

WEEKLY BULLETIN | Friday 15th March

The Week Ahead

Weekly Menu	Please CLICK HERE to see our current Menu
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Extra-Curricular Clubs Please <u>CLICK HERE</u> to see our current programme

Sports Clubs and Fixtures Please <u>CLICK HERE</u> to see our current programme

Vacancies Please <u>CLICK HERE</u> to see a list of our current Vacancies

Key Dates

Tuesday 19th March	Year 11 GCSE Geography Fieldtrip to Epping Forest (all day)

Wednesday 20th March Year 8 Careers Carousel (periods 3 & 4)

Year 10 Parent Consultation (periods 3-6 taught). All pupils leave Thursday 21st March at 1:30pm

Easter Concert (7pm)

Friday 22nd March Year7 & 11 Full Reports out.

Wednesday 27th March Trip: Unlocking Aspiration visit to Peterhouse College (all day)

Friday 29th March to Friday 12th April

Easter Holidays

Monday 15th April Staff Training Day (no pupils in school)

Tuesday 16th April All pupils return to school

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

absence per year

97% or above

VERY GOOD

THIS IS YOUR

TARGET

Between
7 and 19 days
absence per year
90% - 96%
BELOW
EXPECTATIONS

More
than 19 days
absence per year
Under 90%
POOR
ATTENDANCE

Reporting your Child's Absence from School:

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school you have a legal requirement to inform the school **on each day of absence**. If you are reporting your child's absence from school today, please can you email cam-absence@cambournevc.org **by 8:30am every day of the absence** and leave a message clearly stating the reason for absence and the child's full name and tutor group. If you fail to inform the school, we are legally required to make contact with you, to ensure the child's safety. Even if they have been absence on the previous day we cannot assume they are still at home poorly.

Appointments:

If your child misses registration for a medical or dental appointment, this is counted as an authorised absence. Please give advance notice, ideally 2 school days, by cam-absence@cambournevc.org with the dates and times the pupil is expected to be out of school and preferably with a copy of the appointment card/notification so that the absence can be authorised. As much as possible, pupils should be in school prior to/ after the appointment and out of school for as little time as possible.

Prior notification ensures the Year team and Reception staff are aware of your child arriving late / leaving early and the necessary arrangements can be put in place. If your child needs to leave early for an appointment, they should inform their teacher that they need to be excused early and make their own way down to Reception. The Reception staff will try to help locate children for appointments, but we do not always have someone available to do a collection from lessons.

Planned Absence Request:

If you plan to take your child out of school for any other reason, a **Planned Absence Request**Form must be completed and returned to the school **10 days prior** to the absence for authorisation. Please email any completed forms to cam-absence@cambournevc.org or hand into our reception. The form can be found on our website, or is available from our reception.

Please note that due to Changes to Section 444 of The Education Act 1996 brought into effect in September 2013, the Principal cannot authorise any term time leave unless there are **exceptional circumstances**.

All pupils leaving early for appointments need to be collected by a parent to sign them out through our main Reception.

Year 7 and 8 Dining Arrangements Trial

As the school grows, we are always looking at the spaces used by pupils to make sure that they are safe and comfortable, including the halls used for dining. Years 7 and 8 are the biggest year groups we have ever had, and we have had to adapt how we use the Performance Hall space, which is used for their dining at break and lunch.

Our first change was to put all of the food offered on one side of the hall, with one queue. Although the queue is physically longer than each of the separate queues were, we have discovered that having all catering staff in one area made the serving of food, and the operation of tills, more efficient, and waiting time has gone down. It has also been easier to manage the queue, and ensure nobody is able to push in. We recently upgraded our till systems also, further speeding up the queue.

During the school production of Beauty and The Beast, we were forced to remove tables from the dining area as half of the Performance Hall was taken up with the production's stage. Pupils were asked to eat pack lunches outside, and eat bought food in the hall. We discovered that some pupils chose to stand, whilst others chose to sit, and were pleasantly surprised by how calm and relaxed the atmosphere was. There was also less litter, and the removal of tables made the space more comfortable for the number of pupils in it.

