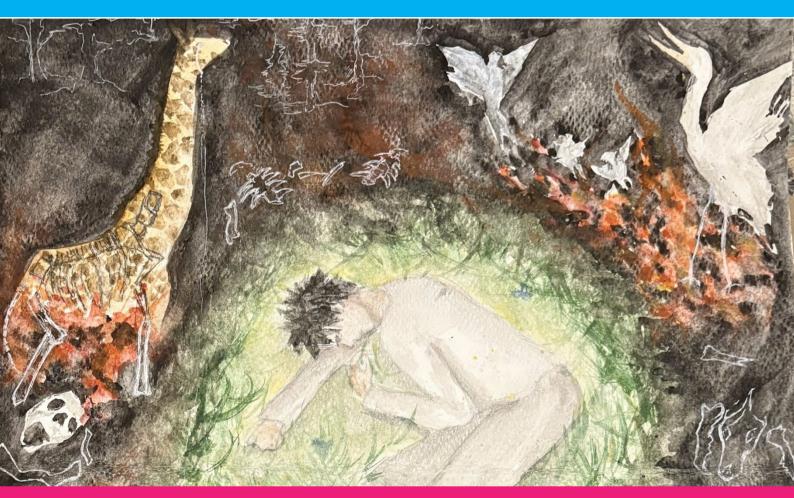


CAMBOURNE VC AND SF MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MAY 2025



Echoes of the Earth:

Artwork Captures Nature's Voice

READ MORE ON PAGE 10



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy time since Easter, with our Year 11 students continuing their GCSE exams, preparing for study leave, and beginning their farewells. We have every confidence that they will go on to achieve great things. Meanwhile, our Year 12s are reaching a new milestone as they explore post-A-Level opportunities, attend the UCAS conference on 16th June, and take on their mock exams—we wish them the very best of luck!

This month has also been filled with exciting trips and activities, offering students valuable experiences—whether through immersing themselves in new cultures, discovering fresh perspectives, meeting new people, or contributing to the wider community.

Looking ahead to June, we have plenty to look forward to. Key dates are listed on the right, including many scheduled trips. A special highlight will be the Art and Photography Exhibition on the evening of 19th June, showcasing students' hard work and creativity. Additionally, on 26th June, we are hosting our Sixth Form Open Evening for current Year 10 students and their families—an excellent opportunity for those considering post-16 education.

For those already thinking about September, one of our uniform suppliers is offering an early bird discount—more details can be found inside.

Thank you for your continued support.

Lynn Mayes Principal

KEY DATES FOR JUNE:

Monday 2nd to Thursday 19th June: GCSE Exams continue

Monday 2nd & Wednesday 4th June: Year 10 Geography Fieldtrips

Monday 9th June: CamSF Taster Day for CamVC Yr10

Monday 9th June: Yr12 Psych Trip to Freud Museum

Tuesday 10th June: Junior Maths Challenge (Yr7 & 8)

Wednesday 11th June: East of England Regional Translation Bee Final (4pm onwards)

Monday 16th June: Yr12 UCAS Discovery Event (all day)

Tuesday 17th June: Yr10 Taster Day at CRC (all day)

Thursday 19th June: GCSE Art & Photography: Private viewing

Monday 23rd to Friday 27th June: Yr7 visit to Cologne, Germany

Monday 23rd to Friday 27th June: Yr 2 Mock exams

> Wednesday 25th June: PE Olympic Cup

Thursday 26th June: Year 11 Leavers Day Sixth Form Open Evening for Yr10 students & families (from 6pm)

Friday 27th June: Culture Day Event (from 4pm)

Subscribe to our calendar for more key dates

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ENRICHMENT SUMMER 2

Our weekly registration, lunchtime and after school club timetable:

