THE CAMELFORD LIGHT

integrity • resilience • aspiration • community

Friday 2nd October, 2026 | Issue 4

A cup of tea, a diary and a lot of laughter



This week I sat down with two of our parents to pencil in dates for the term ahead. On paper, it was a simple diary meeting: the Halloween Disco, the Christmas Fair and, of course, Elfridges. In reality, it turned into one of the most uplifting half hours of my week.

What struck me most was how freely these two parents gave their time. Both have busy lives, jobs and families of their own, and yet there they were, cheerfully working out which stalls work best (and which nobody wants to run again – toy stall, I'm looking at you!), and how we could make sure every child gets a turn in Elfridges to choose a gift for someone they love. None of it was for recognition. It was simply because they care about our children and our school.

And the laughter! I confessed that in my first year as Headteacher I'd be very much following their lead, and was promptly told that might be the worst idea I'd had all week! It reminded me that the best things in a school community are built by people who enjoy each other's company and don't take themselves too seriously.

So much of the magic our children remember, the sparkle of the Christmas Fair, the excitement of dressing up for the disco, happens because of people like this, quietly giving a little of themselves behind the scenes.

If you've ever wondered how you could be part of that, the Friends of Camelford School AGM is on Monday 2nd November at school. I'll be there, and I've no doubt there'll be more laughs shared and plenty of good ideas for making our community even stronger. Whether you can offer an hour once a year or have energy to spare every week, a little help or a lot, you'll be so very welcome.

Come along, bring a friend, and be part of something special.

Dates for Your Diary

- 06.10.26: iRock Assembly
- 15.10.26: Show Racism the Red Card
- 16.10.26: Toscana Strings concert
- 16.10.26: Harvest Festival (AM)
- 20/21.10.26: Parents' Evenings
- 23.10.26: INSET day
- 26 - 30.10.26: Half term break
- 3.11.26: Flu Vaccinations

Weekly Focus on ... Summerleaze

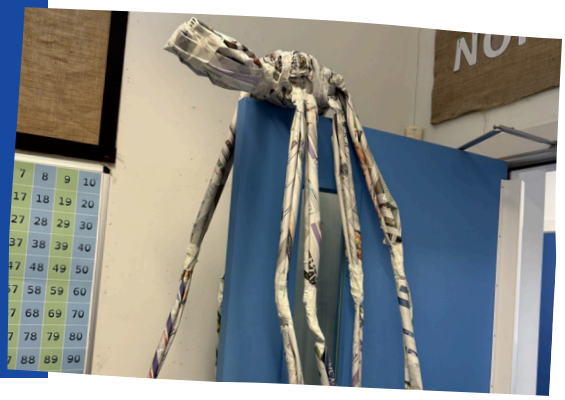
Over the last few weeks, Summerleaze Class have been busy exploring different ways of creating 3D paper sculptures in art. The children have experimented with rolling, folding, scrunching and shaping paper to create some fantastic designs.

This week, we brought all our skills together to create a giant collaborative spider sculpture, which the children have proudly named Bob!

Bob is already looking rather impressive, and we can't wait to give him a splash of colour when we paint him next week!

A huge thank you to the wonderful Miss Mountain for leading such a creative and exciting project. We think Bob is going to be a very special addition to our classroom!





Privacy Notice

To help families understand how personal information is handled, our Trust Privacy Notice explains what data we hold, why we need it, and how we keep it secure. It also provides details of your data protection rights and who to contact for further information.

Read more here: Privacy Notice



Can You Help Us Hear Children Read?

We're looking for parents, grandparents and family members who might have a little time to spare to come into school and help hear our children read.

It's a lovely way to support the children's confidence and reading skills, and even a small amount of time can make a big difference.

No previous experience is needed — just a willingness to listen and encourage!

For safeguarding purposes, all volunteers will need to complete a DBS check before volunteering in school.

If you think you could help, please speak to the school office or let your child's teacher know. We'd love to hear from you!

Camelford Community Primary School

Safeguarding — keeping every child safe

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you have a concern about a child's welfare or safety — however small it may seem — please speak to a member of our safeguarding team straight away. **You do not need to be certain, just concerned.**

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Stringer

Deputy Headteacher

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

InMrsStringer'sabsence,pleasespeaktooneof the team below.

Our Wider Safeguarding Team



Mrs Cannon

Headteacher
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Nayeb

Pastoral Support
Safeguarding Level 3 trained

Every member of staff is part of our safeguarding team. Children and families can talk to any adult at Camelford Community Primary School — a teacher, teaching assistant, lunchtime supervisor, or office staff. If you're not sure who to ask, or your first choice isn't around, just speak to whoever is nearest. They will listen, take it seriously, and know exactly what to do next.

