



Our Christmas Star!

Tammy wins Junior Disability Sports Personality of the Year

...more on p.4

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of this term, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been a wonderful Autumn Term for our school, our students, and their learning and achievements. A big thank you also to our parents and carers for your ongoing support and partnership—working together truly makes a meaningful difference in the lives of our children.

As the highlights in this issue of News@Cam show, although this was a shorter half term, we still managed to pack a lot in! Particular congratulations go to two of our students: William, for winning the Rotary Chef competition and progressing to the next round, and Tammy, for being named Junior Sports Personality of the Year.

We've kicked off the Christmas festivities with tree decorating, baking, the Year 7 social, and the Sixth Form Winter Ball. The Christmas Concert was a truly joyous event, and today's last day of term has seen some glorious Christmas jumpers!

The true spirit of Christmas has been evident across the school, especially through donations to local charities and the community litter pick.

I'd also like to thank Cambourne Church for donating boxes of chocolates to staff—these were gratefully received as they were dropped off in staff rooms around the school!

As we head into the break, I encourage everyone to take time to rest, recharge, and enjoy time with family and friends. We look forward to welcoming students back refreshed and ready for the opportunities ahead next term.

Wishing you all a safe, relaxing, and enjoyable break.

Warm wishes,
Lynn Mayes
Principal

KEY DATES

for Spring Term 1

**Monday 22nd Dec- Monday 5th Jan:
Christmas Holidays!**

Monday 5th January:
Staff Training Day (no pupils in school)

**Tuesday 6th January:
ALL PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL**

Friday 9th January:
Year 13 Full Reports Out

Monday 12th - Friday 16th January:
Year 11 MFL Speaking Mocks

Tuesday 13th January:
Year 7 Beaumanor Residential Parent
Meeting (5:30pm)

**Thursday 15th January:
Options Open Evening (5pm-7pm)**

Monday 19th - Friday 23rd January:
Year 12 Assessments

**Thursday 22nd January:
Parent Forum Meeting 3**

Friday 23rd January:
Piano Competition Finals

Thursday 29th January:
Year 9 Vaccinations

Tuesday 3rd February:
Psychology Lecture

Wednesday 4th February:
KS3 Recital Evening

Friday 6th February:
Not Just Black & White Art Exhibition
(5pm-7pm)

**Thursday 12th February:
Year 12 Full Reports out & Year 12
Parent Consultation**

Friday 13th February:
Year 10 Full Reports out

**Monday 16th - Friday 20th February:
Half Term!**

Subscribe to our calendar!

ENRICHMENT

AUTUMN 2



Our weekly lunchtime and after school club timetable:

MONDAY		
LUNCH	Myths (WkA)	B11
	RoboCon (by invitation)	COMP02
	Unseen Poetry	EN15
AFTER SCHOOL	Badminton (KS3)	SH/GYM
	CamBookWorms	EN14
	Football (Yr7-9 Boys)	ASTRO
	Football (Yr7-9 Girls)	ASTRO
	German Revision (KS4) (WkA)	O16
	Making History	ART02
	Maths Sparx	COMP03
	Netball	COURTS
	Orchestra	MUSIC
	Studio Time (Yr11)	DTSF

WEDNESDAY		
LU	Clio History (KS5) (WkB)	SF6
AFTER SCHOOL	Anime and Manga	COMP01
	Axiom Maths (by invitation)	P03
	Badminton (KS4)	SH
	Computer Science NEA/Rev (KS4/5)	COMP02
	Eco Council	O16
	English Exam Practice (Yr11) (WkA)	EN15
	FIXTURES	
	Hockey	ASTRO
	Maths Clinic (Sixth Form)	SF15
	Pickle Ball (all years)	SH
	RoboCon (by invitation)	COMP02
	Drum Club	MUSIC
	Studio Time (Yr13)	DTSF

TUESDAY		
LUNCH	Christian Union	P03
	Eco-Ambassadors	O16
	Environmental News (KS5) (WkA)	SF6
	History Reading and Film	B12
	Language Leaders (Yr9)	COMP03
	We Are... Molecules	O15
AFTER SCHOOL	Art (KS3)	ART
	Boys Voices	MUSIC
	Creative Writing	EN1
	Dance	DANCE ST.
	Dodgeball	GYM
	Football (Yr9-11)	ASTRO
	Healthy Relationship Ambassadors	G01
	Hong Kong Community	KS3 DH
	Jazz Band	MUSIC
	Junior Choir	MUSIC
	Kitchen Garden	FOOD DEPT
	Taking Up Space	SF CANTEEN
	Textiles	DT06

THURSDAY		
LUNCH	Clash Royal	COMP03
	Exotic Japan	G03
	History Revision (KS4)	B14
	Perse Coding Challenge	COMP02
	RS Revision (Yr11)	P17
AFTER	School Musical	
	Sports Leaders Opportunities/Meetings	CHECK SL BOARD

FRIDAY		
LUNCH	Myths (WkB)	B11
	Prefects (WkA)	O11
	RoboCon (by invitation)	COMP02
	Spanish, French & German (KS3)	O13
	Student Council (WkB)	O11
AFTER SCHOOL	Chess (WkA)	P17
	German Revision (KS4) (WkB)	O16
	Senior Choir	MUSIC
	Warhammer/ Board Games/ Dungeons and Dragons	P16

TUES 9 DEC - 3.15PM - SENIOR BOOK CLUB
(YR10-13 + STAFF) - LIBRARY

FOR PE CLUBS: Remember to scan the QR code in the changing rooms to register your attendance for the club.