MONDAY		
LU	Language Leaders (Yr9)	IT03 (WkA)
NC	Prefects	O11 (WkB)
		O11 (WkA)
AF	Art (GCSE) Athletics CamBookWorms DT Studio Club (KS4) Guitar and Ukulele Group Hong Kong Community Club	ART01
Ē	Athletics	(All)
RS	CamBookWorms	Library Mezz
음 문	DT Studio Club (KS4)	DT
8	Guitar and Ukulele Group	MU02
	Hong Kong Community Club	Activities Hall
	Maths Paper Society (Yr11)	Y10/11 Dining
	Orchestra	MU1
	Science Club (KS3)	SC11

	WEDNESDAY			
REG	Barbershop	MU01		
Ľ	Debate Club	SF2		
LUNCH	History Revision (GCSE)	B14		
т	Kreutzer (Violin) Club	MU01		
	Language Leaders (Yr9)	IT03 (WkB)		
	Russian Speaking Club	015		
AF	Art Club (KS3)	ART01/02		
Ē	Creative Writing Club	EN17		
RS	Cricket Club	Field (ID/BD)		
СН	Drama Club	DR1		
AFTER SCHOOL	Eco Council	O16		
ř	Engineering Club (KS4)	DT05/06		
	ESOL	P15		
	FIXTURES			
	Healthy Relationship Ambass.	P16		
	KS4 Fitness (Sign up PE board)	Fitness Suite		
	Maths Clinic (Sixth Form)	SF15		
	Music Revision (GCSE)	MU01		
	Rounders	Field (EH/LY)		
	Sixth Form Netball	Hardcourts		
	Taking Up Space	Library Mezz		
	Table Tennis	Dining H (HT)		
	Tennis	Courts (GT)		
	Translation Bee Club	O13		

FOR PE CLUBS: Remember to scan the QR code in the changing rooms to register your attendance for the club. **FOR ALL OTHER CLUBS:** Please register with a member of staff

FOR PE CLUBS:

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

netable:			
	TUESDAY		
LUNCH	Eco-Ambassadors Workshop	O16	
NC	History Reading Club	B13	
Т	Recreational Japanese	012	
	We Are Molecules	O15	
AF	Academic Guidance Club*	B13	
Ξ	American Flag Football	Astro (LM)	
AFTER SCHOOL	Dance	D Studio (JR)	
	Eco Textiles Club	DT06	
	Football (KS3)	Astro (KR)	
ř	French Revision (Yr11)	O16	
	Jazz Band	MU03	
	Junior Choir	MU01	
	Kitchen Garden Club	Food01	
	Latin Club	Drama 1	
	Making History	ART01	
	Mental Health Am/ Wellbeing Pre.	P16	
	Science Revision (Yr11)	Sc19/ Sc20	
	Senior Book Club - 8tth July	Main Library	

	THURSDAY	
INC	A level History Society	SF1
	German Revision	O16
	Programming Club	COMP02
	Sparx Club	IT03
AF	Arabic (All years)	P15
H	GCSE Art	ART01
ת נט	Healthy Relationship Ambassadors	P16
ŐH	Lower School Show	Perform. Hall
0	Sixth Form Football	Astro
	Sports Leaders Opps./meetings	Check SL Board
	Young Carers	Link

FRIDAY		
LUNCH	Aspirational Fridays	EN02
	International Council	O15
Т	Minecraft Club	COMP01-04
	Spanish Spelling Bee	O11
AFTER	Board Games, Dungeons and Dragons, Warhammer	P16
ERSC	Chess Club (WkA)	P17
Η̈́	Photography (GCSE)	Photo Studio
٥	Senior Choir	MU01/ 03

+Please contact Dr Bell about string group

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*Academic Guidance Club: Tues (AS-B13), Wed (AS-G03), Fri (L-O13) – Speak to Dr Pagomenos for more details.

PE Department Extra-curricular Clubs – Summer 2 2025

MONDAY 3-4pm

Athletics (LM, HT, GT, KR, LY, EH)

TUESDAY 3-4pm

American Flag Football – Astro (LM)

KS3 Football – Astro (KR)

Dance - Dance studio (JR)

WEDNESDAY 3-4pm

FIXTURES

Cricket Club – Field (ID and BD) Rounders – Field (EH and LY) Tennis – Courts (GT) Fitness – Fitness Suite (Sign up need – on PE board) Table Tennis – Dining Hall - (HT) Sixth Form Netball - Courts (Sixth Formers)

THURSDAY 3-4pm

Sports Leaders Opportunities/meetings – Check the Sports Leaders Board Sixth Form Football – Astro (Sixth Formers)

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

Remember to scan the QR code in the changing rooms to register your attendance for the club.