Contact the School

Address: Station Road, Camelford, Cornwall, PL32 9UE

Telephone:01840 212376

Email: dsl@camelford.cornwall.sch.uk

Worried about a child outside school?

Cornwall MARU:0300 123 1116

Email: multiagencyreferralunit@cornwall.gov.uk

Out of hours:01208 251300

If a child is in immediate danger, always call 999.

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility

Autumn Term After School Clubs



We have an exciting offer of after school clubs this term. If you wish for your child to attend, please sign up on School Money from 4pm on Monday 28th September. Clubs will run from wb 5th October until wb 1st December.

TUESDAY: SING & SIGN (Y3-6) with Mrs Trudgeon and Mrs Elliot-Stuckley

Have fun with music! Learn songs, rhythms and simple signs as we sing, move and communicate together.





THURSDAY: LANGUAGES CLUB (Y3-6) with Miss Godwin

Travel the world without leaving school! Celebrate different cultures, discover traditions and learn some fun words and phrases from around the globe.

THURSDAY: COOKING (Y1-2) with Mrs Cannon

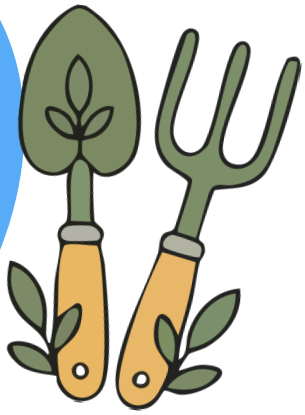
Get hands-on in the kitchen! Learn new skills, try tasty recipes and, of course, enjoy eating what you make!



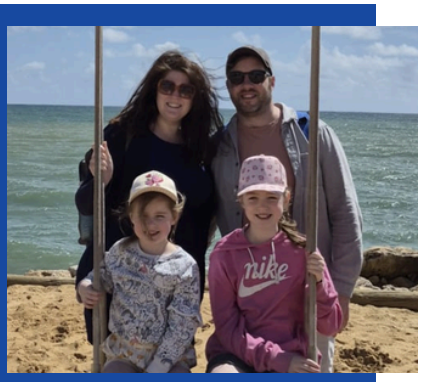


WEDNESDAY: GARDENING (Y1-6) with Mr Harvey

Get stuck in and help our school garden grow! Plant, nurture, explore nature and see what we can grow together.



Staff Spotlight



The people at Camelford are a huge part of what makes us so special. That's why we want to help you get to know our staff in our new weekly column: Staff Spotlight

This week the spotlight shines on....Mrs Mitchell

Name and role	Michelle Mitchell, Secretary
How long have you been at Camelford?	almost 3 years
What do you love most about your job?	I love being able to help people and make a postive difference. I enjoy supporting and listening to others.
What's a favourite book from your own childhood?	Mr Pink Whistle by Enid Blyton. I loved this book because Mr Pink-Whistle dislikes anything unfair, mean or unkind. He travels around helping people in trouble or rewarding good deeds.
What's the pudding you'd never share?	I love making fancy dress costumes for my children to wear (even though they don't always want to wear them now!)
What's your favourite place in Cornwall and why?	Tintagel - particularly the cliffs overlooking Tintagel castle. This is where my husband proposed to me!
What's the best piece of advice you've ever been given?	Trust the process - what's meant to be will be and there's little value in worrying about what's outside your control.
What are you most looking forward to this year?	Christmas!
What was your favourite subject at school - and your least favourite?	Design Technology (especially sewing) and least favourite - Chemistry.

Tea or coffee? COFFEE	Beach or moor? BEACH	Sweet or savoury? SAVOURY	Early bird or night owl? NIGHT OWL	Marmite: yes or no? YES!

Staff Spotlight



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Name and role	Neil Morgan – Learning Support Assistant
How long have you been at Camelford?	I have worked at Camelford Primary School for 9 years
What do you love most about your job?	I love being able to support children in their learning. The most rewarding part of the job are the 'lightbulb' moments when the input or support you have given to the children leads to achievement and overcoming of challenges.
What's a favourite book from your own childhood?	The BFG. It was the first class read that I remember from school. I was given a copy signed by the class when we moved and I had to go to another school.
Tell us a surprising fact or hidden talent	I am a 3rd degree black belt in Taekwondo and I have been studying various martial arts from the age of 6. In my final competitive tournament, I beat the silver medallist from the world championships to win the tournament!
Do you have a pet?	I have a black Labrador called Luna. She has a habit of stealing tea towels and socks, showing us, then running away with them so we can't get them back.
What's the best piece of advice you've ever been given?	Hard work will always beat talent, if talent fails to work hard.
What do you like doing when you're not at school?	Golf! Lots of golf.