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

FOR ALL OTHER CLUBS: Please register with a member of staff

2025 AUTUMN 2 v1



TAMMY

8
YEAR

Tammy is a 13-year-old girl who loves sports, but life hasn't been easy; she's come a long way to get to where she is today.

Tammy was diagnosed with cerebral palsy at around nine months old, which resulted in her becoming a wheelchair user. She has faced many barriers, setbacks, and challenges throughout her young life, but has courageously overcome them.

When Tammy attended primary school, she was rarely included in PE. While other children were outside taking part in sports, Tammy often found herself inside doing physiotherapy, playing small games, or even making sandwiches.

During annual sports days, Tammy had to complete every activity in her wheelchair, limiting how fully she could take part. Her mum, Lynn, was determined that she should be included as much as possible. Lynn would lift Tammy out of her chair so she could run the races alongside the other children. Tammy's smile was infectious, and parents cheered from the sidelines.

One year, however, a member of staff told Lynn she wasn't allowed to assist Tammy. After being told she was "causing a scene," Lynn addressed the parents and apologised—only for them to show their full support. She helped Tammy run the race again, and the parents cheered even louder.

The story reached national news, resonating with many families facing similar challenges.



A film crew supported by the Paralympics later approached the family to take part in a documentary called Equal Play, shown on Channel 4. This gave Tammy an eye-opening introduction to the world of disability sport. She was able to try wheelchair racing alongside Paralympian Hannah Cockcroft CBE, now a nine-time gold medallist. Tammy's smile returned—along with a powerful sense of freedom and inclusion. She has also met Paralympian Abby Breakwell to try wheelchair tennis at Loughborough University.

Tammy has spoken openly about the challenges of being disabled and excluded from sports on podcasts, news channels, and in various interviews. She even travelled to Paris for the 2024 Paralympics. With the support of the Paralympic movement, she is determined to improve access to sport for disabled children.

Tammy now continues with wheelchair racing and wheelchair tennis, and recently won the Junior Disability Sports Personality of the Year award.

As Tammy likes to say: "No child should be left out—just think outside the box, include everyone."



CHRISTMAS CONCERT



The Cambourne Village College Christmas Concert brought our school community together for a joyful evening of festive music, celebration, and charitable fundraising. Students from all year groups showcased their talents through a varied programme of seasonal songs, instrumental performances, and even an original composition by the drumming club, filling the Coates Theatre with Christmas spirit.



CHRISTMAS CONCERT



The concert was a wonderful opportunity to highlight the music enrichment available at Cambourne Village College and to celebrate students' hard work and creativity. Families, staff, and friends warmly enjoyed the event, and the Music Department is already looking forward to the next concert on 4 February.



ROTARY CHEF FINAL

10
YEAR

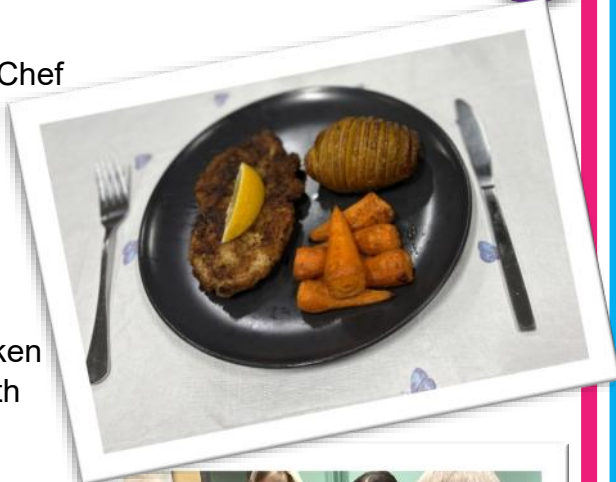
On November 6th, our 12 finalists competed in the Rotary Chef School Final!

These talented pupils had refined their main courses and desserts, considered presentation ideas, and completed costings for both dishes for the judges to review during the competition.

Main dishes included baked seabass, honey chicken, chicken Kiev, and salmon with a dill sauce. Pupils were creative with flavour combinations and paired their dishes with accompaniments such as Hasselback potatoes and zingy lemon orzo.

Desserts featured Biscoff cheesecake, sticky toffee pudding, crème brûlée, and tiramisu.

In the end, there could only be one winner—and that prize went to William (10M)! William will soon be competing in the next round of the competition in Bury St Edmunds. Ria (10R) was runner-up and will be participating in this year's Future Chef competition alongside Dylan (10C).