ENRICHMENT Eco-Textiles Club

Eco-Textiles Club runs every Tuesday after school in DT06. We aim to use existing textile materials and turn them into new treasures! We have been lucky enough to receive fabric donations from teachers and parents and are always grateful for any fabric donated to the club.

We make a range of small textile items, including bookmarks, scrunchies, cosmetic bags, and even chickens! This design was created and taught by Erin Lee in Year 10. Currently, we are making bucket hats ready for summer!

If you would like to join Eco-Textiles Club, just pop by after school on Tuesdays or speak to Miss Long in the DT corridor.

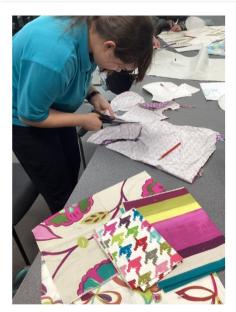
"I think that Textiles Club is very enjoyable and is a great break away from school. It is creative and fun." – Sofia C, 8A

"I have made so many friends and love the different projects we do!" – Hannah H, 7C

"I love the different types of things we make. I like how we can try out our creations before they are fully finished—like my bucket hat!" – Hannah L, 8A

"I came to Eco-Textiles with no prior experience and only joined because of friends. I'm now the only one left, but I have made loads of new friends in the group! I was nervous at the beginning, but after just a few months, I'm seeing progress in my sewing!" – Lorena S-G, 80











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ENRICHMENT Kitchen Garden Club

We've been busy at the After-School Kitchen Garden Club, which has quickly become a lively and purposeful space for pupils to explore sustainable living through hands-on experiences in growing, cooking, and reimagining food waste.

Pupils have already begun their growing journey by making innovative use of food waste—turning stale bread into golden French toast, transforming leftover rice into egg-fried rice, and even crafting their own versions of kimchi fried rice. Seeds have been carefully extracted from overripe tomatoes and cultivated into new tomato plants, while sprouting potatoes—otherwise destined for the bin—are now forming the beginnings of our very own potato crop. These practical, early steps show that growing your own food can begin simply and sustainably.



Beyond the kitchen and garden, the club encourages pupils to think more critically about the wider impact

of their food choices. Each session weaves together key themes of sustainability, biodiversity, and environmental responsibility—helping pupils connect their food choices to the environment and the world around them.

Looking ahead, the club plans to expand its green footprint by introducing pollinator-friendly planting and creating spaces that support local biodiversity. With teamwork, curiosity, and a shared commitment to sustainability, our pupils are already showing that small, thoughtful actions can sow the seeds of lasting change.

"I enjoy Kitchen Garden Club because the dishes we prepare are both sustainable and delicious. For example, when we made egg-fried rice, which we flavoured to our individual tastes, we learned how to use leftover rice, creating an eco-friendly dish." – Delilah

"Kitchen Garden Club is a very good club. We always make delicious food and do fun gardening, and all students are very welcoming. Mrs Teo is the teacher, and she always makes the club fun. Thank you to all the people who make this club possible." – Nawaf

"I enjoyed being able to participate in a club, as my anxiety usually stops me." – Freddie





SPELLING BEE

On April 28, three of our talented Year 7 students showcased their language skills at the Spanish Spelling Bee Regional Final, held at North Cambridge Academy.

Eshaan (7E), Eveline (7V), and Rishabh (7C) competed against students from secondary schools across Cambridgeshire. Their outstanding performance secured three of the four available spots for the Spanish Spelling Bee National Final, which will take place on June 27 at the University of Cambridge's Faculty of Modern Languages.

As they continue to train and refine their skills, we wish them the best of luck in this prestigious competition.

