



# WEEKLY BULLETIN | Friday 04 December 2020

## The Week Ahead

Weekly Menu	Please <a href="#">CLICK HERE</a> to see our current Menu
Extra-Curricular Clubs	Please <a href="#">CLICK HERE</a> to see our current programme
Sports Clubs and Fixtures	Please <a href="#">CLICK HERE</a> to see our current programme
Vacancies	Please <a href="#">CLICK HERE</a> to see a list of our current Vacancies

## Key Term Dates

Friday 18 December	End of Autumn Term
Monday 21 December – Friday 01 January	Christmas Holidays



# Principal Letter

Dear Parents and Carers

School has been running smoothly under the 'new normal' arrangements. Ms Gildea gave a very well-received report about the progress of the school Development Plan to our Governors on Wednesday; a link to this presentation is here: [Year-10-remote-learning-bubble-closure-survey](#)

## Year 11

The students in Year 11 have displayed exemplary behaviour during their mock exams – perhaps the best we have ever seen. Please pass on our congratulations to your sons and daughters for the seriousness and maturity with which they have approached these. Staff are working hard to support the Year 11 applications to Post 16 providers; you will find information about the recent Government announcements regarding an easing of grade boundaries and exam content for next summer, further down in this bulletin.

## Keeping Safe Online

We have received further reports this week about pupils – especially in Year 7 - taking part in some very undesirable activities online. Please do check your child's phone and other devices regularly, and remember that school iPads are not filtered when outside the school. There are useful links later in the bulletin to help you to do this; we're sure that some parents would be shocked to see some of the sites and social media that some children are accessing.

## Masks

Just a reminder that it's compulsory under Covid regulations for everyone to be wearing a mask around school. Please do remind your children to bring a clean mask in a plastic bag to school every day. Ideally, masks should consist of three layers of material, to limit the possible transmission of any coronavirus infection.

## CamVC Christmas Appeal – Thank you for the donations received so far.

Thank you to everyone who has donated to our appeal to provide our hardest-hit families with a shopping voucher over Christmas. This appeal is still open: if you'd like to make a donation, please do this on [WisePay](#). The appeal will close on Friday 11 December so that we can process the funds.

## Sixth Form Consultation

The consultation period ends next Wednesday, 9 December; you will find the link to the consultation document on the homepage of our website: [www.cambournevc.org](http://www.cambournevc.org). Please do respond with a very brief, positive message if you would welcome your child having the choice of attending a sixth form in Cambourne alongside the existing opportunities for Post 16 across the area.

## Christmas Concert – Keep the date!

Against all the odds, and the stop/start nature of after-school clubs this term, the Music Department is holding a virtual Christmas concert on **Thursday 17th December** - definitely something to look forward to.

And finally, **Coton Garden Centre** has donated us a beautiful Christmas tree to brighten our foyer – please pass on our thanks if you are visiting them.

Wishing you all an enjoyable and safe weekend,

Claire Coates  
Principal



# Parent Consultations



## Heads Up

### Year 9 Parent Consultation



**Thursday 04 February 2021**

Lessons taught will be periods 1, 2, 5 and 6

School will finish as follows:  
Year 7 and 10—Leave at 1.25pm  
Year 8—Leave at 1.30pm  
Year 9 and 11—Leave at 1.35pm

More information about signing up will be sent closer the time.

### Year 8 Parent Consultation



**Thursday 04 March 2021**

Lessons taught will be periods 3 to 6

School will finish as follows:  
Year 7 and 10—Leave at 1.25pm  
Year 8—Leave at 1.30pm  
Year 9 and 11—Leave at 1.35pm

More information about signing up will be sent closer the time.

### Year 10 Parent Consultation



**Thursday 22 April 2021**

Lessons taught will be periods 1 to 4

School will finish as follows:  
Year 7 and 10—Leave at 1.25pm  
Year 8—Leave at 1.30pm  
Year 9 and 11—Leave at 1.35pm

More information about signing up will be sent closer the time.