A huge well done to all competitors and a massive thank you to Paul Henry, Rotary Chef organiser, and Peter Senior for judging our pupils' dishes. This was a fantastic experience for everyone involved!

Watch this space for further updates on William's progress in the competition!



COOKING WITH TEAM INNOVATE

10
YEAR



Year 10 pupils recently took part in two inspirational cooking classes with Chef Rob and Chef Tracy from Team Innovate at Cambourne VC.

In their first lesson, pupils learned how to debone a whole chicken from scratch! They then breaded their chicken breasts and cooked them with a homemade Katsu sauce served with rice. Pupils focused on presentation and even got to taste their culinary creations!

In the second lesson, pupils used chicken drumsticks and wings to create a spicy marinade, which was cooked and added to a vibrant bowl of ramen. Chef Rob and Chef Tracy even transformed the chicken carcasses from the first

lesson into a delicious stock that formed the base of the ramen dish! Pupils enjoyed experimenting with new ingredients such as chilli oil and soy eggs to complete their colourful, flavour-packed ramen bowls.

A massive thank you to Rob and Tracy from Innovate for hosting two brilliant sessions with our Year 10 classes. The pupils were truly inspired and learned a key skill—how to debone a chicken!



SILVERSTONE

10
YEAR

Our engineering students recently enjoyed an exciting and inspiring day at Silverstone. The visit began with a STEM workshop in the Learning Studio overlooking the circuit, where students explored real motorsport materials, learned about design and engineering processes, and even handled an authentic F1 steering wheel. They also had the chance to see items such as Romain Grosjean's race suit and Lance Stroll's gloves and shoes up close.

Next, we headed out on a guided tour, walking part of the original Silverstone Circuit and taking in views of the modern track. We were lucky enough to catch some live testing—including a top-secret session that may or may not have featured future F1 stars!

Students then moved on to the Main Exhibition, discovering the history of Silverstone and the evolution of motorsport engineering, mechanics, safety, and technology. They also viewed genuine raced vehicles driven by icons such as Lewis Hamilton, Lando Norris, and many others.

To finish the day, we visited the Sim Suite, where students went head-to-head on the racing simulators—a clear highlight of the trip. Congratulations to Jamie, Giacomo, and Joshua, our top three drivers! The challenge gave everyone a real appreciation for the incredible skill required to compete in F1.

It was a fantastic day, and with demand already high, we're very much looking forward to our second visit!



COMMUNITY LITTER PICK



On Friday 14th November, just before our fourth litter pick event on Saturday, the rain came pelting down over Cambourne, and worries started to creep in: *What will the weather be like tomorrow? Will we have any volunteers at all?*

Luckily, Saturday morning brought cloudy but dry skies. This year, our start and finish point was Cambourne Village College. Thanks to the wonderful Saturday Site and Reception team, we were able to make a last-minute move to the Music Block to set up our welcome area. By 10am, all the litter-picking equipment (kindly loaned by Cambridgeshire Waste Management) was ready, and signs were up for our volunteers.

Over the next three hours, a small but enthusiastic group of about 40 helpers of all ages turned up—many of them long-term supporters from previous events—and collected an impressive 35 bags of rubbish, mostly from the school premises. Inside our welcome area, hot cocoa, tea, coffee, and biscuits were happily enjoyed while lively chats and planning for future events took place.

Special thanks go to our colleague Ms Tanabe, who ventured out with a group of eight eager students and returned with an impressive load of rubbish bags! A huge thank you to Mr Schulte, parent and Trustee for the Cambourne Wildlife Trust, who provided vital information on particularly messy areas and shared informative displays about the Trust's work.

Thank you also to Mrs Teo—we would be lost without your world-class logistics skills and the hot chocolate! And of course, thank you to all our student helpers from Bourn Primary School, CamVC Years 7–10 and Sixth Form, and our indefatigable Year 11 helpers, who had just finished two weeks of mock exams!



FOOD BANK DONATION



8R share their experience of delivering a donation to the Cambourne food bank.

During form time, we went to the Year Office and organised the food donations into bags. We had to make sure not to overfill them because they could rip.

At 9.30am, we moved the donations from the Year Office to the front of the school and took a picture with the Christmas tree and Mrs Mayes!



Next, we loaded the minibus with all the donations and drove to The Hub in Cambourne. When we arrived, we organised the donations into different categories: cans, boxes and packets, and bottles. This took about 15 minutes.

The people at The Hub were very thankful for the donations—and Flo even had time to chat with her mum while we were there!

JUSTHELPING
Registered charity number 114000

**RECYCLE
YOUR TREE**



Arthur Rank Hospice Charity



TO REGISTER"
SCAN HERE!

www.just-helping.org.uk/register-tree

- Registration Opens 15th Nov 2025
- Registration Closes 4th Jan 2026
- Collecting 8-10th January 2026

giftaid it



After costs, Arthur Rank Hospice Charity receive 90% of monies raised and up to 10% will be distributed by Just Helping to other local charities. More information on where your donation goes can be found on our website.

JustHelping supports volunteers, businesses, and charities to contribute to their community and the environment. Our national Christmas tree collection raises essential funds for charities in the local community.