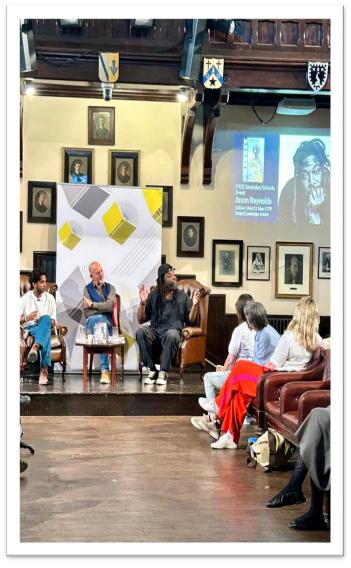
Congratulations, Eshaan, Eveline, and Rishabh you've made us very proud!



LITERARY FESTIVAL



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On Wednesday, 21th May, 45 students from Years 9 and 10 gathered at the prestigious Cambridge Union for an unforgettable literary discussion featuring three celebrated authors.

Students had the privilege of hearing from Jason Reynolds, bestselling author of *Long Way Down* and his latest work, *24 Seconds from Now*; Guy Gunaratne, author of *In Our Mad and Furious City*; and the event's chair, Ali Smith, renowned for *How to Be Both* and *The Accidental*, among other titles.

The discussion covered a range of thoughtprovoking themes, from the power of curiosity and imagination to deeper conversations about the role of masculinity—with many inspiring insights shared along the way.

Students engaged in the conversation by asking questions and exploring ideas with the speakers. To mark the occasion, each student received a copy of Jason Reynolds' *Long Way Down*, further encouraging their passion for reading and storytelling.

A truly inspirational afternoon, leaving students with new perspectives, fresh ideas, and a deeper appreciation for literature.

Zaragoza

On 13th May, thirty eager and enthusiastic Year 7 students embarked on an unforgettable cultural and educational journey to Zaragoza, Spain. Combining sightseeing, language practice, and crosscultural exchange, the trip offered a rich and rewarding experience for everyone involved.

A standout moment was spending time at our partner school, Colegio Rosa Molas, where our students had the opportunity to collaborate closely with their Spanish peers. In mixed groups, they created presentations, poems, and songs celebrating the vibrant diversity of their languages and cultures. The teamwork and creativity on display were impressive, and many new friendships blossomed through these shared activities.

The itinerary was packed with excursions. Highlights included exploring the stunning Monasterio de Piedra, with its breathtaking waterfalls and natural beauty, and visiting the iconic Basílica del Pilar—a symbol of Zaragoza and one of Spain's most significant pilgrimage sites. Students also toured the magnificent Aljafería Palace, a fortified medieval Islamic palace steeped in history and architectural grandeur.

We also took time to enjoy the city's many parks, especially soaking in the panoramic views from Parque Grande José Antonio Labordeta, where everyone had the chance to admire the sweeping vistas and capture some incredible photos.

Of course, no trip to Spain would be complete without sampling traditional cuisine. We savoured local favourites such as churros con chocolate, tortilla española, jamón ibérico, and tarta de queso. For many, tasting these dishes was a true highlight—although some were equally intrigued by the unique offerings on the Spanish McDonald's menu!







Throughout the trip, our students were simply outstanding. They conducted themselves with maturity, respect, and enthusiasm, proving to be exemplary ambassadors for the school.

Our time in Zaragoza offered so much more than sightseeing. It was a journey of discovery—of language, culture, and connection. The friendships formed, lessons learned, and memories created will stay with us for years to come. It was a week filled with growth, laughter, and inspiration—a shining example of how learning beyond the classroom can be truly transformative.









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Eco Festival

CamVC Eco Council was delighted with our Third Annual Eco Festival on Saturday, 17th May. Around 20 organisations contributed to the interactive fair, including Cambourne Repair Café, Sweetpea Farm, Spotta, Fords Packaging, CamVC and Comberton Sixth Form Eco Councils, and Monkfield Primary School.

