



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

Life in all its fullness

Camps Review Article: July 2025

Activities and Events

It has been a very busy Summer Term at Castle Camps, which included wonderful trips to Harry Potter Studios, Colchester Zoo and Boydell's Farm. We also enjoyed a very successful Year 6 residential to Thorpe Woodlands Thetford, a whole school Seaside Day, book and plant sales and an end of term disco. There were a number of successful sporting tournaments, too, plus football league matches organised by Matt Crawley (Prestige Sports). After so much activity, everyone is ready for a well-earned rest over the summer holiday.

Pupil Attainment 2024-5

2024-25 was another successful year in terms of the school's national test results. I am delighted to report that 67% of our Reception children achieved a Good Level of Development in their end of year assessments; which continues our positive record of achievement in the Foundation Stage. 84% of children achieved the pass mark in the Year 1 Phonics Screening and in the Year 6 SATS, 79% of the children reached the expected standard+ in Reading, Maths and Writing.

New Appointments

Teaching Assistant EYFS

I am delighted to announce that, following a successful interview process, Mrs Katrina Coxall has been appointed as a Teaching Assistant and will be joining our staff team in September. Mrs Coxall will be working Full-Time in Hedgehog Class.

New Deputy Headteacher

We are also very excited to welcome back Mr Dan Williamson, who will be joining us in September as Rabbit Class Teacher and our new Deputy Headteacher. Mr Williamson will be taking over from Mrs Louise French who, after 15 years of dedicated service at Castle Camps, has moved to a senior leadership role at a larger school in Essex. Please see a message from Mr Williamson below:

'I am delighted to have been appointed as the new Deputy Headteacher from September. This opportunity feels especially exciting for me, as it marks a return to a school community I know and love. Having worked at Castle Camps four years ago, I have many fond memories of the warm, supportive atmosphere created by the staff, pupils and families.

Since I left, I have continued to develop my passion for teaching, specialising in Maths and Computing — two subjects I believe are vital for helping our children develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills for the future. I am excited to bring my knowledge and enthusiasm back to Castle Camps and to work alongside the team in providing the very best for every child.

I look forward to reconnecting with familiar faces and getting to know those who have joined the school community since my last time here. I am thrilled to be part of Castle Camp's journey once again and can't wait to get started in September.

*Warm regards,
Dan Williamson'*

Reception 2025 and In-Year Applications

If you are interested in a place for your child at Castle Camps, but missed the Open Mornings, we will be happy to arrange a tour. Please contact the Office on office@castlecamps.cambs.sch.uk.

Wraparound Provision at Castle Camps: Prestige Sports

At Easter, we opened wraparound provision at Castle Camps. The out of hours provision is run by Prestige Sports and we are feel this will provide excellent extra-curricular activities for the children and much-needed child care for our working families:

'Our Wrap Around Club provide parents with an early drop off and late pick up option wrapped around the school day. With a whole child-centered approach, we aim to cater for a large range of interests. Children can expect to have access to sports, games and activities as well Arts & Crafts, STEM & Seasonal Themes. We pride ourselves on providing a fun and safe environment to cater for your childcare needs around the school day. Our venue is Ofsted Registered.'

For more information, please visit our school website:

<https://www.castlecampsschool.co.uk/breakfast-and-after-school-club/>

Year 6 Leavers' Service

On Tuesday, 22nd July, we will say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils. During the service, which will be led by Revd Ian Fisher at All Saints Church, the children will share their special memories and celebrate their achievements at Castle Camps. Year 6 were an incredible year group and we are so proud of the young people they have become. We look forward to hearing of their continued progress at their new secondary schools (LVC, Stour Valley, Castle Manor and Samuel Ward).

Please accept my best wishes for a very happy and relaxing summer.

Miss Alexandra O'Connor
Headteacher