As a result, we have decided to trial having only half the hall containing tables, and the following information was communicated to pupils:

Lunch in the Performance Hall

To improve the dining environment in the Performance Hall at lunchtime, we are trialling having reduced seating, with a large area without tables.

- Main meals that are served on a plate or in a bowl must be eaten at a table.
- Grab and Go food should be eaten in the area without tables.
- Pupils may be asked to move from a table to ensure others can eat comfortably.

Food at Break and Lunch (Year 8 only)

We have been really impressed with how everyone ate in the social area without creating litter or mess. As a result:

Snacks and pack lunches brought from home can be eaten in the social area at break and lunch.

However:

All food and drink bought in the Performance Hall must not be taken out of the hall.

As we approach the end of the first week, it is clear that litter has improved, and there is more space for pupils to socialise with their friends. This was particularly evident on Tuesday when it was extremely wet outside. Some pupils have chosen to stand and eat Grab and Go food or pack lunches, others have chosen to sit and eat in groups with their friends, and others have eaten their pack lunches at the tables. On each day, the seated table area has not been full at any time during the lunch period, though there is space for more tables should this change.

We will continue to review this setup as we move through the term, including seeking pupil feedback, and will make a decision as to whether this setup will remain for the rest of the year.

If you are a parent of a Year 7 or Year 8 child and would like to feedback on this trial, you can use the MS form here: https://forms.office.com/e/u2qLFcWnsX

Message for Year 7 Parents

Over the next two weeks (18th - 28th March), your son/daughter will have two PSHE-specific assemblies: one on Periods and Wet Dreams and one on Consent.

These assemblies will be supported with learning in their PSHE lessons and are inline with our PSHE Policy and national guidance. You child may have some questions after these sessions and may wish to discuss what they have learned with you.

If you would like some support in answering their questions, there are a few websites I recommend linked below or you can email me at <u>remilne@cambournevc.org</u> if you would like any help or support.

- Puberty: https://www.brook.org.uk/your-life/puberty/
- Your changing body: https://www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk/
 what-we-do/children-young-people-health-services-cambridgeshire/cambridgeshire-0-19-healthy-child-programme/getting-ready-for-change---information-for-young-people/your-changing-body-13
- **PANTS**: https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/pants-guides/#parents

Many thanks,
Mrs Milne
Head of PSHE





Easter Concert

7:30pm, Thursday 21st March

Featuring...

Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue"

Favourites from "The Rat Pack"



Get your tickets here: WeGotTickets | Simple, honest ticketing | Cam Academy Trust

Year 11 Parents: Free Webinar for Parents and Carers - Supporting your Child with Exam Stress.

There are two free 45 minute talks available online to help parents and carers to support their child with exam stress. They take place on Monday 22nd April 1pm and Thursday 25th April 6pm.

All you need to do is register on the link below and they will confirm your place on the course. If you are interested but unable to attend either of the talks, you can still register your interest on the link below, and they will send you a recording instead.

Click here for more information: <u>KoothTalks for parents and carers: How you can support your child to manage exam stress (google.com)</u>



KoothTalks for parents and carers: How you can support your child to manage exam stress

Please complete this form if you would like to attend this 45 minute virtual training session on **how you can support your child to manage exam stress.**

The training will cover the following:

- 1. An overview of how Kooth works as a mental health service
- How to support your child to manage exam stress
- 3. Tips when talking to young people about their feelings
- 4. Q&As

Please join via the link below: ZOOM LINK PENDING

Don't worry if you are unable to attend any of the live date(s) we're offering. Simply select the 'I cannot attend' option below and we will send you a recording of the session and related resources.





Items that have been handed into reception this week:

11th - 15th March 2024



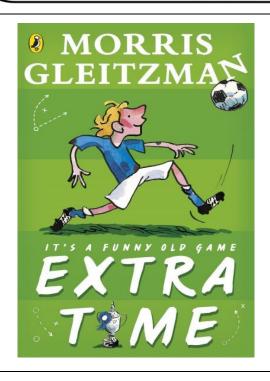








BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS



Extra Time by Morris Gleitzman

Matt is a teenage football genius. Bridie is his younger sister - and his manager. Together they take on the Premier League. and give it back something it has lost.

