



# Newsletter 9 Friday 7th February 2025

## To all of our Families,

January has felt like a very long month! But there has been lots going on in school!

Our Young Voices choir did us proud performing superbly at the concert at the O2 Arena. Thanks to the adults who helped make this possible. It was a very long day and late night but all worth it!



We were also immensely proud of our team of Public Speakers who competed in the Network cb23 schools competition at Peterhouse College, Cambridge. Louis, Zachary, Jolie and Emilia gave excellent presentations, in spite of the very imposing environment. We were thrilled when **Emilia** was voted as Y5 & 6 **winner!** This is a highly prestigious achievement of which she can be very proud.



**A plea from all staff:** please adhere to school rules and policies, particularly with regard to uniform, footwear, jewellery etc. This is preparing your child for secondary school which is much more strict. Our rules are in place for safety and have been agreed by parents. One child wearing trainers / bracelets, quickly leads to others and this creates additional work for staff. Please work with us - if you are unhappy with a policy / rule, raise it via the parent forum.

## From the Caldecote Team

**Message from Mrs Stanton:** I am saying 'goodbye' for a while as I go to New Zealand at half term. I'll be back for the end of term. Mrs Gladwell and Miss Turner will be leading the school (supported by Mrs Downes from Barnabas Oley) in my absence.

## PTA BREAK THE RULES DAY

Thanks to everyone who supported this fun day!

We raised a staggering £435.50!





**Values award winners:**

<b>24/01/25</b>	<b>31/01/25</b>	<b>07/02/25</b>
YR– Erica Carss	Jack Lewiston	Addison Clements
Y1- Jake Rickard	Parker Dean	Max Hodgson
Y2- Karina Kwok	Maya Dabbah	Beatrice Denton-Cowell-Tebbatt
Y3– Evalyn Joyce	Sarah Seem	Finn Lanckriet
Y4– Georgia Fotland	Joshua Harrison	Maria-Christina Tzolovska
Y5- Jack Bishop	Tristan Bird	George Drayton
Y6– Mia Burnell –Clemson	Max Lanckriet	Adam Benes
<b>Golden Table: Aden Issac, Rachael Dodd &amp; Jack Stewart</b>	<b>Erica Carss, Cyrus Jones &amp; Rosie Cowan</b>	<b>Ellie Rickard, Jack Hodges &amp; Alyssa Dean</b>

**Celebration Assembly**

Arthur Y1 received a trophy for “Judoka” of the week, Abhiram Y2 completed his red belt (9th KYU), Hallie Y1 made her rainbow promise and received 6 badges & Aarav Y5 received his purple belt in Karate. Max Y1 was awarded a little duck for “Swimmer of the week”, Molly Y6 was awarded rank of “Nidan” 2nd degree in Karate & Cyrus Y3 received a Level 1 flyer certificate when he experienced the “Dream of flight”.



**Well Done Everyone!**



**A big “Thank you” to everyone who has donated so far, it is much appreciated!**

**We Need Your Support Please!**

As our school budget continues to be stretched, we are reaching out to our community for help with everyday consumables. These essential items come at a cost, and any contributions from parents would allow us to allocate more of our budget towards resources that directly support the teaching of the Caldecote Curriculum. We fully appreciate that finances are tight for many families, and we are incredibly grateful for any support you can offer. If you are able to contribute, we would welcome donations of the following items:

- Tissues
- Liquid hand soap
- Blue biro
- Glue sticks

A donation basket is available in the main school office area where items can be dropped off. Your generosity will make a real difference, and we really appreciate your support. Thank you for helping us create the best possible learning environment for our pupils.



# Dates for the Diary

2025 PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF THE DATES SO YOU DON'T MISS ANYTHING

Monday 10th February	Y5 Anglo Saxon day
Monday 17th -Friday 21st February	Half Term
Tuesday 25th February	YR Vision screening
Wednesday 26th February	Y3 Wysing Arts trip
Thursday 6th March	World book day
Tuesday 18th March	Parent Consultations 8.00-11.30
Thursday 20th March	Parent Consultations 3.30-6.30
Tuesday 25th March	Y6 Kettle's Yard trip
Monday 31st March	Y2 Botanical Gardens trip
Wednesday 30th April	YR Church Farm trip
Thursday 8th May-Friday 9th May	Y4 Burwell House
Monday 9th June-Wednesday 11th June	Y6 Frontier Centre

## **Celebration Assemblies**

Parents are invited to our celebration assemblies. These are on Friday at 2:40pm in the hall— please come in through the front of the school.

