



CASTLE NEWS

Thursday 26 March 2026 V28 No.26

www.castleschool.info

Our thought of the week is:

'I can solve a problem'

Message from the Headteacher



Dear Parents and Carers,

Theme of the Week: World Maths Day – 26th March

As we come to the end of another busy and successful term, I would like to take a moment to thank our wonderful pupils, families and staff for all their hard work, positivity and support. It has been a joy to see the progress our pupils continue to make, not just academically, but in their confidence, independence and kindness towards one another.

This week, we have enjoyed celebrating World Maths Day, with pupils engaging in a range of activities linked to problem solving, reasoning and real-life maths skills. It has been fantastic to see such enthusiasm and determination, with pupils showing that maths can be both fun and meaningful in everyday life.

As we head into the break, I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable time with your families. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on **Tuesday 14th April**, ready for what promises to be a busy and exciting summer term.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Charlotte Whysall
Headteacher

Easyfundraising - Raise money for Castle School for FREE!

Good afternoon to you all.

I wanted to share a really simple way you can help support our school - at no extra cost to you. We've signed up to easyfundraising, a platform that allows us to receive free donations whenever you shop online with over 8,000 retailers, including everyday favourites like supermarkets, travel sites, and major brands.

How it works:

- You sign up to easyfundraising (it's quick and free)
- Shop online as you normally would
- Retailers donate a small percentage of your purchase to us
- The more you shop, the more stamps you collect, and these are then entered into prize draws

It doesn't cost you anything extra, and it can really add up to make a big difference.

Get started:

1. Sign up [here](#) or use the QR code below
2. Download the browser extension or app so you never miss a donation
3. Shop as usual online and start raising funds
4. You can also support our school while shopping in person at Tesco, John Lewis, and more (in-store donations are exclusive to the easyfundraising app)

If everyone takes part, even small purchases can have a meaningful impact.

Thank you so much for your support!



Carolyn Tully
Interim School Business Manager



Easter Raffle



A Huge 'Egg-stra Special' Thank You to everyone that purchased raffle tickets.

With your fantastic support we have raised an incredible £1200!

All proceeds will go towards creating our amazing brand-new immersive space.

Special thanks to the following people who very kindly donated raffle prizes:

The Jockey Club, Newmarket
Xtreme360
Scudamore's Punting
Histon Football Club
Cambridge Aqua Park
Cambridge Botanical Gardens
Audley End Enchanted Railway
Shepreth Wildlife Park
The Raptor Foundation
The Old Crown, Girton
Girton Golf Club
David Lloyd Gym
Parkside Pools
d:licious Coffee & Sandwich Bar
Lighthouse Toys
Peter Graves Florist, Girton
Tesco, Milton
Marks & Spencer, Cambridge
Friends of Castle School Charity
Foxcotte Paint and Hardware, Barton



Badgers Class News

This half term, Badgers Class have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the story “Me... Jane” by Patrick McDonnell. We have been learning about speech bubbles and have created our own to show what different characters might be thinking and saying. The children showed great creativity and imagination in bringing the story to life!

With the improvement in weather, we have been making the most of our community outings, visiting local parks and enjoying time playing alongside both adults and our peers. These experiences have been wonderful for developing social skills and building friendships.

We have also been alternating our outings with cooking sessions. It has been fantastic to see the children growing in independence and confidently collecting ingredients, following instructions, and taking responsibility for tidying up afterwards.

In Maths, we have been learning about time and money. The children have particularly enjoyed applying these skills in real-life scenarios, such as buying flowers at Badgers Flower Shop in Forest School, purchasing items in Badgers Café, and playing games like 'what's the Time, Mr Wolf?' to practise telling the time.

This week, we have been learning about Easter and why it is celebrated by some people. The children made Easter cards for the special people in their lives and had lots of fun taking part in an Easter egg hunt in the playground.



Dover Class News



Dover class have had a busy and engaging term, with lots of opportunities to explore new topics and develop key skills across the curriculum.

