



Castle Camps Primary School

Life in all its fullness

September 2023

It was wonderful to see everyone back in school last week – there is a lovely atmosphere and much excitement for the term ahead. Our new starters have settled in well and met their new “buddies” in Year 6, who are being such wonderful and caring role models. It is a pleasure to watch new friendships forming and our older children putting our school values into action. We are very proud of them all.

Staffing

The end of the Summer Term sometimes brings with it some staffing changes. Although it is always difficult to say “goodbye” to members of our team, we celebrate their achievements, appreciate their dedication to our school and wish them every happiness for the future.

We look forward to receiving updates from two of our much-valued Teaching Assistants, Mrs Marchesi and Miss Ailes, as they begin their teacher training. We hope they may re-join us in a teaching capacity one day. Mrs Lawson (our outstanding EYFS Leader) has been promoted to an Advisory post for the Local Authority, and Mrs Garbutt (long-serving and much-loved Teaching Assistant) has begun a well-earned retirement. We are deeply grateful for the exemplary contribution they made to the Castle Camps community and they will all remain firmly in our thoughts and hearts.

We are delighted that Mrs Sterecki has agreed to take over as full-time EYFS Leader from Mrs Lawson (ably supported by Mrs Liz Hunter and the EYFS team) and that Mrs Lindsey Hulyer and Mrs Zoe Ager have joined our staff. We are fortunate to have been able to recruit such excellent professionals to our school.

Congratulations

It is a privilege to announce that Mrs Marchesi graduated from university in July and has passed her BA (Hons) in Early Childhood Studies with flying colours. A picture of Mrs Marchesi (in her gown and mortarboard) is on the school Facebook page.

Nursery Places: September 2023

We are still accepting applications for children, who will be aged 3 on the 31st August, to start in our nursery class this term. If you would like to apply for a place for a younger sibling, or know of anyone interested, then please get in touch with us.

Aspens: Our New Catering Provider

I am delighted to report that our new catering provider (Aspens) has made a fantastic start. Our wonderful cook (Mrs Cross) worked extremely hard throughout the summer to ensure everything was ready for the children’s return to school and it seems that the new menus are proving very popular with staff and pupils; lunchtimes feel like a very positive experience for all. Following a routine inspection this morning, we were awarded a 5 Star rating for Food Hygiene. Congratulations and massive thanks to Mrs Cross for all her hard work – she has been incredible.

Harvest Festival – Friday, 29th September

This year, we will be celebrating our Harvest Festival on Friday, 29th September with a special service in the Hall at 10am. Harvest is a good opportunity to think of the needs of others, so on that day and during the week, we will be collecting food donations for the Haverhill Food Bank, which supports local families in need.

Year 2 Singing Festival

Year 2 will be participating in the Linton Cluster Year 2 Singing Festival on Wednesday, 18th October. This is a lovely opportunity for the children across the Linton Cluster to join together at Linton Village College and celebrate music.

Reception 2024

We shall be holding an Open Morning for prospective parents (Reception places 2024) on Wednesday, 1st November starting at 9:30am. If you know of any parents looking for a Reception place for 2024, or are considering an in-year transfer for an older child, we would be most grateful if you could pass on the information. Bookings can be made via the School Office.

Young Voices Choir

In January, we will be returning to the O2 Arena to take part in the Young Voices Concert. Thank you to Mrs MacBean and Mrs Evans for leading this.

Before we know it, we will be busy preparing for Christmas! Until then, please accept my best wishes for the months ahead.

Miss Alexandra O'Connor
Headteacher