



Cam Everlands News

We believe, achieve and celebrate

Term 5, 2024/25

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the conclusion of a short but very productive term at Cam Everlands Primary, I am pleased to share with you what's been going on for the past four weeks and also important information for the final term of the school year.

Our pupils have been engaged in a variety of enriching experiences that have complemented their classroom learning. The Reception class recently embarked on an exciting culinary adventure to Pizza Express in Cirencester, where they had the opportunity to create their own pizzas. This hands-on experience not only enhanced their understanding of food preparation but also fostered creativity and teamwork.

Our Year 3 class journeyed back in time with a visit to Caerleon, immersing themselves in the world of the ancient Romans and their lives in Britain. The trip brought their studies to life as they explored the museum, baths, barracks, and amphitheatre. Such experiential learning opportunities are invaluable in deepening our pupils' historical knowledge and cultural understanding.

Our school grounds were transformed into a photographic studio as we captured class photos on the field, benefiting from exceptionally favourable weather conditions. These images will undoubtedly serve as cherished mementos for years to come.

In the realm of physical education, Years 4 and 5 have been honing their cricket skills under the expert guidance of Ben from Cam Cricket Club. We are grateful for this community partnership that enhances our sports curriculum. There are many sporting events to come in Term 6—please check the dates in the newsletter, the school website or Class Dojo calendar for more details.

I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to our Year 6 pupils who recently completed their SATs. Their unwavering determination and resilience throughout the assessment period were truly impressive. We are immensely proud of their efforts and the maturity they displayed during this challenging week.

Looking ahead, please can I draw your attention to the numerous events scheduled for next term. Our calendar is replete with activities including district sports, sports day, the Year 4 multiplication table check, Year 1 phonics screener, Everfest, the Year 5 & 6 production, Year 6 transition days, among many others. It is a very busy term so to ensure you are fully informed of these important dates, I strongly encourage you to consult the calendar provided overleaf, visit our school website, or refer to Class Dojo for the most up-to-date information.

As we continue to work together to provide the best possible educational experience for our pupils, I thank you for your ongoing support and engagement with our school community. Have a wonderful half-term week.

With best wishes,

Dominic Knill

Headteacher



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Attendance

Attendance across the school for Term 5 was 93.0%.

This equates to 225 days of missed learning across the school. Whilst 80 of these days were lost to illness, 145 days were lost for other reasons.

Attendance for the school year to date is 93.4% meaning 2050 days of learning have been missed since September.

Good attendance at school is vital for any child — if they're not in the classroom they are missing learning.

Last year 2253 days of learning were lost at Cam Everlands due to absence, an average of 12.5 days for each child.

Therefore, it is key that everyone is sending their children to school every day during term time when they are able to. Of course children get ill, and if they are physically sick, we expect them to stay off school for 48 hours to prevent the bug spreading.

We will not be authorising any holiday requests during term time. Whilst we are sympathetic to the difficulties in paying for holidays during the weeks we are on holiday, it does not qualify as being 'exceptional circumstances'. Therefore, all holiday requests will be shown as being 'unauthorised'.

What if my child's attendance is low?

Our preference in managing attendance is to support you to improve it.

If a child's attendance is **below 90%**, they are classified as being '**persistently absent**'. There are many reasons why a child may miss school some of which are valid and are classified as 'authorised' absences. Examples include illness and medical appointments. You will not be fined for these absences but we do encourage all medical appointments to be made outside of school hours wherever possible.

When a child's absence is 'persistent' (below 90%), we will contact you to see how we can support you to improve it. We have lots of experience in supporting families and will always look to talk about how we can help remove barriers.

Should the attendance not improve following this support, we will ask you to attend an Attendance Improvement Meeting (AIM) where formalised actions and targets will be agreed with the intention of improving attendance.

If the attendance does not improve at this point, we will issue a '**Notice to Improve**' and if the situation still doesn't improve, a **Fixed Penalty Notice** will be levied. We would prefer not to do this, but it is your legal responsibility to ensure your child attends school regularly.

What is the impact of persistent absence on the academic success of pupils?

Last year, **37%** of children who were 'persistently absent' were on track in reading, writing and maths.

For those who had attendance over 95%, this climbs to **69%**



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Key dates 2024-25

Term dates

Term 1: 2nd September to 25th October

Term 2: 4th November to 20th December

Term 3: 6th January to 14th February

Term 4: 24th February to 11th April

Term 5: 28th April to 23rd May

Term 6: 2nd June to 21st July

INSET days

Monday 2nd September

Monday 4th November

Monday 6th January

Monday 24th February

Monday 21st July

Term 6 key dates

Monday 2nd June

Tuesday 3rd June

Wednesday 4th June

Thursday 5th June

Friday 6th June

Monday 9th June

Tuesday 10th June

Wednesday 11th June

Wednesday 18th June

Friday 20th June

Monday 23rd June

Wednesday 25th June

Thursday 26th June

Wednesday 2nd July

Friday 4th July

Thursday 10th July

Friday 11th July

Monday 14th July

Wednesday 16th July

Thursday 17th July

Friday 18th July

Year 3&4 cricket tournament @ Cam CC

Year 5&6 cricket tournament @ Cam CC

Year 5 visit to Cheltenham Science Festival

New Reception parent evening

Key Stage 2 sports day (9.30am-12.00pm)

EYFS and Key Stage 1 sports day (1.30pm-2.30pm)

Year 2 trip to Sudeley Castle

District Sports (field events) @ Rednock School (4-5pm)

Y5&6 author visit — Christopher Edge

Relationships and sex education drop-in meetings (3.30—4pm)

District Sports (track events) @ Dursley Primary (5-7pm)

Y5 walk to St Cyr's church

Everfest (5-7pm)

Y6 trip to Berkeley UTC for STEM activities

Y5 trip to Badminton Estate

New Reception parents picnic on the field (1.30pm)

Y5&6 Production—matinee performance (1.45pm-3.15pm)

Y5&6 Production—evening performance (6pm-7.30pm)

Reception class visit to Cotswold Water Park

Simon Opher (MP) visiting Year 6

Year 6 transition day (Rednock)

Year 6 transition day (Rednock)

End of year reports sent out

Optional drop-in parents' evening

Year 6 Leavers party (5-6.30pm)

Year 6 Leavers Assembly (2pm)

End of term 6 (3.15pm)