



CASTLE NEWS

Friday 5 June 2026 V21 No.33

www.castleschool.info

Our thought of the week is:

'Changing and Growing – Careers Week'

Message from the Headteacher



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thought of the Week: Changing and Growing – Careers Week

What an incredible Careers Week we have enjoyed at Castle School!

Throughout the week our pupils have had the opportunity to meet and learn from a wide range of professionals, helping them to explore the many different pathways and possibilities available to them as they grow and develop. From doctors, nurses, police officers and members of the armed forces, to builders, plumbers, gardeners, illustrators, musicians and hospitality staff, there has truly been something for everyone. Pupils also enjoyed experiences with Dave's Bus Tours, mock interviews and a range of creative and practical activities designed to bring the world of work to life.

We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our wider community in giving up their time to support our learners. These real-life experiences are invaluable in helping our pupils build confidence, develop aspirations and begin to think about their futures.

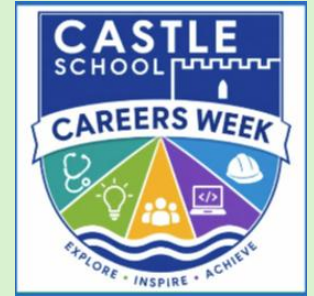
A particular highlight was welcoming back former pupil Harvey Smith, who spoke with our learners about his journey since leaving Castle. Harvey's story was truly inspirational, and we were delighted to celebrate his recent achievement of being named 'Apprentice of the Year' – what an incredible accomplishment and a wonderful role model for our pupils.

A huge thank you must go to Claire Laidler, our Transitions Lead, and Sarah Norman, Assistant Headteacher, for their hard work in planning and coordinating such a varied and successful week. Events like these take an enormous amount of organisation behind the scenes, and we are very grateful for all they have done to create these opportunities for our young people.

As always, I am incredibly proud of our pupils. They have engaged enthusiastically, asked thoughtful questions and represented Castle School brilliantly throughout the week.

Have a wonderful weekend.
Charlotte.

Careers Week News



We started the half term with Careers Week and what an amazing week we have had. The whole school were involved in some way. We have had:

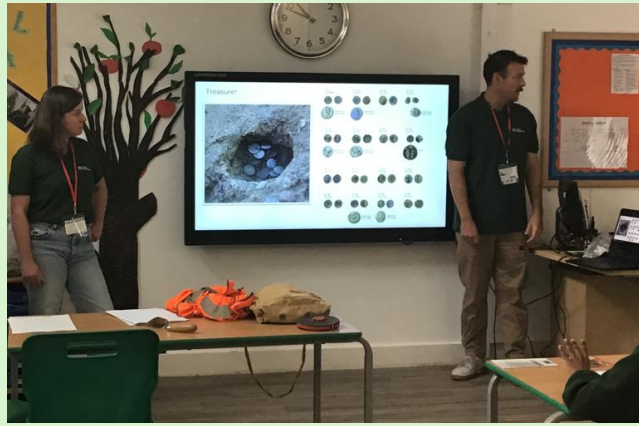
- Job roles focus in PSHE lessons.
- Dave's tours - bus trips identifying Cambridge's employers and learning about people who work in the university, biomedical campus, hotels and more.
- Workshops from a plumber, medical doctors, waiting staff, nurse, musician, job interview practice by a recruiter, archaeologists, police, armed forces and a builder. These were aimed at KS3 and KS4.
- City councillor and former Deputy Mayor of Cambridge.
- A former pupil came in to give a motivational talk.
- Job themed choir and dance sessions.
- All music lessons were job themed.
- Finishing the week with a drum and Bass DJ workshop and dance this afternoon.

It has been a wonderful week, and it's been amazing to see our pupils learning so much and being totally inspired. More photos have been sent home via EFL.

We would like to thank all those involved in celebrating careers this week, especially to our visitors who took the time to come in and positively motivate our young learners. If you would like to help in next year's careers week please contact Clare: claidler@castle.cambs.sch.uk

Here are some photos from our Careers Week





Visit from a former pupil, Harvey Smith

As part of our Careers week, we were delighted to welcome back Harvey Smith who left Castle two years ago to start an apprenticeship in sports coaching at the age of 16. He completed the apprenticeship after 18 months and passed all his assignments with distinctions. He did so well he was awarded 'Apprentice of the Year' from the company he completed it with. He is now working full time with the company and looking at ways to develop his career further in sports coaching or even PE teaching.

