



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

*Life in all its Fullness*

**March 2024**

After a peaceful half term break, we returned to school in February refreshed and well-prepared for the term ahead. Spring seems to have arrived now and we hope the sunshine continues, so we can begin to enjoy our school grounds to the full.

### **Bishop Dagmar's Lent Challenge**

Each year, schools within the Ely Diocese are invited to participate in the Lent Challenge. This year's challenge (*This is the Time*) focused on how we should care for our beautiful world. On Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> March, the children in Badger Class visited houses in the village to distribute Lenten gifts (a small potted plant) and Easter greetings. This activity not only supported the theme of the Challenge, but it also encouraged the children to demonstrate compassion towards others in the community through acts of kindness.

### **Music**

On Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> February, we welcomed Clare Coulson (Diocesan Adviser) into school to meet with our Music Subject Leader (Mrs MacBean) and to observe in lessons. Mrs Coulson was extremely positive about her visit and enjoyed the opportunity to meet staff and the children. Our Curriculum document for Music can be found under the 'Our Curriculum' tab on the website, and outlines our rolling programme for Music. We are always keen to expand our resources for Music and this term, we have purchased a class set of Ukuleles, which have proved very popular with the children.

### **World Book Day**

On Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> March, we celebrated World Book Day in school. The costumes were absolutely wonderful and everyone, staff included, took part. The children in Badgers and Deer particularly enjoyed joining the live webinar with author Michael Morpurgo, who shared creative writing insights and read from his novel 'The Butterfly Lion'.

In the afternoon, Y6 wrote and performed a World Book Day rap, inspired by the musician and English Adviser MC Grammar. MC Grammar uses rap as a learning tool to teach grammar. The whole school enjoyed listening to his World Book Day song in assembly.

### **Y6 Residential to Thorpe Woodlands**

On Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> March, children in Year 6 visited Thorpe Woodlands Thetford for their 3 day residential. During their stay, the children participated in a range of outdoor adventurous activities, including: Climbing; Canoeing; Team Challenges; Zip Wire; and High Rope. Each child tackled every new challenge with a smile and came away feeling very proud of their achievements. Special thanks to Mrs Fisher for supporting me on the trip.

### **STEM Week 2024**

We celebrated STEM Week on the week beginning Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> March through practical investigative work, guest speakers and presentations. During the week, children participated in a range of workshops, including the Architecture Workshop Company and Virtual Reality: The Oceans. We also welcome to school, David Swan, who ran workshops for the children using BBC micro-bits.

### **The Term Ahead**

As the Spring Term reaches its close, we are focused on preparing for the new challenges and adventures ahead. Our pupils in Year 6 will be revising for their SATs exams and visiting their secondary schools. The new Reception intake will be joining Hedgehog Class for transition activities very soon. Class teachers will be busy preparing their end of year reports and planning for a smooth transition for the children as they move up to their new classes.

In spite of all the hard work that inevitably takes place in the run up to the end of any academic year, we will also take time to enjoy the summer and the wonderful learning opportunities it presents. Every season is unique in its own way. However, the summer months, when the children can swim in the pool, play on the grass and enjoy our beautiful outdoor environment, are moments not to be missed. It is our intention and hope, that the pupils here will carry these happy memories of Castle Camps with them, as they move on to secondary school and forward in to their adult lives.

Miss Alexandra O'Connor  
Headteacher