Premiership football as you've never seen it before. Morris Gleitzman introduces us to a marauding fluffy mascot, a wise-as-an-owl landlady and a WAG called Terrine, in an irresistible story of how one boy helps stressed-out top footballers find the fun in a kickabout again, with help from his fearsome agent (and little sister), Bridie.



The thrilling adventures of Lovelace and Babbage by Sydney Padua

Meet two of Victorian London's greatest geniuses... Ada Lovelace, daughter of Lord Byron: mathematician, gambler, and protoprogrammer, whose writings contained the first ever appearance of general computing theory, a hundred years before an actual computer was built. And Charles Babbage, eccentric inventor of the Difference Engine, an enormous clockwork calculating machine that would have been the first computer, if he had ever finished it

But what if things had been different?... This graphic novel is extremely funny and utterly unusual... a must read!

Links to further reading:

Additional Reading resources and skills: https://linktr.ee/cambourne_vc

Cambourne Village College Library: https://cambournevc.concordinfiniti.co.uk/library/portal

Accelerated Reader: https://global-zone61.renaissance-go.com/welcomeportal/6698162

Summer 2023 GCSE Certificates

For any parents of pupils that left Cambourne Village College last year please note the message below:

The Summer 2023 GCSE certificates are still available for collection from school reception.

Previous students may collect during school hours (8:00-4:00) or in the evenings 6:00-8:00

A parent or sibling may collect on your behalf You must bring ID and sign for the certificates



The **Association of British Science Writers** invites students to submit an 800-word essay on any subject in science, technology, engineering and/or mathematics.

This competition is designed to get young people writing and thinking about the big questions in science, technology, engineering and maths, with a focus on how science impacts on policymaking and society.

Criteria for Entry: Students must be aged 14-16 years old.

Please encourage your children to look at this wonderful opportunity. The link below has further information as well as tips for writing an engaging essay and possible topics to write about.

https://www.absw.org.uk/pages/young-science-writer-of-the-year-award

The deadline is Monday 18th of March at 5pm.

The Award

1st prize: £1000 + Visit to BBC Science HQ in Cardiff + 1 year Young Ri membership

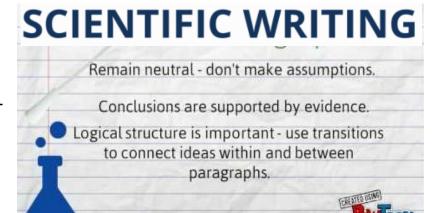
2nd & 3rd prize: £250 + 1 year

Young Ri membership

Commended Prizes: An additional 10 students will receive a commendation prize of £100 each. The commended entrants will also be invited to the awards ceremony to be presented with their certificates.



AWARDS 2024



PE Department Extra-curricular Clubs - March 2024

MONDAY 3-4pm

GCSE revision – Gym (KB)

Girls' football - Astro (LM)

Table tennis - Dining hall (KR)

Volleyball – Sports Hall (HT)

Girls active - Performance Hall (sports leaders)

TUESDAY 3-4pm

KS3 basketball - Sports hall (JF)

Dodgeball - Gym (LM)

Football training - Astro (LY)

WEDNESDAY 3-4pm

FIXTURES

KS4 basketball - Sports hall (JF)

BTEC Catch up - IT04 (BTEC staff)

GCSE revision – Classroom, Gym (KB)

Wellbeing Wednesday - PE (sports leaders)

Netball - Hard courts (HT)

THURSDAY 3-4pm

Sports Leaders Opportunities – Check the Sports Leaders Board
Badminton (Sports Hall) (All)

Boys – meet at the back doors to the **orange** changing rooms **Girls** – meet at the back doors to the **green** changing rooms



Music Clubs

All our music clubs are up and running – so if you child plays an instrument, or enjoys singing, then please encourage them to come along.

The following clubs will be running this term.

- Monday 3 4pm: CamVC Band All instrumentalists welcome (Years 7 11)
- Tuesday 3- 4pm: Junior Singers (Years 7 9) Christmas mini-production tba
- Tuesday 3 4pm: Rock Bands (Years 9 11)
- Thursday 3 5pm: School Production (Years 7 11)
- Friday 3 4pm: Senior Choir (Years 9 11)

Pupils are very welcome to come along and try any club they are interested in joining.