Scouts

Christmas Tree Collection
fundraiser!



Let us collect your Christmas tree

Save yourself the hassle, be kind to the planet & help raise money for children in your local scouting groups.



Collection 3rd & 4th January 2026

Minimum £5 donation per tree

Scan to register

or email

harvey.clark@cambournescoutgroup.org.uk

Registration deadline 31st December 2025

All proceeds go to 1st Cambourne Scouts



GERMAN ADVENT BAKING



Last week, twelve Year 7 German students and five Year 11 German students took part in an after-school Advent baking session. After a brief introduction to Food Tech rules and the traditional recipe, everyone got started. Thanks to the Year 11 students, dough, cookie cutters, and decorations were quickly distributed, and within an hour around 120 biscuits were produced and happily taken home.

DANKE! for your enthusiasm and fantastic teamwork, Year 7 and Year 11!



Ausstechplätzchen für den Advent und für Weihnachten

Zutaten:

5 Eigelb
375 g Butter
200 g Zucker
500 g Mehl
Zitronenschale
(gerieben,
ungewachst)
oder
Vanillezucker

Ergibt

3.5 Bleche
(large baking
trays)

Zubereitung

1 Std. 30 Min. Gesamtzeit
30 Min. Arbeitszeit
1 Std. Ruhezeit

- 1 Alle Zutaten zu einem Teig verkneten und den Teig in Folie gewickelt 1 Stunde kalt stellen.
- 2 Danach den Teig ausrollen und beliebige Formen ausstechen. Die Plätzchen auf ein mit Backpapier ausgelegtes Blech legen und im vorgeheizten Backofen bei 170 Grad (Ober-/Unterhitze) 15-20 Minuten backen.
- 3 Nach dem Backen die Plätzchen etwas auskühlen lassen und beliebig verzieren.

Ausstechplätzchen

★★★★★ 4.9 (10) 38 Kommentare



WILDFLOWER PATCH

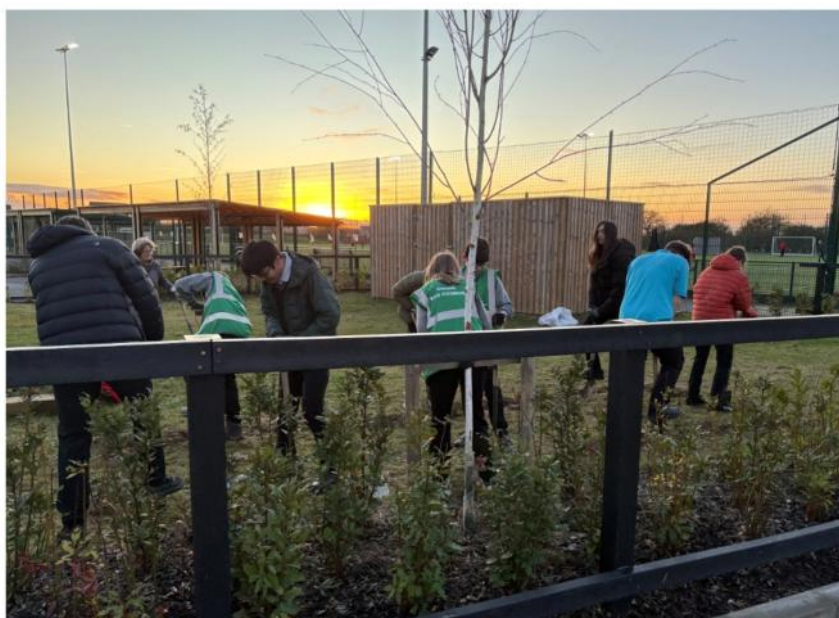
Growing for the Future: Wildflower Patch in the Kitchen Garden

Recently, the Kitchen Garden Club teamed up with the Eco-Committee to start creating a new wildflower patch in the kitchen garden allotment. Despite the cold weather, students showed fantastic enthusiasm, teamwork, and resilience, working hard to prepare the bed and bring the project to life. We even managed to harvest some potatoes at the same time while preparing the beds!

Wildflowers play an important role in supporting biodiversity. They provide vital food and habitats for pollinators such as bees and butterflies, improve soil health, and help create a more balanced and resilient ecosystem. Over time, the patch will not only enhance the garden's natural beauty but also support local wildlife and environmental sustainability.

A special thank you goes to Reiner and his wonderful family, whose invaluable guidance, time, and expertise were instrumental in helping us plan and create the wildflower bed. Their support has made a real difference to the success of this project.

We look forward to sowing the wildflower seeds in the spring and watching the area come into bloom over the coming months. Watch this space!



KITCHEN GARDEN CLUB



The Kitchen Garden Club Gets Festive!

The Kitchen Garden Club embraced the Christmas spirit this term with a fun and creative gingerbread house-building session. Students worked together to design, build, and decorate their own gingerbread creations, showing fantastic teamwork, creativity, and patience throughout the activity.

