and this event allowed us to share these talents with the wider school community.

On the culinary side, the school hall was buzzing for the annual Christmas Lunch and this, along with the Christmas Buffet provided a wonderful opportunity for pupils and staff to come together and celebrate.

The Year 6 residential trip to PGL Liddington was a tremendous success, with pupils displaying exceptional behaviour, bravery and resilience. Without exception, they tested themselves and faced their fears! I extend my sincere gratitude to Mr Payne, Mme Brunet-Lua, Miss Green, and Mr Kinsley for accompanying and supporting the children throughout this wonderful experience.

We were fortunate to host several enriching educational experiences over the past seven weeks. Year 1 pupils visited Slimbridge Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, expanding their understanding of wildlife and conservation. Year 5 engaged in a stimulating KNEX STEM morning with Renishaw, promoting scientific curiosity. Year 3 benefited from PE lessons delivered by Year 13 pupils from Rednock, while Year 6 'enjoyed' in a unique scientific investigation, dissecting sheep hearts with the assistance of Year 11 pupils from KLB.

The school community also demonstrated its commitment to inclusivity by recognising Anti-bullying Week through Odd Socks Day, reinforcing our values of respect and understanding.

Important Notice: Please note that our next INSET day will be on Monday, 5th January. Pupils will return to school on Tuesday, 6th January.

On behalf of all everyone at Cam Everlands, we wish you all a restful and enjoyable Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

Dominic Knill Headteacher





# Cam Everlands News

We believe, achieve and celebrate

## Sports News

Despite the miserable weather trying its best to wash-out the sporting calendar this term, there have still been some sporting events which have gone ahead.

We have sent boys football teams to both the Y3/4 and Y5/6 tournaments held at Rednock. Both teams represented the school with energy and enthusiasm and got some amazing results. They showed excellent teamwork and skill in all of their matches and we are proud of every single member of both squads.

Despite the cancellation of one of the events, our Cross Country team braved the wet conditions on 6th December to compete in the 3rd race. As usual, the runners who attended made us incredibly proud with their determination and stamina. We had many excellent performances across all teams with Zara L getting 2nd place after a photo-finish in the junior girls race, Isabelle S getting 6th place in the senior girls race and Jacob C getting 8th place in the senior boys race. After the 2 events, this leaves our Cross Country team in 2nd place in the large schools category.

## 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.

## Christmas Fair

Last Friday, we had our annual Christmas Fair. It was fantastic to see so many of our families — past, present and future — in the school. The event was meticulously planned by our wonderful School Association and supported by numerous volunteers on the evening.

There were plentiful stalls for everyone to spend their hard-earned money and the event raised around £1400 which is absolutely amazing!

As ever, this money will be spent by the School Association to improve the experience for the children of the school.

Once again a huge thank-you to everyone who attended and to those who organized and helped out on the day.





# Cam Everlands News

We believe, achieve and celebrate

## Staffing news

The end of the term sees two departures from our staff team here at Cam Everlands.

Mrs Bright, who has been teaching in Year 3 for the past 18 months, has been appointed as Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator at Callowell Primary School from January. Mrs Bright has always had a passion for SEND and supporting vulnerable pupils and we are delighted that she has been able to find a role which will allow her to utilise her skills and training fully. She will be missed as a member of staff here but we wish her every success in her new role. We are very lucky that Mme Brunet has agreed to increase her hours so she will be teaching full time here and into the future.

Not only is Mrs Bright leaving, we are also losing Mrs Amos, one of our brilliant Teaching Assistants. Mrs Amos has been working 1:1 with some of our pupils for the past 2 years but has decided that the time is right for her to take early retirement. She has been a fantastic member of our staff team in the time she has spent with us and has brought a calming influence to everything she has done. We will miss her greatly and hope she has a long and happy retirement!

## Attendance

This term has been challenging in terms of attendance for the school.

Due to a number of illnesses which have been doing the rounds, the attendance for this term was **92.1%**, considerably lower than 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:

Sadly, no classes met our target of 96%. Hopefully the new year will bring better attendance!

Our overall school attendance for the year to date is now:

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
91.2%	93.1%	92.2%	93.7%	92.4%	87.9%	94.1%





# Cam Everlands News

We believe, achieve and celebrate

## 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 5th January — INSET day #3

Friday 16th January — Young Voices concert in Birmingham

Saturday 17th January — Cross Country race 3

Saturday 7th February — Cross Country race 4

Tuesday 10th February — Reception class height and weight checks

Friday 13th February — Mid-year reports sent home

END OF TERM

Monday 23rd February — INSET day #4

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

Friday 27th February — Reception class Dinosaur Workshop

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

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