Approximately 20 students from CamVC Eco Council generously gave up their free Saturday, helping from start to finish and representing CamVC in an impressive way. Around 85 visitors attended. A huge thank you to everyone, especially our wonderful staff helpers—we couldn't have done it without you!



Leading up to the Eco Festival, we challenged young creatives to bring the theme 'Nature's Voice' to life in our art competition and wow, did they deliver!

From breathtaking landscapes to thought-provoking designs, every entry reflected nature's beauty, resilience, and message to the world. The judges had an incredibly tough time choosing winners, but here they are!

The overall winner's work can be found on the front cover. A massive congratulations to all artists involved. Your work truly speaks for the planet!



Spotta

At the Eco Festival, Dr Victor Kang from the Cambridge-based start-up Spotta captivated the audience with an exciting, hands-on presentation about their highly innovative, Al-supported insect pest monitoring technology. Spotta provides solutions to farms, forestry agencies, and hotels worldwide, helping to reduce financial and environmental costs. This was undoubtedly one of the festival's highlights!

The fantastic group of pupils who helped make the Eco Festival a success, included: Sophia, Joseph, Tom, Moon, Luke, Lena, Michelle, Syeda, Mariam, Erin, Zunaira, Unnati, Pinak, Abbie, Fatima, Hiba, and Ayaz (Fri). Their dedication and enthusiasm were instrumental in ensuring the event ran smoothly from start to finish.





LIBRARY LATEST



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Join us from 19 June to 1 July for a fantastic selection of 200+ books! Every purchase helps us earn free books for our school library. Check out the enclosed leaflet for more details

Sora

Did you know that you can access free ebooks, audiobooks, magazines, and graphic novels from school using the reading app Sora? You can access it anytime, anywhere—on your phone, tablet, or personal computer—making it perfect for holiday reading!

With thousands of titles available, there's something for everyone. If you need help using Sora, you can either email or speak with the school library team. If there's a title that isn't on Sora but you'd like as an ebook, let us know—we may be able to add it! Take a look at some of the exciting options available:

eMagazines

There are over 600 titles to explore, covering sports, health, travel, lifestyle, and more!



eBooks in Other Languages

Sora currently offers books in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Spanish, Ukrainian, and Welsh. Whether you're searching for something in your first language or looking to expand your vocabulary in a language you're learning, be sure to check out the titles available!



OVER 200 BOOKS TO CHOOSE FROM

LET THE BOOK GAMES BEGIN! COME TO THE BOOK FAIR

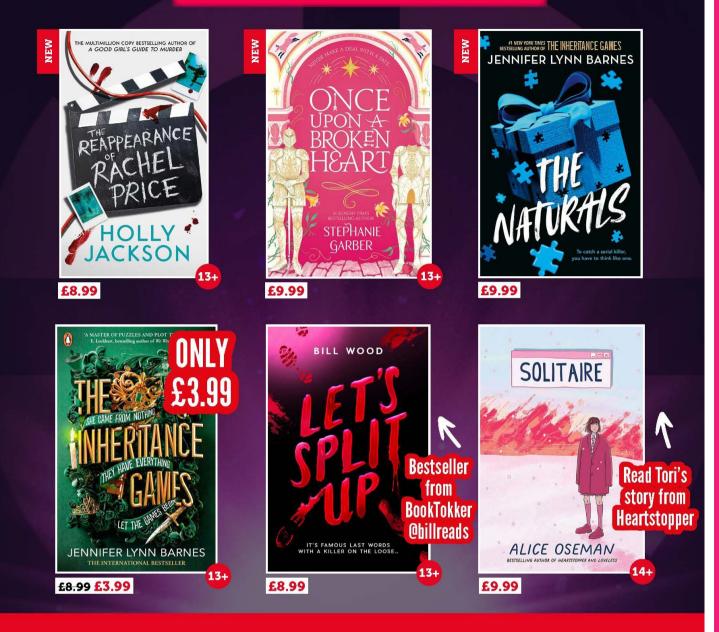
EVERY BOOK PURCHASED EARNS FREE BOOKS FOR OUR SCHOOL*

DATE: 19th June to 1st July



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BOOKTOK MADE ME BUY IT



Payment at our Book Fair

Please check with your school for the best way to pay for your books

- You can pay online at the Fair via card reader machines if your school has one or by using the online payment link at www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay and simply selecting your school from the drop down menu.
- Pre-paid gift vouchers are available in £5, £10, £15, £20 and £25. Go to www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/gift-vouchers to buy vouchers for your child before the Fair.
- If you can't attend the Fair in person, your child can order books via a Wish List – please ask your school for details.

