



# Cam Everlands News

We believe, achieve and celebrate

**Term 6 2024/25**

Dear Parents and Carers,

September 3rd seems like a distant memory but signified the start of the academic year which is now drawing to a close. And, what a year it has been here at Cam Everlands. As ever, we have made every effort to provide the best primary school experience for the children, from the high quality teaching in class every day, through the wide range of activities, clubs, tournaments and trips the children have enjoyed to the excellent wellbeing support we offer all of our pupils.

Some of the highlights include:

- Y5 Shang Dynasty drama day
- Y1, Y2 and Y6 visited Slimbridge
- Wildlife Trust worked with Y3
- The Eco Council visited Westonbirt Arboretum
- Stroud Book Festival on Tour were hosted by the school
- Issi Lawrence (author) visited KS2
- KS2 joined Cam Hopton Primary pupils to recognise Armistice Day
- M&M Theatre group performed Cinderella and the Wizard of Oz to the school
- Y6 enjoyed a great week at PGL Liddington
- Y5 undertook Bullying Champion Training before the school-wide Anti-Bullying week
- All classes have had 10 weeks of music tuition and performed brilliantly to parents and families
- Y3 were invited to perform at both Cheltenham Town Hall and Birmingham Symphony Hall
- The infants performed the Nativity to parents and families and KS2 sang carols with families in the hall
- Y3&4 performed The Bee Musical to their families
- A group of Y5&6 pupils travelled to Birmingham to perform at the NIA as part of Young Voices
- The second phase of the Copper Kingdom redevelopment was completed
- Y5 pupils undertook their Bikeability training, visited the Science Festival in Cheltenham and spent the day at the Badminton Estate
- Y3 visited Caerleon as part of their Roman studies
- YR visited Pizza Express to make pizzas, visited Redwood and went to Cotswold Water Park
- Y2 visited Sudeley Castle
- Y5&6 performed their end of year show "Cinderella Rockerfella" superbly in 2 shows

....And so much more!

It has been a truly wonderful year but none of the above could happen without the hard work and dedication of the staff here at Cam Everlands. I am incredibly proud of the sacrifices staff make and how much of their own time they give to ensure that the children have plenty of memorable experiences as they pass through the school.

I also share my sincere thanks to all of the families and friends who have come along to support the children in one of the many events we have held or taken part in. Your support for your children — and the school — is vital and we do not take it for granted.

On behalf of all of the staff and governors of Cam Everlands Primary, I wish you all a restful summer. For those leaving us, go well and aim high — you've got this! For those who will be returning in September, we look forward to seeing you on the 2nd!

Best wishes,

Dominic Knill, Headteacher



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## Year 6



One of the hardest parts about the end of the academic year is saying goodbye to our Year 6 class.

The class of 2025 have been an amazing class of children who should be incredibly proud of everything they have achieved. Each and every one of them have navigated primary school well and have achieved great things, both individually and collectively.

We are confident that they will go onto their secondary education equipped to thrive and everyone here at Cam Everlands Primary wishes them the very best of luck with Year 7 and beyond. Hopefully we will see them in the future or they might say hello if they see us out and about.

Good luck, Year 6!

## Miranda Clifton, School Governor

Lots of people are associated with a school for 5 years, many for 10. A few people make 20 years but very few are actively involved with a school for 30 years. However, Miranda is one such person!

Joining the school for the final term of the school's first headteacher—Mr Badshaw—Miranda has worked tirelessly behind the scenes as a school governor for 3 decades. In that time, she has worked alongside all 5 headteachers who have lead the school in it's 49 year history and has been part of governing bodies who have steered the course of the school to where it is today.

Not only that, Miranda has been representing the local community as a counsellor for much of that time as well.

However, all good things must come to an end and Miranda is stepping down from her post. She is moving to Edinburgh to be closer to her children and grandchildren.

On behalf of the school community, past and present, I would like to pass on my sincere thanks for everything that Miranda has done. All of the hours have been voluntary and it shows her commitment to the school and wider community. We will miss her dearly but wish her every happiness in her new life in Scotland.

## School Association Update

A big thank you for your ongoing support for the events and activities hosted by the volunteer-led School Association. School discos, the community quiz, the Christmas fair, Sports Day sales and Everfest, it's been a busy year, and you've helped us raise over £2300, which is fantastic! Every penny goes directly to benefit the children - this year we've supported the refurb of Copper Kingdom, contributed to school trips and events across all classes, and provided storage for second hand uniform. Plans are already taking shape for projects next year too, so thank you for your generous support and we wish you all a lovely summer!

Jennie O'Reilly, Chair



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## Staff leavers

Sadly, at the end of another school year, we have some goodbyes to say.

### **Mrs Walshaw**

In early 2004, Sue Walshaw stepped in to help out when another member of staff was off sick. 21 years later, she has finally decided it's time to retire!

Anyone who has had a child start at Cam Everlands since 2004 would know Mrs Walshaw as she has been an ever-present in the Key Stage 1 classes. In her two decades of dedicated service, Sue has helped hundreds of children learn to read, count and do their shoe laces!

Sue wasn't only an employee of the school. Both of her children attended Cam Everlands and have gone on to thrive in their own ways. Sue was never more proud than when showing photos of her son, Ian, who has become a musician in the Army.

A popular member of the staff team, Sue had her finger on the pulse of the school and nothing happened which she didn't know about.

Now that she has more time to herself, Sue will no doubt be found spending more time with her husband, Dave, and her children, Ian and Paul, indulging her passion for music (Sue plays in a brass band), walking and also singing. Next year, she is setting sail on a cruise around the fjords and we have no doubt that this will be the first adventure of many! Everyone at Cam Everlands Primary extends their thanks to Sue for her many years of service and wishes her all the best for a long, happy and busy retirement.

### **Mrs Squire**

Nicki Squire was one of our very dedicated 1:1 teaching assistants who support children who have been given an EHCP. You knew when Nicki was in school because her distinctively-coloured van would be parked on the road outside the school.

Starting with us in October 2021, Nicki has demonstrated that she is an incredibly highly skilled teaching assistant but also deeply empathetic, with the patience of a saint. She provided incredible support to the pupil she worked with, striving endlessly to find ways to engage and meet their needs.

Before leaving us, Nicki completed her play therapy training and had begun supporting children in many other schools locally. No doubt her business will continue to go from strength to strength and she will be utilising her skills to support children who need her assistance. We wish Nicki all the very best in the future and thank her for her time here.

### **Mrs Carter**

Julia has had a foot in both camps as a parent of pupils (present and past) and as a member of staff here at Cam Everlands. She has worked as part of the team for the past 5 years, helping many children to feel more confident in their understanding of reading, writing and maths, as well as supporting children whose learning was impacted by the pandemic.

We know that Julia will be a regular visitor to the school as she still has 2 of her brood on roll. We wish her the very best in her future career.

### **Amelie Sacca**

Amelie has worked with us for the past term, supporting our Year 3 class. She has been an excellent addition to the team, even if (according to the children) she is stricter than Mme Brunet!

We wish her well with whatever she chooses to do next.



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## 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

Friday 10th October — Settling in reports sent home

Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th October — Parents' evenings

Monday 3rd to Friday 7th November — Year 6 PGL Residential

Tuesday 9th December — EYFS & KS1 nativity

Wednesday 17th December — KS2 Christmas Singalong

Friday 19th December — Christmas Buffet lunch

Friday 13th February — Mid-year reports sent home

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

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

Monday 13th July — End of year reports sent home

Wednesday 15th July — Optional drop-in parents' evening

*This is not a definitive list of dates. We will send more at the beginning of next term, when they have been confirmed.*