### Year 7 Parent Consultation



**Thursday 10 June 2021**

Lessons taught will be periods 3 to 6

School will finish as follows:  
Year 7 and 10—Leave at 1.25pm  
Year 8—Leave at 1.30pm  
Year 9 and 11—Leave at 1.35pm

More information about signing up will be sent closer the time.





# KS3 Science Assessments

## END OF TERM SCIENCE TESTS

Year 7, 8 and 9 students will be doing science tests towards the end of term – please see full details below



**Year 7:** Tests will be completed in the **week commencing 07 December** and will be 45 minutes long. The test will be on Core Biology, Core Chemistry and Core Physics units that have recently been covered in class



**Year 8:** Tests will be completed in the week **commencing 30 November** and will be 1 hour long. The test will be on the units covered in class since September. This will either be Space, Reproduction and Atoms; or Living World, Light and Simple Chemical reactions, depending on the rotation of units undertaken



**Year 9:** Tests will be completed in the **week commencing 07 December** and will be 1 hour long. The test will be on the units covered in class since September. This will be three of the following four units: Understanding Health, Waves, Separating Mixtures, and Matter

**Please encourage your child to revise for these tests.** Resources to assist with this will be posted on Show My Homework.

## Save the Date: Y9 Options Evening

**Year 9 Virtual Options Evening: Thursday 21 January 2021**



### Year 9 Options Evening

Further Information for Parents

We hope that all parents and pupils will attend this evening as it provides an excellent opportunity to explain the framework of the Key Stage 4 Curriculum, the range of courses on offer and the process of making the options choices.

More information will be sent closer the time.

# History Lectures

## Historic-All Russian Revolution Lecture

Thank you to everyone who attended Tuesday's free online public lecture with Dr George Gilbert from the University of Southampton. We loved learning more about the Russian Revolution!

If you did attend, please fill in our very short form to give feedback & help us plan our future events:  
<https://bit.ly/33yf0Nc>

*The aim of these lectures is multifaceted: they expose our students and the wider community to academics and scholarly debate and they are intended for History teachers to continue to build subject knowledge, but most importantly they foster a love and interest in the subject. This also fits in with our wider school remit of being a Village College, inspired by the ideas of Henry Morris, in which schools should act as a community hub and that education is a lifelong process. Everyone is welcome.*

More information about our lectures and information about where to access the recordings can be found here: <https://www.cambournevc.org/news-and-events/historic-all>

And via [Twitter: @Historic All](#)

# Y10 and Y11: Scholarship Programme

## Stoke College –Sixth Form Scholarship Programme



[Stoke College](#), a day and boarding school near Sudbury in Suffolk, is launching a sixth-form scholarship programme.

The Mark Wang Sixth Form scholarships provide up to 100% funding for day or boarding places at Stoke College.

Successful applicants will pursue a bespoke programme of study including A levels, Extended Project Qualification and the European Computer driving licence, Duke of Edinburgh Silver level, LAMDA speech and drama.

Stoke College is looking for bright Y10s and Y11s from across the country to apply [the next webinar is on 10th December](#).

# Library Recommendations

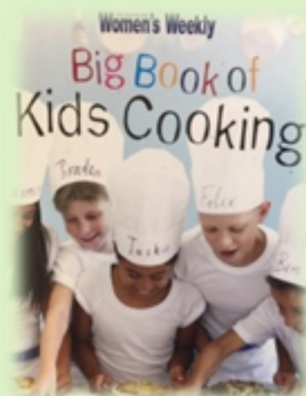


## 19 Love Songs by David Levithan



No love song is exactly the same as the one that came before it. There's the heartsick pop of a sarcastic boy with an unrequited crush. There's the gentle lullaby of Valentine's Day, as seen through the eyes of someone who wakes up in a new body every day. There's the tentative melody of two boys stranded on a snow day. A collection of short stories ('tracks') celebrating love in all of its wonderful, life-affirming and at times heart-breaking forms.

## Big Book of Kids Cooking



We all know the issues around getting kids to eat the right kinds of food – so make it fun and get creative with them: show them how to do it for themselves! In this volume you will find some of all-time techniques they will be use again and again in easy step-by-step photographs, some great recipes they can cook for their friends and real grown-up food you can serve together, for the family.

