

Headteacher Newsletter

Wednesday, 21st January 2026

Castle Camps C. of E. Primary School

Church Lane, Castle Camps, Cambridge CB21 4TH

Website: <https://www.castlecampsschool.co.uk/>

Telephone: 01799 584 270

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a busy and happy fortnight in school, and it's been lovely to see the children settling back into their routines. January is a time for fresh starts, and our pupils are already building on everything they achieved last term. In this newsletter, I am pleased to share a few updates since my previous communication earlier this month.

Kind regards,

Miss Alexandra O'Connor
Headteacher

New Parent Governor

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Stella De Souza has been elected as a Parent Governor. Parent governors bring the voice of families to the governing body and play an important role in supporting the life of the school. They help set the school's vision, monitor performance, support school leaders, and act as a critical friend by offering constructive challenge. We look forward to working with Mrs De Souza for her term of office.

Term Dates for 2026-27

We have now published our term dates for 2026-27. These can be found on the school website: <https://www.castlecampsschool.co.uk/school-term-dates>

Courageous Advocacy Award: Spring Term

Each term, we invite parent, pupils and staff to nominate a child who has been an outstanding advocate for change. A courageous advocate is someone who supports, champions, and speaks up for a cause that is important and meaningful to them. Several children have already received this award, and I am very much looking forward to receiving nominations for this term. Please email the Office, if there is a pupil you would like to nominate. We will share the results with you shortly.

Special Visitors

We are looking forward to welcoming a number of special visitors to Hedgehog Class this term, who will be talking to the children about their roles. These include a member of the armed forces, a police officer, and medical professionals. It will be a wonderful opportunity for the children to learn about the people who help us within our community, and we are grateful to our visitors for taking time out from their busy schedules to visit us. Thank you.



**Wednesday, 21st
January**

Drawing Club
begins

**Monday, 26th
January**

Miss Rankine to visit
Y7 pupils at LVC -
am

**Wednesday, 28th
January**

Mr Williamson on
Safeguarding
Training

Friday, 30th January

3:20pm – FOCCS
Cake Sale

**Wednesday, 4th
February**

Little City Workshop
(EYFS & Y1)

**Monday, 9th –
Friday, 13th**

February
Children's Mental
Health Week

**Thursday, 10th
February**

3:30pm – Prestige
Football Match
CCPS v. Coups

**Friday, 13th
February**

Non-Uniform Day

**Monday, 16th –
Friday, 20th**

February
Half Term

Prestige Wraparound Care

Prestige Sports are offering another exciting term of activities. Please follow their Facebook page, or check on our school website for more information: <https://www.castlecampsschool.co.uk/breakfast-and-after-school-club> . We are very proud of our Wraparound provision and encourage parents to use the club whenever possible. It is a lovely opportunity for the children to socialise and learn new skills.

Reception 2026 Places

The first round of applications for Reception 2026 has now closed. However, if you know of any families that are still looking for a Reception place, they can still submit a late application. If their child lives outside Cambridgeshire, please remind them to contact their home local authority for details on how to apply – see below:

Cambridgeshire: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/apply-for-a-school-place/primary-reception-junior-or-middle-school>

Suffolk: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-places/apply-for-a-primary-school-place-2026-2027>

Essex: <https://www.essex.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/primary-school-places>

Class Newsletters & What My Child Will Be Learning

Parents should have received a copy of class information for the term ahead. These are also available under the class pages on the school website.

Children's Mental Health Week

The week beginning Monday, 9th February is Children's Mental Health Week and to celebrate and support the importance of well-being and positive mental health, we will be planning some lovely activities for the children to enjoy. This year's theme is '**This is my place**':

*'To know our place and really feel part of our environment is a basic human need. It can have powerful and long-lasting impacts in lots of areas of our lives, including our physical and mental health, education, employments and relationships. When we feel that we belong, it empowers us to contribute to the world and make a real difference.'*Place2Be 2026

We will be closing the week with **a Non-Uniform Day on Friday, 13th February** – wear something that makes you feel good.

World Book Day

We shall be celebrating Castle Camps Book Day on Thursday, 5th March. We would like to encourage all the children to dress up as characters from fiction or a theme from a non-fiction book. Details to follow.

Reminder: Severe Weather

As we begin the term, we are mindful that the weather forecast remains concerning, with further cold conditions and possible snow predicted over the course of the week. Please be assured that we always do everything we can to keep the school open safely. However, should adverse weather make closure unavoidable, **updates will be shared as early as possible on our Facebook page and the school website, in the first instance.** We kindly ask families to check these platforms for the most up-to-date information.

FOCCS

The Friends of Castle Camps have been very busy planning new events for the Spring Term. Further information will be sent home soon, so please look out for flyers and emails.