<u>Instrumental & Singing Lessons</u>

These will be starting next week, and everyone signed up for lessons will receive an email confirming the day and time of their first lesson.

If your child is interested in doing Instrumental or Singing lessons, there are still many places available. You can sign them up for lessons using the online form, found here:

Instrument lessons - Cambourne Village College (cambournevc.org)

Headphones for KS3 Music lessons (all pupils)

As part of the Years 7, 8 and 9 weekly music lessons, they will be continuing to develop their keyboard skills.

To enable pupils to do this with a minimum of distraction we ask all pupils to bring with them to lessons a pair of headphones of earphones that they can use with the keyboards.

We have reminded pupils of this expectation this week in lessons.

These headphones / earphones can be bought for as little £2-£3 from local shops like Morrisons, Home Bargains, or online from places like Amazon. We do not expect (and would strongly discourage) pupils from bringing expensive or bulky headphones with them.

We would expect that it might take pupils between 1-2 weeks to source some earphones / headphones, but after that it would be useful if they were ready to use the in lessons. If for any reason it is not possible for your child to bring some earphones to the lesson, please email (or ask them to email) their class teacher. In cases of financial constraints we will be able to provide headphones for pupils to borrow, if arranged in advance.

If your child has **lost an item of uniform**, please ask them to check with their **Year team office** in the first instance, or please **email thecol-**

lege@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.





We have a number of good quality second hand uniforms available for purchase at a discounted rate. Please complete the form: Second-Hand Uniform Request and enter details of uniform items needed.

Our Reception is open every weeknight evening in term time between 6pm and 8pm so there is an opportunity to organise a visit to the school to 'see before you buy' at hours to suit you. Please email our evening receptionist **Nikki Johnston** to organise a time slot:

NJohnston@cambournevc.org

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

Year 8 - Sam Tomlinson cam-year8@cambournevc.org

Year 9 - Lorraine Lye cam-year9@cambournevc.org

Year 10 - Lou Boyd cam-year10@cambournevc.org

Year 11 - Mel Stanford cam-year11@cambournevc.org

Our up-to-date uniform policy and suppliers can be found on the <u>school website</u>.





YOUTH ROWING COURSE

APR '24 2ND-4TH

14-18YR OLDS **LEARN TO ROW**

MAY '24 27TH-31ST

JUL '24 22ND-26TH

JUL-AUG '24 29TH JUL- 2ND AUG









NO PREVIOUS ROWING REQUIRED

An exciting opportunity to learn the most iconic sport in Cambridge - in the most fun way possible!

- 5 day course from £150pp (+ booking fee)
- · Learn and perfect the full rowing technique
- Proven to aid college and university applications
- · Learn to row in an 'eight' boat same as the Cambridge-Oxford Boat Race
- · Work together as a team

Limited spaces available - Book now

- Safest boat in the fleet
- Led by a club captain
- includes land and water training

Row on the iconic River Cam

- info@cambridgerowing.com
- www.cambridgerowing.com/youth-course
- +44 (0)1223 665000

Barracudas nearest school holiday camps are at Cambridge (St Faiths and Long Road) and Bedford, with themed activities such as Roblox and Microbit Coding or the Norwich City Community Sports Foundation (CSF) Soccer Camp in both locations.

Barracudas claim to be the UK's No.1 activity camp, providing holiday childcare for children aged 4½ to 14 years old (football is for girls and boys aged 7-12) and they're currently offering 10% discount with our school code: SCHOOL10.





3rd March, 10th March, 17th March, 24th March

FOR AGES 11+

For more information: david.welch@livingsport.co.uk



Cocks and Hens Tennis Club Grantchester Road, Cambridge, CB3 9ED



Easter Tennis Camps!

WEEK 1 Tues 2 Apr to Fri 5 Apr WEEK 2 Mon 8 Apr to Fri 12 Apr AGE GROUPS: 6 to 10 yrs / 11 to 16 yrs

SPECIAL OFFERS!