HELP EARN FREE BOOKS FOR YOUR SCHOOL*

Scholastic is one of the largest providers of free books to schools via our Reward scheme which helps to ensure that as many children as possible have access to books that support reading for pleasure. Every time you buy from the Book Fair, you help to make a difference by supporting literacy in your child's setting. Last year, with your help, we gave over £5.3M worth of free books to schools nationwide, which stocked school libraries and classrooms.



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*Free books are subject to terms and conditions. Please contact your Book Fair Organiser or Scholastic Book Fairs for details.

FISH HEROES

SAC

We are delighted to share that our school has been recognised for its commitment to sustainability and food education through the Fish Hero programme. This national initiative engages pupils in learning about sustainable fishing, responsible sourcing, and the nutritional benefits of eating fish.

Through the programme, pupils have had exciting, hands-on experiences that broadened their understanding of food provenance. One standout moment was the delivery of fresh mussels straight from the Devon coast, which led to a lively afterschool event—the "Big Mussels Cook & Tasting." Many students tried this sustainable shellfish for the first time, discovering the richness of British seafood.

Additionally, pupils explored wild salmon sourced from Alaska, comparing wild vs. farmed fish while learning about its health benefits. As part of this event, a group of Year 10 students successfully completed a sustainability course in partnership with the University of Alaska, deepening their knowledge of ocean sustainability, wild fish farming, and global efforts to protect fish stocks.

We are incredibly proud to be part of the Fish Hero programme and remain committed to providing students with meaningful, real-world experiences that connect food education to global issues. These handson learning opportunities not only enrich the curriculum but also empower pupils to make informed, sustainable choices.



STORYTIME

BSHC

If you go down to Cambourne Village College Library today, you might be surprised to hear the sounds of Wheels on the Bus and Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star!

With the town library closed for renovations, staff wanted to offer something for the community. They introduced a story and rhyme time for children under five, followed by library access for older siblings—allowing families to reunite at school.

Year 10 Childcare students have also been getting involved, joining the sessions to interact with young children and their families. Their enthusiasm and support have added a wonderful dynamic to the activities.

The first session welcomed 12 children and their families, while 17 attended the second. Staff are hopeful that the sessions will remain popular after half-term, with storytime resuming on Friday, 6 June.

Mrs. Fielding White, the school librarian, shared her delight:

"It has been a joy to welcome families into the library and to see older students engaging with their younger siblings. These moments of shared learning and laughter truly bring the community together."

Parents have also expressed their appreciation for the initiative. One parent commented:

"It's been fantastic to have a welcoming space where little ones can enjoy stories and songs, and see where their big brother goes to school. My daughter really looked forward to going back to the second session and it's lovely to see students taking such an active role in supporting young children."



ATHLETICS



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Students in Key Stage 3 have been training hard in their athletics lessons as they prepare for the Olympic Cup, taking place at Wilberforce Road, Cambridge, on Wednesday 25 June. This exciting event is open to all year groups, with competitors going head-to-head against schools from across Cambridge.

In preparation, students have been attending the Athletics Club every Monday after school, where they refine their techniques and practice for their chosen events. Meanwhile, PE lessons provide an opportunity to set new personal bests and compare achievements with athletes of similar ages across the UK.

With several outstanding performers, many existing Cambourne records are expected to be broken this year. Those looking to improve in any aspect of athletics are encouraged to join the Monday after-school club, where extra training and guidance can help sharpen skills.