As well as being a festive treat, the session helped students develop practical food skills such as accurate measuring, careful construction, and attention to detail, while also encouraging collaboration and problem-solving in a relaxed and enjoyable environment.

The club was full of laughter, festive cheer, and impressive designs—making it a lovely way to celebrate the end of term together. A big well done to everyone who took part for their enthusiasm and creativity!



TEXTILES CLUB



Getting Ready for Christmas!

This term in Textiles Club, we've been getting into the festive spirit by making Christmas stockings! Pupils selected their fabrics over the October half term and learned how to quilt their fabric on the sewing machine using wadding. They chose a range of fun and festive prints, and some even hand-embroidered their names on their stockings!

Well done to all our Textiles Club pupils for their fantastic stocking-making skills! Wishing you all a very Happy Holidays!



BTEC FOOD

10
YEAR

Taking Learning into Real Life

BTEC students recently took their learning beyond the classroom with a visit to a local supermarket as part of a practical cooking and budgeting activity focused on seasonal ingredients. Working to a set budget and given a recipe, students had to make informed decisions about what they could afford—selecting essential items while omitting or adapting ingredients to stay within budget.

The trip helped students develop a clear understanding of value for money, seasonal vegetables, and smart food choices. They also learned how to select good-quality ingredients, particularly fresh vegetables, considering freshness, price, and suitability for cooking.

Back in the kitchen, students applied real-life maths by calculating costs, adjusting quantities, and managing their spending before preparing a delicious and healthy homemade soup. The activity highlighted how budgeting, ingredient selection, and practical cooking skills come together in everyday life.



LIBRARY LATEST



Wow, what a busy half term!

We've been open for 70 breaks and lunchtimes, hosted 120 library lessons, loaned 1,099 physical books, and even held our first Board Games lunchtime! And that's just in the main school library!

Summer Reading Passport – Space Theme

We finally awarded prizes to our very deserving winners:

Year 8: Pinak took first place for his amazing book descriptions, with Ekaa and Pihu runners-up.

Year 9: Daniel was the winner, with Hannah and Elsie close behind.

Year 10: No entries this year, but we hope those who completed the challenge enjoyed the process! Everyone who submitted received a postcard for their efforts. Well done to all!

Library Leaders & Volunteers

We've been busy recruiting new Library Leaders to support the work of the school library. Interest was huge! Every applicant was interviewed, and each one impressed us with their skills and reading knowledge. We look forward to welcoming them in January. In addition, several students are volunteering with us as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award. We're proud to support them as they learn new skills and take on responsibilities within the library.

Festive Fun

Our Library Leaders have been key to decorating the space this year—the Christmas forest and advent calendar have been a real talking point for visitors!

Revision Café

Throughout the term, the Revision Café has offered Year 10 and above a quiet space to study alone or with friends. On Wednesday evenings, students can stay until 5 pm and enjoy drinks and snacks while they work.

(Shhh... don't tell the rest of the school—we don't usually allow food and drink!)



Board Games Fridays

We've introduced Board Games Fridays at lunchtime, and this will continue into the spring term. Come along and join the fun!

Looking Ahead

Next term brings World Book Day and all the excitement that comes with it!

Over the Christmas holidays, we hope students keep reading. SORA is available on iPads and through the app on any device—just log in with school details. There's a huge choice of books and magazines, and you can even link to the County Library service for even more titles. Follow the quick guide and enjoy plenty of great reads for those quiet holiday moments.

We wish everyone a bookish Christmas and a wonderful reading New Year!



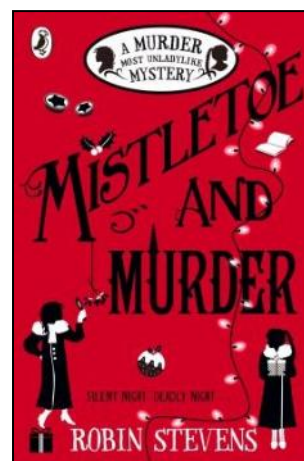
RECOMMENDED READS



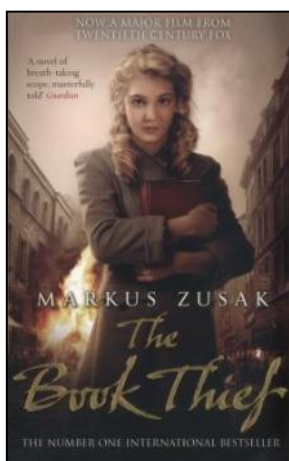
MISTLETOE AND MURDER BY - By Robin Stevens

Daisy Wells and Hazel Wong are spending the Christmas hols in snowy Cambridge. Hazel has high hopes of its beautiful spires, cosy libraries and inviting tea-rooms - but there is danger lurking in the dark stairwells of ancient Maudlin College. Three nights before Christmas, there is a terrible accident. At least, it appears to be an accident - until the Detective Society look a little closer, and realise a murder has taken place. Faced with several irritating grown-ups and fierce competition from a rival agency, they must use all their cunning and courage to find the killer (in time for Christmas Day, of course).