Tea or coffee? TEA	Beach or moor? MOOR	Sweet or savoury? SAVOURY	Early bird or night owl? EARLY BIRD	Marmite: yes or no? YES

CAMELFORD
COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Friends of Camelford (FOCS)

Stronger Together for Our Children

Our School ♥ Our Community ♥ Brighter Futures

WE NEED YOU!

The Friends of Camelford (FOCS) is our school's parent and carer support group. We help out at school events, raise valuable funds for the school and bring our community together. **And we'd love you to join us!**



Friendly Group

Meet other parents and be part of a welcoming team.



Raise Funds

Help us raise money to provide extra resources, equipment and special projects for our children.



Support Events

Help out at fun school events like fairs, discos, festive activities and more!



Make a Difference

Your time, ideas and enthusiasm help enrich school life for all our children.

GET INVOLVED!

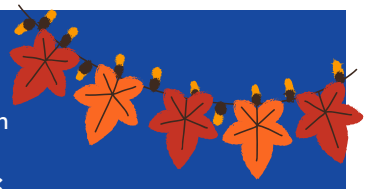
Many hands make a huge difference! ♥

A little time goes a long way!

Great Children ★ Great School ★ Great Community ★ Brighter Futures

Together we can do amazing things! ♥

Harvest Festival



We will be holding our annual Harvest Festival on Friday 16th October at 9am. Parents and families are welcome to join us for a morning of poetry and giving thanks. We will also be collecting for The Camelford Larder again this year. Donations can be brought to school from Monday 28th September. Please see below for a list of suggested items requested by the Larder. Many thanks for your support.



Harvest Donations

- any tinned or jars of food eg:
  - soup
  - tinned peas, carrots, beans
  - spaghetti hoops,
  - rice pudding
  - tinned fruit
  - pasta sauce
  - curry sauce
  - hotdogs
  - beans and sausages
  - flavoured rice/pasta packets
  - jam
  - gravy granules
  - pasta
  - rice
  - noodles.

Please bring Harvest Donations to classrooms from 28th September





Harvest Festival Poetry Competition

We will be holding our annual poetry competition again this year for children in Y1 - 6. Entry forms and more details will be sent home next week.

Music Mondays

Here's the clue for Monday. What music do you think you'll hear?



Monday's soundtrack is full of rhythm, warmth and a little bit of fiesta - but what musical style is hiding behind the beat?

CAMELFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

SAFE INCLUSIVE TOGETHER

At CAMELFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL we are ALLERGEN AWARE

We are committed to creating a safe and inclusive environment for all our pupils.

Allergies can be serious.

Even a tiny amount of an allergen can cause a severe reaction.



WE ALL HAVE A ROLE TO PLAY



CHECK

Always check labels of packed foods for allergens.



THINK

Choose alternatives that are safe for everyone.



LET US KNOW

Inform the school of any allergies or changes.



BE KIND

Show respect and understanding. We're in this together.

Thank you for helping us keep our school a safe place for every child to learn and thrive.

Care • Respect • Responsibility

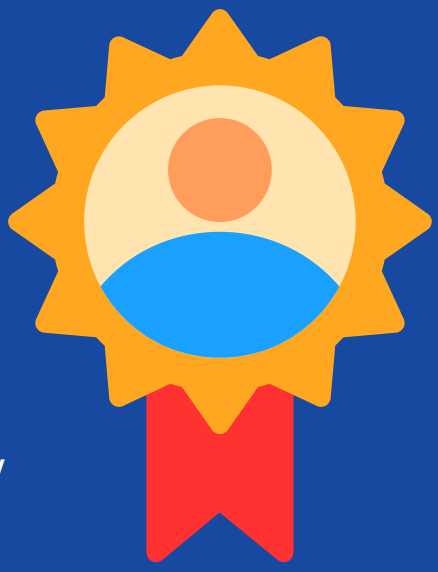
TOGETHER, WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

This poster has been created in line with Benedict's Law.
It does not list specific allergens to reduce the risk of identifying pupils with allergies.

Y6 Ambassadors

At Friday's Praise Assembly, we were delighted to announce this year's Year 6 Ambassadors! Our ambassadors play an important role in our school community, helping to promote learning, support school life and proudly represent our school throughout the year.

Miss Dickson and I were incredibly impressed by the thought, effort and enthusiasm that went into the applications, and we are really excited to see our new ambassadors take on their roles.



Look out for next week's newsletter, where we'll introduce you to our Year 6 Ambassadors!