# Y11: Summer Exams Arrangements



We welcome the announcement this week about extra measures to support students ahead of next summer's exams.

Read the full announcement here:

[Extra measures to support students ahead of next summer's exams - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/extra-measures-to-support-students-ahead-of-next-summer-exams)

This means that the main exam period will be running from 26 May to 2 July 2021.

The new contingency exam period will run from 28 June to 16 July 2021.

# Attendance: Appointments / Absences

## APPOINTMENTS

We strongly encourage parents to make medical and dental appointments out of school hours where possible. Where this is not possible, pupils should be in school prior to/after the appointment and out of school for as little time as possible.

Missing registration AM or PM for a medical or dental appointment is counted as an authorised absence and advance notice is required for authorising these absences.

Please notify Reception of when an appointment is and the timings that the pupil will not be in school by emailing [thecollege@cambournevc.org](mailto:thecollege@cambournevc.org).

If we do not receive prior notification to a morning absence, we will contact home and the absence will only be authorised on proof of the medical appointment upon the pupil's return.

When leaving for an appointment, the pupil must sign out at Reception and be collected by their parent or carer, and they must sign back in when they return.



Sickness &  
Absence

## REPORTING YOUR CHILD'S ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

If you need to report that your child is going to be absent from school, please email [thecollege@cambournevc.org](mailto:thecollege@cambournevc.org) by 9am each morning of their absence.

Please state your child's full name, their tutor group and the reason for their absence. **Just reporting your child is 'unwell' will not be accepted.**

*Where possible, please provide the attendance office with a copy of the appointment letter/card.*

### **Planned Absence Request Forms:**

To notify us of any planned absences, please visit the [Absences](#) page on our website and submit an Absence Request Form, with 2 school days' prior notice for this to be reviewed for authorisation.

### **Medication:**

Please remember that it is the parents/carers' responsibility to make sure that all emergency medication for your child is in school and in date.



# School Uniform | Lost Property

## SCHOOL UNIFORM — UPDATED INFORMATION

Thank you for continuing to support our drive for excellent standards of school uniform, and especially to those parents who have corrected the very short and stretchy skirts that were creeping in.

**Families who find it difficult to afford school uniform at any time should contact their year team admin (details below), in complete confidence, so that a way forward can be found:**

Year 7 – Louise Boyd [cam-year7@cambournevc.org](mailto:cam-year7@cambournevc.org)

Year 8 – Melanie Stanford [cam-year8@cambournevc.org](mailto:cam-year8@cambournevc.org)

Year 9 – Kayleigh Blane [cam-year9@cambournevc.org](mailto:cam-year9@cambournevc.org)

Year 10 – Julia Hewitson [cam-year10@cambournevc.org](mailto:cam-year10@cambournevc.org)

Year 11 – Louise Ramsey [cam-year11@cambournevc.org](mailto:cam-year11@cambournevc.org)

Our up-to-date uniform policy and suppliers can be found on the school website:

<https://www.cambournevc.org/parent-carer-and-student-information/uniform>

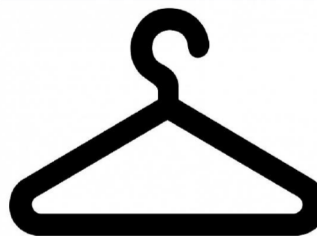
## SECOND-HAND UNIFORM

If you would like to check our second-hand uniform availability, please complete the form below to submit your enquiry.

Please allow 48 hours for a response.

[Second-Hand Uniform Request](#)

Thank you  
Mrs Minney  
Reception



2<sup>nd</sup> Hand Uniform

## LOST PROPERTY



Thank you to those of you who attended our Lost Property event over half term. Although we have managed to find owners for a few of our lost & found items, we still have quite a few unnamed coats/jackets.

If your child has lost theirs, please ask them to check with their year team office or email [thecollege@cambournevc.org](mailto:thecollege@cambournevc.org) so that we can arrange for your child to check our unnamed items.

