



CASTLE NEWS

Friday 6 March 2026 V25 No.23

www.castleschool.info

Our thought of the week is:

'I can read a book'

Message from the Headteacher



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thought of the Week: I can read a book

Theme of the Week: World Book Day

This week we have been celebrating the joy of reading across the school as part of World Book Day, which took place on Thursday 5th March. It was wonderful to see so many pupils and staff embracing the spirit of the day through some fantastic costumes. The creativity on display was brilliant, and it was lovely to see everyone sharing their favourite stories and characters.

One of the highlights of the day was our "Where's Wally?" treasure hunt around the school. Pupils had great fun searching the corridors and classrooms to spot Wally and his friends, working together and enjoying the excitement of the challenge. Activities like this help remind us that reading is not just about books, it's about curiosity, joy, imagination and sharing experiences together.

Today we were also delighted to welcome one of our community partners, Cultivating Change Charity into school, along with the BBC, who were filming as the team prepare to take part in the Cambridge Half Marathon this Sunday. They will be running in fancy dress to raise money for the charity, which is supporting the development of our Yoga Garden, which they are creating together with our pupils. Two of the Team are attempting to break Guinness World Records!

It was wonderful for our pupils to see this partnership in action and to know that the wider community is supporting something that will bring real wellbeing benefits to the school. So, if you happen to see a head of broccoli or an aubergine run by on Sunday give them an extra cheer for us!

You can catch the broadcast later today on BBC Look East TV on BBC 1 at 18:30.

A huge thank you to everyone involved, staff, pupils, families and our community partners for helping to make this such a positive and inspiring week at Castle School.

Charlotte.

BBC Look East filming and broadcast



As Charlotte mentioned, we had visitors from BBC Look East today. They interviewed us and the wonderful Cultivate and Change charity who developed our kitchen garden last year and are revamping on a larger scale our new Wellbeing courtyard.

You can watch it on Look East tonight 6th March at 6:30 on BBC1 or afterwards on iPlayer.

Clare Laidler
Transitions Mentor



Conwy Class News

We are now fully into the Spring term and making the most of the nice, warm days we have had! We are enjoying music lessons with our new teacher, Isabel, and getting used to our new routines. We have had a great time exploring in the forest school area, using binoculars to see things from far away.

This week we also had the opportunity to visit the park in Histon where we had a lovely time using all the equipment.



Kings Class News

Kings had a good start to the Spring 2 term. We were excited to explore and read our new story “The Scarecrows Wedding” by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler. We got to know the characters of the story, Betty O’Barley, Harry O’Hay and Reginald Rake, and have started to learn some key words and signs from the story.

We also looked at some pictures and videos of wedding celebrations. We also started learning about the difference between romantic and non-romantic relationships and some behaviours associated with the different relationships and discussed whether Betty O’Barley and Harry O’Hay were in a romantic or non-romantic relationship, and why. We’ve been also enjoying taking part in our work-related learning every week. We’ve been accessing different facilities, such as the Castle School Shop, Wimpole Estate, Raptor Foundation, Food Tech room and Emmaus, and have been enjoying applying and further developing our knowledge and skills in preparation for the world of work.

From Kings’ class, have a lovely weekend!



Deer Class News

Deer class are learning to tell the time this week, we made a giant clock on the floor of the classroom and played time bingo. We are great at telling the time when it is o'clock and half past!

During PSHE our focus this half term is managing feelings, the characters from the film Inside Out really help with our understanding. We have recognising different emotions and have been sharing what experiences make us feel different emotions.



General Messages

Cambridgeshire Music SEN inclusive ensemble – survey to share

Cambridgeshire Music hub [Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Music Education Hub](#) / [Cambridgeshire Music](#) are currently developing a new SEND Inclusion Ensemble, and are keen to co-produce the project with SEND young people and their parents and carers. Their input will be invaluable in shaping the direction and ensuring the ensemble truly meets their needs.

Please see below a short online survey (linked below) to gather initial thoughts and feedback from parents and carers of SEND young people who may be interested in contributing.

[Online survey](#)

If you have any further questions please contact Jack Johnson, Inclusion Development worker Jack.Johnson@cambridgeshire.gov.uk directly.