Additionally, over the next few weeks, students in both Key Stages 3 and 4 will be competing in athletics meets across Cambridgeshire, providing further opportunities to challenge themselves and showcase their abilities.

Best of luck to all those representing Cambourne—let's make this a competition to remember!



Cambourne Village College Library Join us for stories, rhymes and play

9.45am - 10.30am Friday 2nd May Friday 16th May Friday 6th June Friday 20th June

Please come to the Village College Reception

Little ones with siblings at CamVC may meet with them during breaktime 10.40-11am

Please note that whilst there will be access to toilets, there are no changing facilities on site







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Could you inspire the next generation of cyclists?

We are searching for Cycle Instructors to join our expanding Bikeability team.



We are looking for confident communicators to deliver fun and inspirational cycle training in schools.

If you have loads of enthusiasm to share and are looking for rewarding work to deliver during school term time, we would love to hear from you.

Role: Variable Hours Contract

Hourly Rate: £13.20 plus holiday pay. We have an employee benefits scheme too!

Training and Support: we provide full, free training and ongoing support including nationally recognised qualifications.

For more information, please contact:

jobs@outspokentraining.co.uk, 01223 473820

www.outspokentraining.co.uk

CAMVC UNIFORM PROVIDERS



Total Clothing has a new website:

<u>www.totalclothing.co.uk</u> with Improved Tracking, Smoother delivery selection, better product Browsing, More Payment Options, Exclusive Launch Discounts.

As part of the new website launch, Total Clothing are offering an **Early Bird Offer** (for limited time only).

Starting Monday 26th May, TC are offering a 20% discount on all uniform orders, a perfect opportunity for parents to get ahead on back-to-school shopping and save big. But don't wait – this offer is only running until Sunday 1st June 2025.

PARENTS JUST NEED TO ENTER THE CODE: **EARLYBIRD** AT THE CHECKOUT



Minimum order amount £30.00 excluding delivery. Limited time only. Cannot be used in conjunction with another offer.



SCHOOLYARD

The Schoolyard: website is here: <u>https://</u> cambourne.schoolyard-online.co.uk/

From the 1st June, Schoolyard will also be selling Cambourne Village College PE kit, so you can purchase all your uniform needs in one place.







Cambourne Village College Polo Shirt



Cambourne Village College V Neck Sweatshirt

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SIXTH FORM

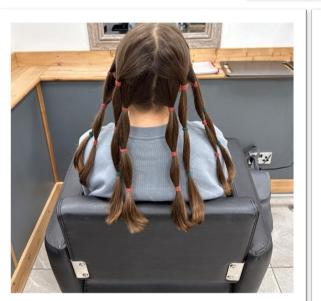
Our Sixth Form students have been making the most of our weekly enrichment sessions this term, embracing a wide range of activities. Some have been lending a hand at a local organic farm, gaining valuable experience in sustainable agriculture. Others have taken part in Cooking for the Future, where a talented guest chef taught students how to make delicious homemade gnocchi. Meanwhile, students have enjoyed recreational and competitive sports, as well as a wonderful selection of mindfulness crafts, promoting relaxation and creativity.

Beyond Sixth Form, our students have been stepping up to make a difference. One student bravely donated their hair to The Princess Trust charity, supporting children and young people in need. Additionally, three of our students took on the Tough Mudder challenge, pushing themselves through a demanding obstacle course to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support. Their determination and commitment to these causes are truly inspiring!



We're incredibly proud of all our students for their enthusiasm, generosity, and willingness to take on new challenges. Well done to everyone involved!

A quick reminder that our Open Evening for current Year 10 pupils is on Thursday, 26th June, 6-8pm, more information can be found on our <u>website</u>.





CamSF Open Events for 2026 Entry

9th June 2025 – Yr10 Taster Day (CamVC students)
10th June 2025 – Yr10 Taster Day (students from other schools)
26th June 2025 – CamSF Open Evening, all welcome, 6-8pm

NEW PROSPECTUS COMING SOON!

Taster Day booking now open LINK ABOVE