If your child needs a coat/jacket and would like to look through our unnamed items to find something suitable for them, please ask them to go to their year team office or email the College.

**All items unclaimed by 18th December 2020 will be donated to local charities.**

# Online Safety | Apps

## KEEPING YOUR CHILD SAFE ONLINE

Your child/children may be online more than usual at the moment. Please see below some links to helpful ideas and materials around keeping children safe online:

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

<https://oursaferschools.co.uk/home-learning-hub/>



## TEAMS | ONENOTE

Microsoft Teams, Teams assignments, and OneNote are becoming increasingly more central to the way we are providing and receiving work. Below are some resources to help you support your children with these services.

[Click here](#) for a guide to handing in Teams Assignments

[Click here](#) for a YouTube playlist with short tutorial videos (if you prefer, your child can access the same videos through their school account [here](#))



## COMBINED MINDS APP

Combined Minds is an app for parents and carers developed for teenage mental health charity Stem4 by Clinical Psychologists. The app aims to help families and friends support young people with their mental health.

Combined Minds use a 'strength based approach' which focuses on the positive attributes of the person and builds on resourcefulness and resilience. The app helps families to find ways to provide the right environment to help individuals they support affect their own change.



The app includes providing further information on certain needs such as anxiety and digital addiction as well as offering ways of accessing further help and useful suggestions of 'things you can do in the moment' to help support the young person.

More information can be found through the Combined Minds website at:

<https://combinedminds.co.uk/>



# Online Safety | Apps

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



TikTok is a video-sharing social media app available on iOS and Android which lets users create, share, and view user created videos in a similar manner to Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat. Its main draw, however, is that users can record and upload bite-sized looping videos of themselves lip-syncing and dancing to popular music or soundbites, often for comedic effect, which can then be further enhanced with filters, emojis and stickers. TikTok has been designed with the young user in mind and has a very addictive appeal. At the beginning of 2019 it skyrocketed in popularity and has featured near the top of download charts ever since. Estimates suggest that it now has anything between 500 million and over 1 billion monthly active users worldwide.



## What parents need to know about

# TIKTOK



### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

On the iOS store, TikTok is listed as 12+. On the Google Play Store it is rated as 'Parental guidance recommended'. When signing up to the app, it's possible to lie about your age without any form of verification. As children scroll through their feed, most of the videos they're likely to come across are light-hearted or designed to make people laugh. However there have been a number of videos reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, self-harm and young teens engaging in sexually suggestive content. More recently, suicide-themed related videos have been widely circulated. Given the deluge of material uploaded to TikTok every day, it's impossible to moderate everything and it can be common to come across explicit and age-inappropriate content on the 'for you' feed when logging into the platform.



### INAPPROPRIATE MUSIC

TikTok revolves around creating music videos through lip-syncing and dancing. Inevitably, some of the music featured by users will contain explicit or suggestive lyrics. Given the undeniably young user base, there is a risk that children may look to imitate the explicit language they hear or the suggestive actions they see when viewing other users' videos on the app.



### TIKTOK FAME

TikTok is very image focused and there is a notable preoccupation with appearing cool and attractive. Many teenagers now attempt to go viral and become what's known in-app as 'TikTok famous'. TikTok (and its predecessor Musical.ly) has spawned its own celebrities - social media stars Loren Gray and Jacob Sartorius have been catapulted to fame through their initial exposure on the app. Obviously, most budding influencers looking to become the next big thing will be disappointed, but this may have the knock-on effect of making them go to more and more drastic lengths to get noticed.



### ONLINE PREDATORS

As a social network, TikTok makes it easy to connect with other users. This includes the ability to comment on and react to other user's videos, follow their profile and download their content. Be aware that by default, any user can comment on your child's video if their account is set to public. Most interactions are harmless enough but as an app, TikTok is prone to predators because of the abundance of younger users.



### ADDICTIVE NATURE

Social media is designed to be addictive and TikTok is no different. It can be fun and hugely entertaining. However, it is also because of this that it can be hard to put down. In addition to the short, punchy nature of the looping video format, the app's ability to keep you guessing what will come on screen next makes it easy to turn a five-minute visit into 45-minute visit.