Due to limited space, we can only accommodate **one** adult per family

**Green Class 14th February**  
**Purple Class 28th February**  
**Silver Class 7th March**  
**Red Class 14th March**  
**Blue Class 21st March**  
**Yellow Class 28th March**  
**Orange Class 4th April**

## **Welcome Wednesday**

Spring dates as follows:

**EYFS & KS1 (Reception, Y1 & 2) : 5 March & 2 April**

**KS2 (Y3, 4, 5 & 6) : 12 Feb & 26 March**

*Please come in with your child in the morning at 8:40am. You can stay until 9:00am.*

***Please note:*** on these mornings there may be adjustments to what is happening in the classroom to accommodate parents. An example may be, if a child normally has 1:1 or group support, we will delay this until after the Welcome Wednesday so every child has the opportunity to share with parents and no child feels left out.

We have had a very busy couple of weeks in Orange Class. Last week was Chinese New Year and the children had a fantastic theme day. They wrote recipes for making spring rolls, which they then prepared and tasted. The children also made Chinese lanterns, tried Chinese calligraphy and sang songs. This week we had Science Day on Tuesday. We had a workshop on the theme of Forces and learnt about how the great inventions of scientists can change our lives. On Wednesday we had an Art/ DT day linked to our Viking topic. We made Viking purses and evaluated them according to the design criteria. We also experimented with difficult textiles. We created our own weavings using paper and fabric scraps. In history, we have been learning about why the Vikings were such successful warriors. In English, we have been drawing story maps in preparation for writing our own versions of the Viking myth - Freya and the Goblins. In maths, we have been learning about multiplication and division methods and how the 2x, 4x and 8x tables are linked. We have been very impressed with the quantity and quality of the children's home learning this half-term. Well done Orange Class.

We've been busy riding balance bikes to strengthen our core muscles and improve co-ordination. We've also been playing games that promote turn-taking and listening skills, helping us build teamwork and communication. In addition, we've been learning action songs and exploring rhythm by identifying the beat in music. It's been wonderful to see everyone so enthusiastic and involved in these activities! We continue to develop a deep understanding of numbers by exploring the numbers up to 10. This has included discovering number bonds to 10 in sequence and learning to construct and write number sentences. In phonics, we have expanded our knowledge of digraphs and trigraphs, further enhancing our skills as fluent readers. Oh and we had a great time learning about Sarah Boone and her creation of an improved ironing board with our Science visitor. No wonder we're all feeling tired!

Blue Class enjoyed their science workshop on Tuesday. They used their knowledge of the seasons and looked at clothing for the weather. They also enjoyed experimenting with materials to decide what they will use to make their weather pin wheels. In English they have been writing great non-chronological reports on the seasons and the weather. They have used all their knowledge from our science and geography lessons to help them to complete the writing.

Year 2 are continuing to work hard. This week we have been comparing toys in History and putting them into order of age. Pupils have also started their sewing projects in DT and completed their final paintings in art. In English, pupils have planned their non-chronological reports about Paddington Bear ready to write up next week. In maths, we have been learning how to divide an amount using cubes and counters.

Green Class have had a great couple of weeks. In English, we have finished writing our playscripts linked to carnival. The children spent time editing and improving their work and also had an opportunity to perform their playscripts to the class. There were some fantastic actors, actresses and directors in the class! In Maths, we have been working on decimals. This is a tricky topic but it has been great to see everyone working hard to understand what decimals are and how we can convert them into fractions. We have also had an exciting 'Art day' this week, linking again to carnival. The children designed carnival-inspired artworks and created them using a polystyrene printing tile, inspired by the artist Heather Galler. Overall, it has been a busy couple of weeks and it has been great to see Green Class getting involved with all these activities. Let's hope that our last week of the half-term is just as exciting!

Purple Class have been really enjoying their learning this week. We particularly enjoyed Science Day where we learnt about changes in Science and we looked in more detail at Ruth Wakefield's chocolate chip discovery! In English this week, we have written our own legend to add to the tales of Beowulf. I have really enjoyed reading these and the class have worked hard to select vocabulary that matches the style of a legend. In music this week, we learnt some African dance moves and put these together with our learning of the song Shosholosa. We played chords on the glockenspiels, sang and danced along which looked and sounded brilliant! In maths, we have been learning how to multiply 2-digit numbers by 4-digit numbers and divide 4-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers. We then applied this learning to a range of problem-solving questions and practiced solving questions using all four functions. Well done Purple Class for your positive attitude to learning. I am looking forward to seeing your outfits next week for our Anglo-Saxon day.

Silver Class have been learning about the journey of the Windrush this week; they were surprised to hear about the prejudice and discrimination travellers experienced. In English, we are preparing to write a newspaper article about this and so we have been familiarising ourselves with the structure of a newspaper article and gathering technical vocabulary. Silver Class has also analysed a range of poems from the book *Inside Out and Back Again* where we learn about the experience of a young girl and the Vietnam War. Art has been linked to *The Arrival* by Shaun Tan where the class have been developing their drawing skills to create form and texture. We have been reminding ourselves with the verb forms for they, we, I and s/he/it in Spanish and how to deal with changes and look after our mental health in PSHCE.