In Maths, pupils have been learning about time and money, using a range of hands-on tools and manipulatives to support their understanding. In English, we have been exploring non-fiction texts, while in reading sessions pupils have been developing their fluency and practising sequencing events within a text.

In Science, the class have shown great interest in learning about microbes, including viruses, fungi and bacteria. Meanwhile, in Humanities, we have been exploring Asia and what life is like in different countries, including India.

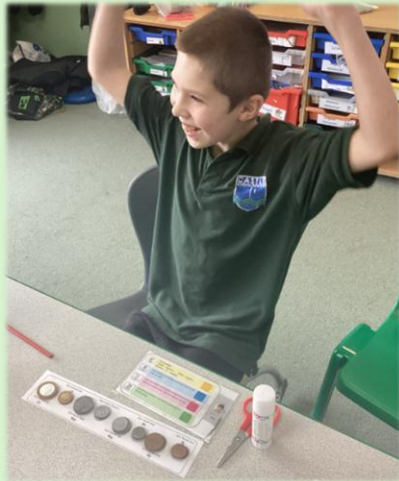
Our PSHE lessons have focused on recognising comfortable and uncomfortable emotions and discussing ways we can manage these feelings in a positive and safe way.

Dover class have also been very active this term. In PE, pupils have been enjoying learning boxing skills, and we have also taken part in regular swimming, cycling and Forest School sessions, making the most of outdoor learning opportunities.

In Cooking, we have had lots of fun baking delicious treats such as cupcakes and rice-krispy cakes, which have been a big hit!

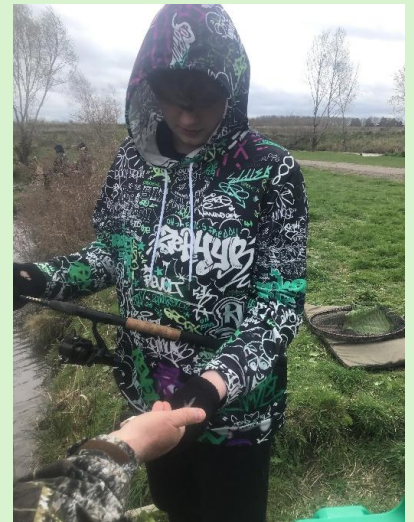
We are very proud of all the hard work Dover class have shown this term and look forward to another exciting term ahead.





Fishing Outing

Six pupils from Ludlow learnt how to fish with the Fishing for Schools Charity. Last week they had 2-day sessions in school learning the skills and this week they had 2 practical days on the river near Huntingdon. The pupils really enjoyed the sessions and were so proud to put the new skills into action and caught a lot of fish.





General News



Sign and Chat

Come and learn and practice Makaton signs and visuals to use at home with your child.

Led by Meriel Charlton, Specialist Teacher at Castle School

All Welcome – Suitable for Beginners to Experienced Makaton Signers

All sessions are 10:30 – 11:30 am at the Castle School Main Site

Session dates:

Thursday 16th April

Thursday 7th May

Thursday 4th June

Thursday 25th June

Please sign up to register your free place:

<https://forms.office.com/e/8Y3Bbu9H8T>



The Cambridge Festival family weekend with free hands-on science activities 28th & 29th March 2026

The Cambridge Festival has a family weekend on Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th March, with lots of free hands-on science activities that you can try out. You can simply turn up and try out the free activities (between 11am-4.30pm) or you can book on to the Quiet time which is 11am-12pm on Sunday 29th March.

The full [Festival programme](#) is available. Please refer to pages 5-10.



QUIET TIME AT CAMBRIDGE FESTIVAL'S FAMILY WEEKEND

The Quiet Time at our Family Weekend is for those families who require a quieter environment to comfortably access our Family Weekend. Join Cambridge Festival for a free weekend of talks, workshops and hands-on activities for the whole family!

FREE

11AM-12PM ON SUN 29 MAR

University Centre

Granta Place

Mill Lane

Cambridge

CB2 1RU

BOOKING REQUIRED

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	