### IN-APP PURCHASES

Aside from the content, there's also the option to purchase in-app extras called 'TikTok coins'. Prices range from £0.99 for 100 coins to an eye-watering £93.99 for 10,000 coins. TikTok coins are used to purchase different emojis to reward content creators that a user finds funny or entertaining. In the iOS version of the app you can disable the option to buy TikTok coins but this sadly doesn't seem to be a feature in the Android version.



## Safety Tips For Parents



### TALK ABOUT ONLINE CONTENT

Assuming your child is above the age limit to use TikTok, make sure you take the time to talk to them about what they are seeing on the app. Have an open dialogue, get them to give you their opinion on what is appropriate and model the correct behaviour. Go over why they shouldn't give out private information or identifiable photos and be positive and understanding. In the long run, getting them to think critically about what they're seeing goes a long way to keeping them social media savvy.



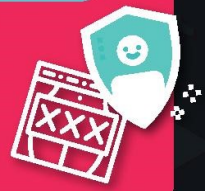
### USE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Undoubtedly, the easiest way to safeguard your child on TikTok is to make sure their account is set to private. This means only those users your child approves can view, like, and follow their content. Setting the account to private may dash with your child's goal of social media superstardom, but it will keep their account secure from strangers. This setting can be enabled under the privacy and safety menu by pressing the ellipsis in the 'me' tab of the app. To be extra safe, there are additional controls available to toggle such as who can send comments and messages, among other options.



### ENABLE RESTRICTED MODE

In the digital wellbeing section there's the ability to turn on restricted mode using a PIN. Restricted mode filters out content that is not age appropriate although it should be noted that this isn't always 100% fool proof. When enabling restricted mode, parents should still be vigilant to what their child is watching and take note that the algorithm moderating content is not infallible.



### MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Even if it doesn't make you popular, keep a close eye on what your child is viewing and sharing on TikTok. Whilst the app has moderation tools, videos can still slip through the net so it's important to regularly check in on what they're watching. Understanding and learning the app yourself is a great way to get to grips with it. You could then even watch some videos with your child, turning it into a bonding opportunity also.



### LEARN HOW TO REPORT AND BLOCK INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

With the proper privacy settings in place, TikTok can be a relatively safe space for your child to express themselves. However, in case something does manage to slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report content that isn't appropriate and get them to come to you about what they have seen. TikTok allows users to report offenders and comments within the app. You can also block individual users by going on their profile.



### MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child moderate their time on the app by making use of the digital wellbeing section. Under the screen time management option, you can limit the daily allotted time allowed on the app in increments ranging from 40 to 120 minutes. You can also lock this preference behind a PIN number which has to be inputted in order to then exceed the daily time limit. This way your child can get their daily dose of memes without wasting away the day.



## Meet our expert

Pete Badh is a writer with over 10+ years in research and analysis. Working within a specialist area for West Yorkshire Police, Pete has contributed work which has been pivotal in successfully winning high profile cases in court as well as writing as a subject matter expert for industry handbooks.



### FAMILY SAFETY MODE

TikTok Family Safety Mode allows parents to link their own TikTok account to their child's. It's a great way to oversee your child's digital wellbeing by giving you direct control over their safety settings and being able to remotely turn features on and off. This includes managing screen time, the ability to send and receive direct messages (and with whom) and the ability to restrict the appearance of content that might not be age appropriate.



SOURCES: [www.tiktok.com](http://www.tiktok.com)

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram - @NationalOnlineSafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 09.09.2020



# Y11 Revisions Notices

## Y11 AFTER SCHOOL REVISION SESSIONS

The School Library is open to Y11 pupils every Tuesday after school from 3 to 4:30 to attend after school revision sessions.

They are welcome to do revision or homework, use a computer for research or to come just for some quiet reading. Please note that they will be expected to work independently.