(Available from the school library and on SORA)



THE BOOK THIEF - By Marcus Zusak



It is 1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier and will be busier still.

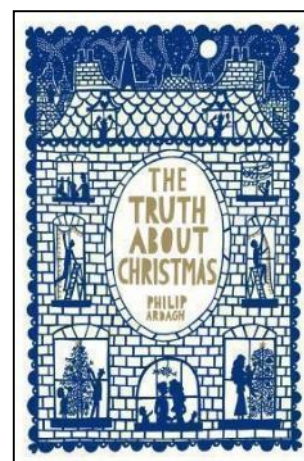
By her brother's graveside, Liesel's life is changed when she picks up a single object, partially hidden in the snow. It is The Gravedigger's Handbook, left behind there by accident, and it is her first act of book thievery. So begins a love affair with books and words, as Liesel, with the help of her accordion-playing foster father, learns to read. Soon she is stealing books from Nazi book-burnings, the mayor's wife's library, wherever there are books to be found.

But these are dangerous times. When Liesel's foster family hides a Jew in their basement, Liesel's world is both opened up and closed down.

(Available from the school library and on SORA - Year 9+)

THE TRUTH ABOUT CHRISTMAS - By Philip Ardagh

The truth about Christmas - its traditions unravelled! Have you ever wondered: - Who decided to celebrate Jesus' birthday on 25th December ...and why? - Who exactly was Saint Nicholas? When was the first Christmas card sent? - What on earth has a Yule log got to do with Christmas? Who invented the advent calendar? - What do crackers have to do with Christmas? - Where do the flying reindeer come from? - What's all the holly and ivy for? - Why are carols called carols? - What exactly is a manger? - Why have a fairy, not an angel at the top of the tree? The answers to these and many other festive questions can be found within the covers of this delightful little book! **(Available from the school library)**



SORA

Did you know that you can access free eMagazines from school with the reading app Sora? You can access it anytime and anywhere, on your phone, tablet or personal computer, perfect for reading over the holidays! With thousands of titles available, there is something for everyone. If you need help with accessing Sora, you can either email or talk to the school library team. Take a look at some of the things on offer!

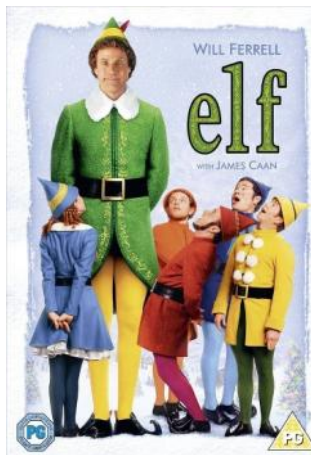


FESTIVE FILMS



Ria– My favourite Christmas film is *Elf* because it's funny, it touches on romance, and the characters are quite relatable. I love the scene where Buddy the Elf is in a classroom with all the other 'normal-sized' elves, and when he sings to his dad. It's a classic Christmas comfort movie.

Brooke – My favourite Christmas film is *Home Alone 2: Lost in New York* because it's very funny and has a bit of drama too. I like the scenes where Kevin is running from the original robbers from *Home Alone* (then the 'Wet Bandits', now the 'Sticky Bandits') and when he saves the toy store.



Mrs Milne – My favourite Christmas film is *Home Alone*. It's funny, exciting, and unexpected for an eight-year-old to survive so well while under attack from robbers! The tarantula scene is my favourite moment—I cry with laughter every time.

Looking for something new this festive season? Here are a few lesser-known favourites:

Noelle (Disney+) – A beautiful tale of Santa's sister, who only wants the best for everyone but doesn't always get it right! Anna Kendrick shines in the title role—be warned, this one will give you ALL the feels!

My Dad's Christmas Date (Amazon Prime) – A terrible title but a wonderful, funny, heartwarming film about a daughter trying to find her widowed dad a new partner. Shot in beautiful York, it's full of charm and a lovely message.

Klaus (Netflix) – If you missed this gem, it's one of the most amazing Christmas films in recent years. Heartwarming, funny, beautifully animated, and full of feel-good moments—you'll love it!

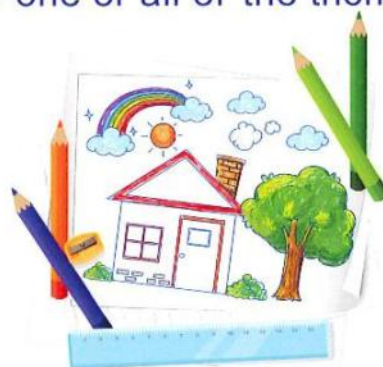


Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Draft Local Plan - Drawing competition

As part of our Draft Local Plan consultation, we are inviting your drawings to include in the Plan!

Submit your drawings or illustrations for one or all of the themes:

Climate change
Biodiversity and green spaces
Great places
Wellbeing and social inclusion
Jobs
Homes
Infrastructure



Competition is open from 9am on 1 December 2025 to 5pm on 30 January 2026

Submit your creations to our email address:
localplan@greatercambridgeplanning.org

Please include your name, age and contact details of you or your guardian so we can let you know if you are the winner of one of seven vouchers!