EARLY BIRD OFFER – BOOK ALL DAYS BEFORE 11
MARCH FOR AN EXTRA £15 OFF - USE CODE
15EASTERCAMP

WEEK 1 - BOOK FOR ALL 4 DAYS AND GET A 20% DISCOUNT

WEEK 2 - BOOK FOR ALL 5 DAYS AND PAY FOR ONLY 4IIII

Age	Time	Dates	Cost per day	Cost for all days
6 to 10 yrs	09:00 - 12:00 (3hrs)	2 Apr – 5 Apr 8 Apr – 12 Apr	£30 Discounts: 10% for members	£96 (Week 1) £120 (Week 2) Extra Discount: 10% for members
11 to 16 yrs	10:00 - 13:00 (3hrs)	2 Apr – 5 Apr 8 Apr – 12 Apr	£35 Discounts: 15% for members	£112 (Week 1) £140 (Week 2) Extra Discount: 15% for members

Come and have fun, improve your game and learn some new skills!

For details and to book visit our website: www.cocksandhens.co.uk/holidaycamps

Or for any questions contact Justin Layne on: cockshenscoaching@gmail.com

Find us off Grantchester Road, CB3 9ED.
Access on foot/bicycle via Fulbrooke Road or by car drive past the Rugby Club (towards Grantchester) then turn right on the bridleway before the national speed limit sign.

"I liked how there were different levels of players so both me and my sister had people of our level to play with."





Online Safety Tips

KEEPING YOUR CHILD SAFE ONLINE

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/





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/

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: https://catrustorg.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/CambourneVCPublic/Eckeb-WkJX1NoaAciPBjAScBG cU4zuSmd0A0WEUDyO-Fw?e=OgjANx

<u>Click here</u> for a YouTube playlist with short tutorial videos (if you prefer, your child can access the same videos through their school account here)



New Mental Health Text Line

A new local mental health free text messaging support service has launched across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. **HEAR 85258** is being funded by NHS Cambridgeshire & Peterborough, in partnership with the national service SHOUT.

<u>The free to use text service provides</u> real-time support to people who are struggling with their mental health across the county.



When texting the word HEAR to 85258, the person will be connected to a trained volunteer who will offer them calm in a time or place of crisis. During the confidential and anonymous conversation, the texter will be supported while working on a plan of action and signposted to local and national mental health services.

Texting HEAR to 85258 is free, discreet and runs 24/7. It won't appear on a mobile bill and requires no app, data, password, or registration. It is available for anyone who lives, works or studies in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

For more information about what mental health services are available in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, visit www.keep-your-head.com

If you feel your or somebody's life is at risk due to their mental health, dial 111 and listen for the option for the mental health crisis team.

Safeguarding

At Cambourne Village College we work hard to make sure that we build up positive relationships with the pupils in our care and we hope that we can support families in safeguarding your children.

What is safeguarding?

- Protecting children
- Preventing harm to a child

This includes a variety of different aspects. We are here to help your child make good choices but also support them if they make a mistake.

We work with individual students, their families and external agencies.

What do we do at CamVC to safeguard your child?

- **Staff are vigilant** staff are very good at noticing small changes and listening to the concerns of those in our care. Tutors are well placed in this process, however all staff play an active role in this.
- **Designated Team** we have a specific team of people working each day to address concerns raised by staff, pupils, parents and external agencies. This team works to make sure concerns are addressed and the appropriate support is advised
- **Pupil Voice** we encourage pupils to speak to us or raise their concerns via the 'Report a Concern' button on their iPad

How can we help you?

If you have any concerns about your child or you would like any support, please contact us via cam-safeguarding@cambournevc.org

Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility



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.

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

Communication with the School

How can I contact my child's Year Team?



Please email cam-year7@cambournevc.org | PSA Abby Stirling-Clarke

Please email cam-year8@cambournevc.org | PSA Sam Tomlinson

Please email cam-year9@cambournevc.org | PSA Lorraine Lye

Please email cam-year10@cambournevc.org | PSA Lou Boyd

Please email cam-year11@cambournevc.org | PSA Mel Stanford



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



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

We aim to respond to any enquiry within 48 hours.