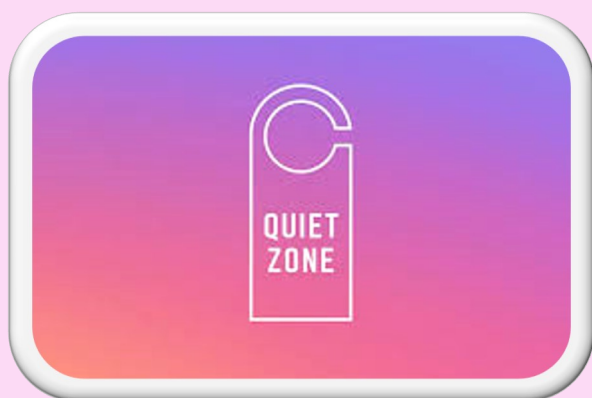
Those who would like to attend need to sign up in advance using the online signing-up form that can be found on the Y11 section on The CATalogue.

The spaces are limited, and they are allocated on a first come, first served basis, but behaviour and attitude could also be taken in consideration.

Pupils will need to enter the Library using the fire door in the Y7 social area and they will need to sanitise their hands when entering and leaving. When browsing for books, it is compulsory to wear a face mask.



## Y11 LUNCHTIME REVISION SESSIONS



Run in S2 every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday lunchtime. Independent quiet revision only. This is not a lunch social area. Zero tolerance. Max 15 in the room.

Please book your place by completing the form below:

[Y11 Lunchtime Revision Session Booking Form](#)

## Y11 AFTER SCHOOL CATCH UP SESSIONS

If you receive a letter saying that your child is invited to a targeted session to help them catch up, we are grateful for your support in insisting that they attend.

For some pupils this will mean invitations to multiple sessions across the week.

If you have any concerns about this, please let me know.

Catch  
Up





# Sports Clubs

PE clubs have now resumed! See our schedule below, from 3pm to 4pm.

Please meet PE staff at the back door to the orange changing rooms. No sign up is needed, come along on the night for your year group. We would love to see as many of you there as possible, so come along with some friends and have fun!

Please process your payment via WisePay under the Clubs & Activities module (we ask for a contribution of £10 per term for access to any of our after school clubs).

## Cam VC PE Department Extra-Curricular Clubs

<b>Monday Year 7</b>			
Football	Dance	Netball	Badminton
<b>Tuesday Year 8</b>			
Football	Dance	Team Games	Badminton
<b>Wednesday Year 9</b>			
Football	Dance	Team Games	Badminton
<b>Thursday Sports Leaders</b>			
Sports Leaders Workshop			
<b>Friday Year 10</b>			
Badminton			



## Students IT Support

If your child needs a password reset, for example to their email, Show My Homework or any of the platforms we use at the College, or if they have any issues with their iPads, please email [cam-support@cambournevc.org](mailto:cam-support@cambournevc.org).

We will aim to respond to any enquiry within 24 hours.

## Communication with the School

### How can I contact my child's Year Team?

Please email [cam-year7@cambournevc.org](mailto:cam-year7@cambournevc.org) | PSA Louise Boyd



Please email [cam-year8@cambournevc.org](mailto:cam-year8@cambournevc.org) | PSA Mel Stanford

Please email [cam-year9@cambournevc.org](mailto:cam-year9@cambournevc.org) | PSA Kayleigh Blane

Please email [cam-year10@cambournevc.org](mailto:cam-year10@cambournevc.org) | PSA Julia Hewitson

Please email [cam-year11@cambournevc.org](mailto:cam-year11@cambournevc.org) | PSA Louise Ramsay

We will aim to respond to any enquiry within 48 hours.

There are a variety of ways in which we will contact you, including by telephone, by letter, by email, in our newsletters and via our website. There are several ways in which you can contact us, and these include:



By email to [thecollege@cambournevc.org](mailto:thecollege@cambournevc.org)



By calling Reception for all general enquiries on 01954 284 000



By writing to Cambourne Village College, Sheepfold Lane, Cambourne CB23 6FR



Via the 'contact us' page of our school website [www.cambournevc.org](http://www.cambournevc.org)

We will aim to respond to any enquiry within 48 hours.