Competition open to all ages. Winners will be announced in February 2026.



To find out more about the Draft Local Plan and for ideas of what to include in your drawings, visit:
<https://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/local-plan>



Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Draft Local Plan - Lego competition



As part of our Draft Local Plan consultation, we want to see your Lego creations! Make a building, place or street that you would like to see in the new communities of Cambourne North or Grange Farm.

Prizes to win for three age groups: age 7 and under, age 8 to 12, and age 13 to 18.

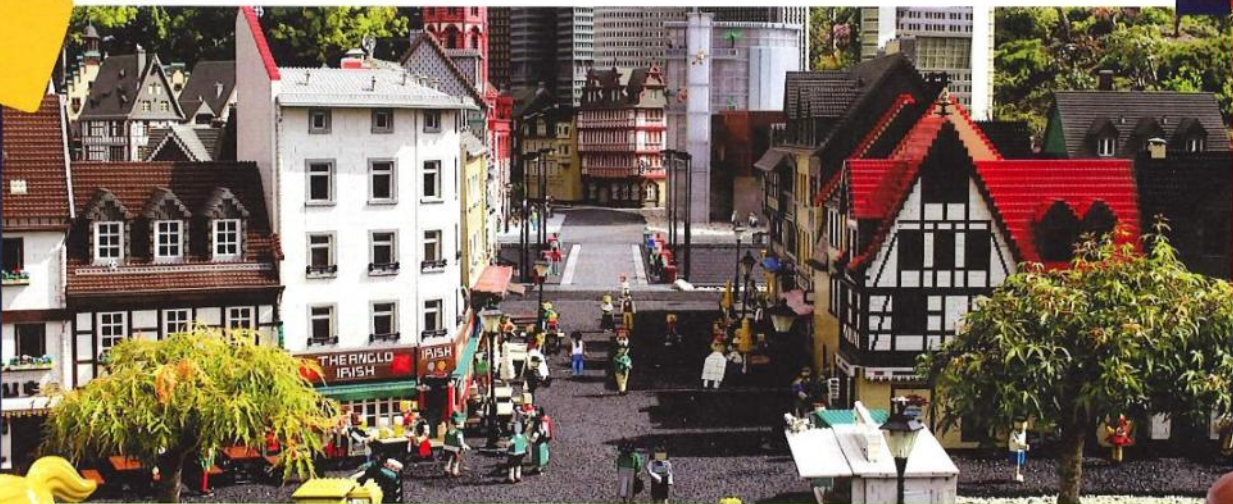
Competition is open from 9am on 1 December 2025 to 5pm on 30 January 2026

Submit a photo of your creation to our email address:
localplan@greatercambridgeplanning.org

Please include your name, age, and contact details of your guardian so we can let you know if you are the winner of a Lego set!



Winners will be announced in February 2026.



To find out more about the Draft Local Plan visit:
<https://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/local-plan>





Springboard
FUTURECHEF

Bakeoff

2026

READY, SET, BAKE

Whisks at the ready! The Springboard FutureChef BakeOff is your chance to show off your skills, creativity, and love of all things sweet (or savoury!). Open to budding culinary stars in S1/2 (Scotland), Y7/8 (England & Wales), and Y8/9 (N. Ireland), this is your moment to rise to the challenge.

THE CHALLENGE

- Produce a savoury tart using a homemade shortcrust pastry
- The tart can be shaped however you wish e.g., round, square, oblong.
- The tart should have a minimum of 4 portions, maximum 8 portions.
- The tart filling is up to you but focus should be on seasonal ingredients and minimising food waste / using an ingredient in its' entirety.
- Bake your savoury tart, document the process with photos, complete your entry pack and submit your entry to be judged by our panel of professional chefs!



SBFutureChef



@SBFutureChef_

[Register Here](#)





Henry Morris

Awards 2026



HENRY MORRIS
Memorial Trust

Financial Awards for Students in Cambridgeshire

Students from all Cambridgeshire secondary schools are entitled to apply for **projects with purpose**. Awards are made once a year and traditionally, projects funded have involved travel of some kind but the Trust also considers applications from young people for projects which are 'home-based'.

Information about the funding, examples of past projects and application forms can be found on the Henry Morris Memorial Trust website: www.henrymorris.org

This is open to all students in Years 9, 10, 11 and Sixth Form and students can apply to the Trust for an award on their own, with a friend or in a small group. They must, however, have planned their project themselves, and any parent/guardian involvement must be in a 'care/protection' role only. If a student is applying as part of a small group, every person in the group must submit an application form.

The deadline for the next round of applications is **Saturday 31st January 2026**.

Students will be interviewed at Queens' College on **Saturday 14th March 2026**. (Financial support is also available for travel to the interviews).

Who was Henry Morris?

Henry Morris (1889-1961) was the Chief Education Officer in Cambridgeshire for over 30 years from 1922. In 1924 he wrote the now famous Memorandum which led to the founding of the Village Colleges. The movement seeded a change towards "community education" in many parts of Britain and abroad. This change was based on the belief that education should be a lifelong process. He called it "raising the school-leaving age to 90".

