



Castle Camps C of E (V.C.) Primary School

Life in all its Fullness

January 2024

On behalf of all the staff and pupils at Castle Camps, please accept my best wishes for a very happy new year. The children have settled in well after their holiday and have made a very positive start to 2024. This term promises to be an exciting one, with lots of events and activities to look forward to, including World Book Day, a visit from Little City, STEM Week and the Young Voices Concert at the O2 Arena.

Christmas Services

GenR8 Assembly

It is always a pleasure to welcome the GenR8 Team back to Castle Camps and on Monday, 27th November, the whole school enjoyed their Christmas assembly. The assembly explored the Christian belief that Jesus, God's son, was born as a baby to bring hope to the world. The use of music and puppetry ensured the children were engaged in the presentation.

Advent Service

On Thursday, 30th November, we held our Advent Service in the School Hall. The singing was beautiful and the children in Deer Class supported the assembly with a selection of readings and prayers.

Ely Cathedral – Christingle Service

On Monday, 11th December, the whole school participated in the virtual Christingle Service from Ely Cathedral. The children made Christingle oranges prior to the service, which they were able to take home afterwards, and found out about the symbolism of the Christingle.

Christmas Wreath Making

Thank you to Mrs Wright and Mrs Garbutt for leading the Wreath Making Workshop for families on Tuesday, 28th November. Photographs of the beautiful wreaths can be found on the school Facebook page. Not only did this event bring together members of the school community, but it also served as a helpful fundraiser for the Friends of Castle Camps School (FOCCS).

Friends of Castle Camps School

Thank you to the FOCCS Committee, staff and volunteers for an excellent Christmas Fair on Friday, 1st December. It was wonderful to see so many families join us to support the event, including former students. Money raised from the Fair went towards the purchase of two new interactive whiteboards for Badger and Rabbit Classes. Due to the generosity of FOCCS, we have been able to replace all the classroom whiteboards over the last two years. This is a tremendous achievement.

Christmas Productions

EYFS & KS1 (The Twinkly Nativity) & KS2 (Christmas 1914)

Last term, we were delighted to welcome parents and families in to school for our Christmas Productions. The children truly excelled themselves and we have received a number of extremely positive comments from parents and members of the local community regarding the high standards of singing and acting. Thanks must also be extended, to all those who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the productions were such a great success.

Local Authority Phonics and Early Reading Review

On Thursday, 11th January, we welcomed Kathryn Brereton (English Adviser) into school to complete a Phonics and Reading Review. Mrs Brereton met with our Phonics Lead (Mrs Sterecki), as well as staff and children. She conducted lesson observations, studied our tracking systems and explored our Monster Phonics Scheme, with Mrs Sterecki, in detail. It was an extremely affirming review and I am grateful to all our staff and families for their continued hard work supporting phonics and reading.

Miss Alexandra O'Connor
Headteacher



Reading Buddies