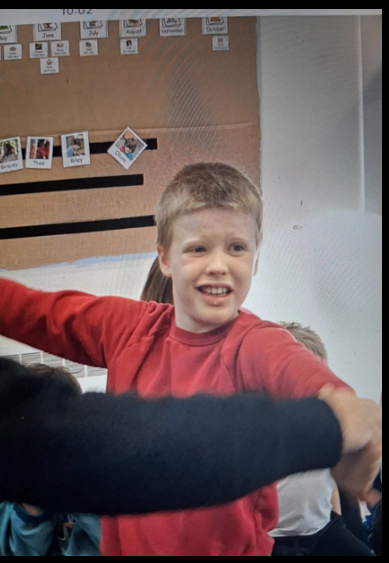
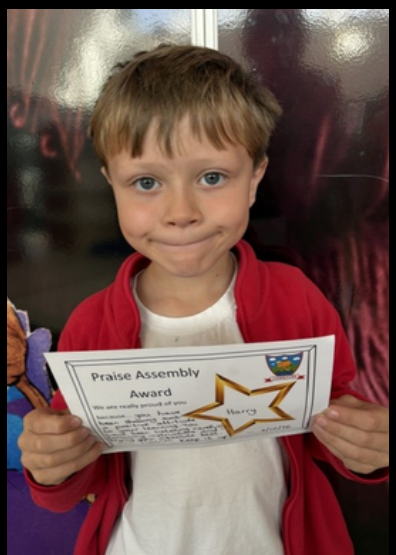




Learning beyond the classroom

Learning happens everywhere! This week, children have been inspired by installation art in Bossiney, dinosaur poetry in Port Isaac and creating animal shelters in Year 2. Wonderful examples of bringing learning to life!

Praise Assembly Winners

Integrity	Resilience	Aspiration	Community
			
			
			

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	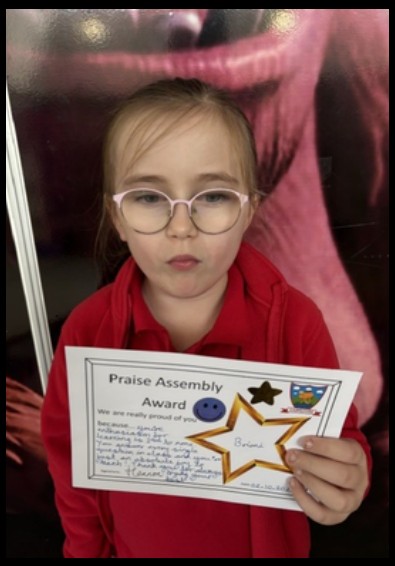		
			
			

Help and Advice
from the School Nurse

There is now a **new way** to contact Health Visitors and School Nurses, with three advice lines as follows:



Young people aged 11–19

07312 263 096



Parents/carers of children aged 0–5

07312 263 423



Parents/carers of children and young people aged 5–19

07312 263 499

Message us for **confidential help and advice** about a range of health concerns, including:

- Sleep
- Child development
- Support with behaviour
- Toileting
- Feeding and nutrition
- Keeping safe and healthy
- Childhood illnesses and support with medical conditions at school
- Emotional, mental health and wellbeing
- Relationships
- Smoking and vaping
- Drugs and alcohol

The messaging service is available **Monday to Friday** (excluding bank holidays) from **9am to 5pm.**

When you send a message, you'll receive an **automated reply** to confirm we've received it.

A trained healthcare professional will reply to your message during office hours **within 48 hours.**

You can send a message, **anonymously** if you wish.

We're here to help!

Supporting children and young people to be healthy, happy and safe.

BLACK BELT READER

READ TODAY. A BRIGHTER TOMORROW.

PRACTICE GROWS PROGRESS PROGRESS BUILDS READERS!



In martial arts, someone becomes a black belt through years of practice, discipline and commitment, not simply natural talent.

They move through White Belt, Yellow Belt and beyond, all the way to Black Belt, by showing up again and again and getting better over time.

HOW IT WORKS

Black Belt Reader (formerly Sparx Primary Reader) borrows that structure. Each belt is represented by a physical bookmark, so the journey is something a child can hold, carry in their book, and fill with stickers.

Build your reading strength one belt at a time!





Every time you move up a belt, you'll receive a **GOLDEN TICKET!**

This puts you in the draw to take home the 'Reading Bag" for the week.



A JOURNEY TO BE PROUD OF

The programme is designed to build steadily across Key Stage 2, so a child in Year 6 can look back at real evidence of the reader they've become.

Let's keep reading, keep progressing and see how far you can go!



What Counts as Good Attendance?

Every day in school counts!

What counts as good attendance?

97%

OUR AIM!

We aim for a minimum of **97% attendance;** this allows for 6 days absence for illness across the school year.



95%

An attendance rate of **95%** is considered **acceptable;** this allows for children to miss 9.5 days for illness across the school year.



90%

Persistent absence (PA) is defined as an attendance rate of **90% or below.**



Unfortunately, we have no choice but to seek **penalty notices** for **10 or more unauthorised absences.**



Good attendance = **brighter futures**