Arbury Carnival 2026 Poster Exhibition – Wednesday 11 March 2026

The image is a promotional poster for an art exhibition. It features a photograph of a gallery with several people viewing framed posters on the walls. The text is overlaid on the image in a clean, sans-serif font. The main title is 'Join the Arbury Carnival 2026 Poster Exhibition'. Below this, the date and location are given: '11th March | 📍 CRC, Kings Hedges Road'. The time is 'From 4.30 p.m. to 6 p.m.' and there is a note about the award: '| 🏆 Arbury Carnival Poster chosen for 2026 will be announced at 5 p.m.'. At the bottom, it lists the participating schools: 'Featuring exhibits by talented artists from local schools CRC, North Cambridge Academy, Castle and Chesterton'.

Milton Country Park – You Can Bike Too!

If someone you care for would like to ride a bike, but a conventional bike is too difficult, how about trying a special bike instead? Special bikes have three wheels or four and are for individuals, or two, or even three people. There is even a bike that can take a wheelchair and a bike that is pedalled using hands only.

Milton Country Park has a collection of special bikes that are available to ride around the park. In 2026, there will be weekly Sunday sessions and monthly Saturday sessions, on the first Saturday of each month, as follows:

Weekly Sunday sessions: 22nd March – 29th November

Monthly Saturday sessions: 2nd May - 3rd October

The sessions will run from 10:30 until 12:00 and the cost is £5 per person, carers go free.

See the Milton Country Park website <https://www.miltoncountrypark.org/ycbt> or just search for “Milton Country Park You Can Bike Too”.



Touch My World Productions

Touch My World is a community interest group for individuals with additional needs that hold theatre sessions on the first and third Wednesday of the month and weekly fun sessions on a Friday during term time. Sessions run from 6:30 - 8:30pm and anyone is welcome. Lots of fun is in store.

For further information visit the [Touch My World](http://Touch My World website) website.

TMW
Imagine • Inspire • Include

Imagine the thrill and buzz of performing on stage. Now you can as part of our cast for adults with disabilities

PERFORMING ARTS

SESSIONS RUN FIRST AND THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH. £6 PER SESSION.

6.30pm - 8.30pm
Lower School Hall, Sawston Village College,
New Road, Sawston, CB22 3BP

For more information and to register contact info@touchmyworld.co.uk / 07739638817

SMW
SIGN MY WORLD

Learn the language of Makaton through song

Follow us on
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Instagram @sign_myworld

TMW www.touchmyworld.co.uk / info@touchmyworld.co.uk

TMW

TOUCH MY WORLD PRODUCTIONS
PRESENTS

FRIDAY NIGHT

Club

6.30pm - 8.30pm

£6 PER SESSION

MARVEN CENTRE
NEW ROAD
SAWSTON
CB22 3BN

FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS

Imagine. Inspire. Include.

Useful Information

Safeguarding & Wellbeing

If you have a concern about a child's safety or wellbeing, please contact:

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

safeguarding@castle.cambs.sch.uk

01223 442400

Family Support

Our Family Support Team is here to help with:

- Attendance
- Behaviour
- Emotional wellbeing
- Support at home

familysupport@castle.cambs.sch.uk

✉ Contact Us

Have a question? We're here to help:

office@castle.cambs.sch.uk

01223 442400

Term Dates 2025-26

Spring Term 2026	
Term Starts	Monday 5 January
Half Term	Monday 16 – Friday 20 February
Term Ends	Thursday 26 March
Training Day*	Friday 27 March*
Summer Term 2026	
Training Day*	Monday 13 April*
Term Starts	Tuesday 14 April
Bank Holiday	Monday 4 May
Half Term	Monday 25 – Friday 29 May
Training Day*	Friday 3 July*
Term Ends	Monday 20 July
*School will be closed to pupils on Training Days	

Term Dates 2026-27

Autumn Term 2026	
Training Day*	Tuesday 1 September*
Term Starts	Wednesday 2 September
Half Term	Monday 26 – Friday 30 October
Training Day*	Monday 2 November*
Term Continues	Tuesday 3 November
Last Day of Term	Friday 18 December
Spring Term 2027	
Term Starts	Monday 4 January
Half Term	Monday 15 – Friday 19 February
Term Continues	Monday 22 February
Term Ends	Thursday 25 March
Summer Term 2027	
Training Days*	Monday 12 and Tuesday 13 April*
Term Starts	Wednesday 14 April
Bank Holiday	Monday 3 May
Half Term	Monday 31 May – Friday 4 June
Term Continues	Monday 7 June
Training Day*	Friday 2 July*
Term Ends	Tuesday 21 July
*School will be closed to pupils on Training Days	