The first four village colleges were opened before the war and therefore served as examples for the process of educational reconstruction which took place during and after it. The buildings were to serve the whole community – not just the children. The idea of village colleges grew out of a radical, liberal, paternalistic tradition and it would provide for and meet the community's physical, educational, cultural and recreational needs.

When Henry Morris died in 1961, a group of his friends decided to remember him in a way that would have been dear to his heart. They established a fund that could be used to enable young people to experience the joy and excitement of independent travel and study, and thereby be refreshed and inspired.

www.henrymorris.org

Registered Charity number: 311419



January 2026

Hello from the adult education team.

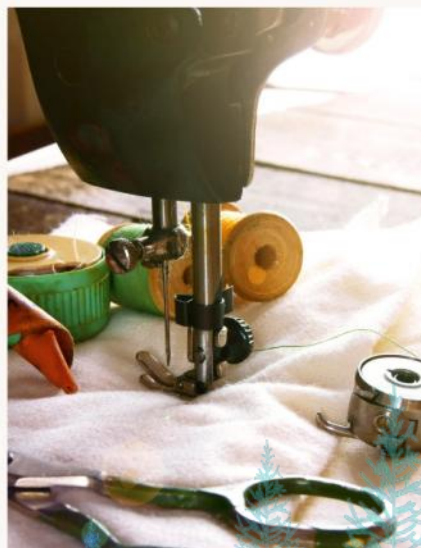
We are excited to announce our new courses we are running from Cambourne Village College and starting in the Spring term.

- Beginners English
- British Sign Language
- Creative Mosaics
- Drawing and Painting
- Dressmaking for Beginners
- Dressmaking Mixed Ability
- Pottery
- Spanish for Beginners
- Pilates
- Woodwork
- Yoga

For more information and to secure
your space email us:
commed@combertonvc.org

Accompanied children aged 14+ are welcome on some of our courses now too, please ask us for more details and discounted rates.

www.combertonadulted.org





UK Chemistry Olympiad A-level Students Wednesday 28th January 9am in Lab 5

QR code or link: **Register to take part by 20.01.26**

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=1u3qtje_FUCP6Rn7wsAtVS_Ildw00gVDkk9U_4YDcZtUNkdYU1ZON1JHNzY0Tk9YSDBJNzlZWDI0MC4u



SIXTH FORM

WINTER HALF TERM AT CAMBOURNE SIXTH FORM

This half term has been incredibly busy, with Year 13 students working hard on both their mock exams and UCAS applications. This is a hugely important step for many of our students as they prepare for what is likely the biggest transition of their lives so far—leaving school and making their own way in the wider world.

Over the past few weeks, I've been reading through personal statements that speak of resilience and resourcefulness, learning about the wide range of extra-curricular activities our sixth formers have taken part in, the jobs they already hold, and the passion they have for their future careers. It's always a privilege to glimpse their aspirations, especially when you consider the changes this cohort has adapted to throughout their fourteen years of schooling.

Our Year 12 students have begun their Futures programme, with many already securing work experience placements for the summer and starting to ask questions about universities and apprenticeships. The first Year 12 enrichment block ended on a high with a fantastic variety showcase from the Performing Arts group—directed, choreographed, marketed, and performed entirely by students with minimal staff input. It was such a success that the next show is already being planned, so watch this space!



As Year 13 turn their attention to summer exams, we've started the process of transitioning from our current Sixth Form Council to a new team of Student Presidents and Vice Presidents. Our current Co-Presidents, Harry and Aashrita, spoke in assembly about the benefits of student leadership, and we're excited to see many Year 12 students engage with this valuable experience. To round off their term, the current council hosted a fantastic Winter Ball—which I'll leave them to tell you more about!



SIXTH FORM (continued)

Several students have gone above and beyond the curriculum this term. Highlights include Brianna, who came 2nd in a national business competition run by Peter Jones (of Dragons' Den fame), and Elliot, who has progressed to the Final of the Cambourne Piano Competition (Advanced category).

We've also welcomed a range of external speakers, a lecture on Forensic Psychology; our local MP, Ian Sollom, who visited for Parliament Week; and the Cambridgeshire Fire Service, who gave a powerful session on being first on the scene of an accident.

Looking ahead to next term, we're excited to launch a new Common Room for students—a much-needed indoor breakout space. (If anyone has a pool table going spare, please let me know!)

It's been a wonderful term, full of brilliant achievements.

Athena Bell
Acting Head of Sixth Form

FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY LECTURE



Students from Years 10 to 13 demonstrated great curiosity and enthusiasm for learning beyond the curriculum by attending an after-school talk on Forensic Psychology.

Our guest speaker shared insights into their role as an intervention facilitator within a high-security, long-term male prison estate and spoke about the journey that led them to this position. They also offered valuable advice for students interested in pursuing Forensic Psychology as a future career path.

The session gave students a fascinating glimpse into how psychology is applied in real-world settings, and they thoroughly enjoyed the experience.