# SEND & Wellbeing

*It is never too early or too late to start looking after our mental health!*

## HOW CAN I KEEP MY CHILD PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY HEALTHY?

Keeping your child physically and mentally healthy is important, but how can you achieve it? By incorporating these tips into your child's daily routine, can help shape their future;

Start by being a good role model, they will be guided by you  
Preparing a well-balanced diet, by providing the nutrients they need will support them as they grow  
Ensure you all get enough sleep to maintain physical, mental and emotional wellbeing

Regular exercise and fresh air, why not walk, scoot or bike to school  
Reduce time spent on screens as too much can have a negative impact on wellbeing and development  
Read together, this will increase their vocabulary and help to articulate thoughts and feelings

This week is **CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK**

Place2Be's Children's Mental Health Week joined forces with Here4You to explore the importance of self-awareness and expressing emotions. Here4You is supported by The Walt Disney Company, and through the characters of Pixar's Inside Out 2, the resources encourage children and young people across the UK to discover how getting to know who they are can help them build resilience, grow and develop.



Visit their website for resources and to find out more:  
<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/>



Parkrun is a free, fun, and friendly weekly 5k community event. Walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate – it's up to you! It is not a race, there is no time limit and no-one finishes last. A great event to boost physical health as well as mental health; it's a great way to meet new people; getting outside and in the fresh air feels great. Parkrun takes place every Saturday at 9am.

Follow the links below to find out more about your local parkrun:  
[Coldham's Common parkrun](#), [Storey's Field parkrun](#), [Fulbourn Hospital parkrun](#),  
[Milton Country parkrun](#)



## Parent Information

### For Social, Emotional and Mental Health

Where would I find information about dyslexia?	+
Where can I get information on a CAMH referral?	+
Why the acronym OAP - is there any chance of a different name?	+
How would it help with a disability?	+
Could there be a search bar within the toolkit as opposed to the whole website?	+
Will there be a requirement for schools to use the toolkit as part of CPD?	+
How will staff have time to look through the toolkit when there is less staff and more demand?	+

(SEMH) strategies visit:

<https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/cambridgeshire-send/cambridgeshire-send-oap-toolkits/primary-and-secondary-send-oap-toolkit/social-emotional-and-mental-health-semh/strategies>

**SEND/Health and wellbeing Drop In session for parents.** Presentation on ASD followed by Time to Talk and ask questions  
Wednesday 12th March at 8:40am



Essential support for under 25s

The Mix Counselling service is suitable for young people aged 25 years and under who are looking for short-

term help with their mental health and emotional wellbeing. They offer a telephone and Webchat counselling service. Their counsellors aim to support by listening to problems and helping to find ways to cope in a confidential, safe space.

<https://www.themix.org.uk/get-support/speak-to-our-team/the-mix-counselling-service>

**Clare Merrington (Education Inclusion Family Advisor)**  
Is holding a Virtual Parent Drop-In Session for parents  
On **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April from 12pm until 1.30pm**

Education Inclusion Family Advisor's offer you an opportunity to ask for information, advice and support on any issue affecting your family life in a relaxed environment. These areas include:

- Challenging behaviour
- Routines
- Supporting emotions and wellbeing
- School transitions
- Parenting strategies
- Building resilience and confidence
- Any other family challenges you might be facing

**If you would like an appointment please email**  
[clare.merrington@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:clare.merrington@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

## A JTA Update

The JTA's had Maree from the council Road Traffic department visit last week, all JTA's were provided with a smart High Viz jacket designated for the JTA's. From next week on a Wednesday the JTA's will be patrolling the playground in the morning, they will be looking out for those travelling safely to and from school, they will carry out this patrol each Wednesday to help them nominate individuals in time for the weekly celebration assembly on a Friday.

## SCHOOL & ECO COUNCIL

Our school & eco council came together this week to discuss lots of issues relating to our school. The children will be helping to launch our schools' part in the national campaign, Eat them to defeat them. This will launch on Monday 10th March.

The children will also be making posters (at the lunchtime Art Club) for our next Waste Free Lunch which is planned for Monday 3rd March.

Eco Team continuing their good work around school- checking on lights, computers and taps - ensuring we don't waste electricity or water. They are also litter picking on Fridays.

Keep your eyes open - ready for others dates that our council members will be helping with.

- Switch Off Day
- Tree Planting
- Community Clear Up
- Talent Show

Thank you to all our council members for their continued hard work & dedication around school.

### YEAR SIX UPDATE

As head of our school, the year six team take on a range of roles and responsibilities. These include lunchtime helpers, librarian, classroom helper and many others. Thank you to all of them!

Our fabulous Year 6 Silver Stars have been busy running lunchtime games for both KS1 and KS2. Look out for the new team and activities on our notice board after half term



The Playtime Ambassadors have also been very busy around school using their Peer Mediator training to help younger children as well as running lunchtime clubs and games. New team and activities after half term.

Mrs Lydon & Mrs Gibbs