Harvey gave a talk to some of Key stage 3 and Key stage 4 pupils on Thursday and was incredibly motivational and inspirational. We really are incredibly proud of his achievements and wish him further success in his career journey.



Robins Class News

Robins Class have been learning about animals in their 'At the Zoo' topic. We have learnt about safari and jungle animals in our topic books 'Handa's Surprise' and 'Jungle Jamboree' and learnt about the patterns and colours of different animals in art.

We also had a visit from some animals, which was very exciting. We met, stroked or held a giant snail, a tortoise, a snake, a meerkat, a tenrec, a bearded dragon and a gecko.



Trinity Class News

Some of the Trinity class have been taking part in work experience at Care Farm in Bottisham. We have been working with the farmers to help take care of the chickens and baby goats, giving them food and plenty of love and attention.

We also worked in the large field, where we learned how to herd the adult goats. In addition, we spent time gardening, planting vegetables and harvesting spinach.

The experience has helped us develop new skills, work as a team, and learn more about caring for animals and growing food.



Castle School Tabletop Sale – Tuesday 9 June 2026

We are looking forward to welcoming you all at our Tabletop Sale next week on **Tuesday 9th June 10am-12pm!**

We have lots of New, Preloved and Handmade items for sale - come and grab a bargain!



Castle School Sports Days



Please note what day your child's class will be having their sports day this term.

Tuesday 16 June 2026

10:00 – 12:00 Conway, Leeds, Trinity, Carisbrook, Tintagel

13.30 – 15:00 Dragonflies, Squirrels, Badgers, Foxes

Class teams to collect parents from reception.

Friday 19 June 2026

09:40 Sports Day starts

Churchill, Wolson, Kings, Corfe, Balmoral, Dover, Deers, Wolfson, Ludlow, Stirling

Parents will be taken to field by selected staff.

General Messages

Summer

HAF

Holiday Activities and
Food Programme

Your child could enjoy fun,
exciting activities, make
new friends, and receive
a tasty meal and snacks –
all completely free.



Children who receive
benefits-related free school meals
are eligible and can join us for up to
64 hours of holiday fun this summer.

Find out more

Scan the QR Code or visit:

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/haf

Questions: HAF@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

**FULLY
FUNDED** ✓


Department
for Education


CAMBRIDGESHIRE
HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES
& FOOD
PROGRAMME


Cambridgeshire
County Council

Band night with all proceeds going to the Castle School – Thursday 16 July 2026

A band night is being held at The Portland Arms with all proceeds going to the Castle School. All are welcome as every ticket will make a difference.



Thursday 16th July

@The Portland Arms

129 Chesterton Road, Cambridge, CB4 3BA

Partial Recall

With support from:

**Boomchick &
The Bookstore Band**



Get ready for a fantastic evening of feel-good music as Partial Recall, a Cambridge-based covers band, bring the energy with a crowd-pleasing mix of rock, blues, and soul classics you know and love. Along with two great local bands.

Every ticket helps make a difference, with all proceeds going to support the local **Castle School**.

Tickets:

Scan the QR code to buy in advance

Adults £11

Concession £5.50

Doors 7:30pm



New Meaning Foundation Summer Clubs (July/August)

These clubs are free. The general club (for boys and girls) will run from 09:30-16:00 and the girls-only club will run from 10:00-15:30.

It is important to note that the general club is still open to girls. Girls are free to attend both clubs or even just the general club if this is preferred for them. Secondly, it is not vital for participants to attend for every session. This is especially true of the general club, as they are not working towards a qualification in this club. We suggest that if a young person is unsure about attending because they don't know if they can always attend, that they come along anyway and try it out. Each day there will be a 30-minute lunch break. Please bring your own lunch, as we are not located in an accessible location for external lunch options.



Summer Holiday Club

Are you interested in learning some construction skills?

This summer, New Meaning Foundation is running a construction club. Young people will be learning and applying construction skills to build a shepherd's hut!

Every Monday and Tuesday from 20th July - 25th August

divya.george@newmeaningfoundation.org



Girls in Construction

Learning the foundations of construction skills through a hands-on project in a safe and supportive environment.
Because construction is for everyone.

Every Wednesday and Thursday from 22nd July - 27th August

divya.george@newmeaningfoundation.org
zoe.robinson@newmeaningfoundation.org

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

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	