THE CAMELFORD LIGHT

integrity • resilience • aspiration • community

Friday 20th November, 2026 | Issue 9

Sometimes the Better Route Isn't the One We Planned



Yesterday, I had to drive to Plymouth. I was already cutting it rather fine when my satnav suddenly announced that it had found a quicker route. Fifteen minutes faster, apparently.

I was sceptical.

Nevertheless, I followed its instructions and soon found myself travelling along roads I had never driven before, through some beautiful countryside. At one point, I even passed a wild pony standing beside the road. And, remarkably, the satnav was right. I arrived on time.

It made me think about how much of education is focused on the destination. We have plans, milestones and expectations for where children should be and when they should get there. Those things are important. But children, rather inconveniently, don't always follow the route we have planned for them.

Sometimes they need a little longer. Sometimes they need to approach something differently. Sometimes they take us off in a completely unexpected direction and discover a talent, an interest or a confidence that none of us had anticipated.

As adults, our instinct can be to worry when the route changes. We wonder whether they're falling behind or heading the wrong way.

But perhaps our job isn't to make sure every child travels exactly the same road. Perhaps it is to know where we want them to get to, help them when they lose their way and be open to the possibility that an unexpected route might contain something rather wonderful.

Even the occasional wild pony.

Dates for Your Diary

- 4th December - all After School Clubs end
- 17th December - last day of Autumn Term
- 18th December - non-pupil day



Spotlight on... Nursery

In Nursery Class, we have been continuing to learn about Diwali, including themed yoga poses, repeating firework patterns and crafting clay Diva lamps out of clay before painting them in bright colours. As this cultural celebration is a festival of lights, we have been busy exploring light and dark using torches, where we discovered how to make shadows bigger and smaller depending on how close we were to an object. This led us to den building using large material and helped us to work together as a team.





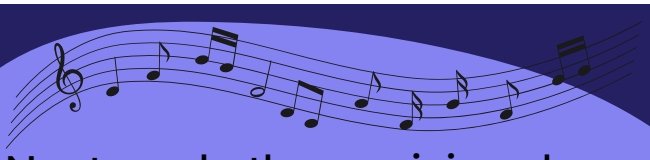
As December is fast approaching, our class have started learning our Christmas songs and Makaton signing in readiness for inviting our parents and carers in for a special, festive afternoon!

We've welcomed two new children to our class, and we couldn't be prouder of how they've settled in, and of how welcoming the children have been. They have all been working extremely hard on their independence and on new experiences around the school which they are all embracing, and some of the children have really impressed us with their self-chosen name writing!



We're looking forward to continuing the fantastic learning and fun over the coming weeks.

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



Next week, the musicians have everything they need to make music with them wherever they go. No equipment required! What could our genre be?

Kindness Ambassadors



This week, our wonderful Year 6 Kindness Ambassadors opened a very special pop-up Kindness Café, designed to bring a little joy to all the adults who work in our school.

Staff were invited to take a seat, relax and enjoy being looked after for a change! The Ambassadors brought menus to the tables, took orders and then delivered drinks and cakes to their very grateful customers.

Unsurprisingly, the Kindness Café was a huge hit. In fact, several members of staff have suggested that it should become a weekly event. We have explained that the Ambassadors do still need to attend lessons occasionally!

We are incredibly proud of our Kindness Ambassadors for showing such initiative and, most importantly, for thinking about others. Their simple idea brought lots of smiles and was a perfect example of how a little kindness can make a big difference. Well done, Year 6!





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



Parking



We kindly ask parents and carers not to use the ARB car park at drop-off and pick-up times unless they have been given permission to do so.

These spaces are reserved for children and families who require wheelchair access or have additional mobility needs. Having a parking space close to the entrance helps ensure they can make a safe, comfortable and dignified journey into school.

When the car park is full, it can be very difficult for these families to access the building, particularly at busy times of day. We would be very grateful for your support in keeping these spaces available for those who need them most. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

KS1 Cooking Club



Cooking Club has been great fun this term, with plenty of chopping, mixing, rolling and tasting along the way! We've learned lots about staying safe in the kitchen and picked up some impressive new skills too, including using the claw grip when chopping with a knife. Our young chefs have created everything from gooey cornflake cakes and colourful rainbow kebabs to tasty pinwheel wraps. We're not sure which has been more fun, making everything or eating it afterwards!

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 are concerned about a child's welfare or safety, speak to a member of our safeguarding team straight away. You do not need to be certain, just concerned.

YOUR SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Speak to any member of the team



Mrs Stringer

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)



Mrs Cannon

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Nayeb

Pastoral Support, Level 3 Safeguarding Trained

Worried about a child? Contact MASSH (Multi-Agency Support and Safeguarding Hub)

Advice and safeguarding concerns: 0300 123 1116

Out of hours: 01208 251300

Online referral: cornwall.gov.uk/massh

Immediate danger: call 999

Camelford Primary School

Christmas fayre

Wednesday 2nd December

Raffle, Tombola, face painting, father christmas local sellers and more

3-4.30PM

free entry

Christmas Dates

MORE INFORMATION TO COME

Christmas Fair
Wednesday
2nd December

Christmas Shop
7th - 17th December

Christmas Lunch
Wednesday
9th December

Wear your xmas jumper

Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday
10th December

Wear your xmas jumper

Reception, Y1 and Y2 Nativity	Year 3 Christmas Play	Year 4 Lanteglos Community Carols	Year 5/6 Carols at the Bandstand
Tuesday 8th December 9.30am & 2pm	Monday 14th December	Wednesday 16th December	Friday 11th December



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 weekly column: Staff Spotlight

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

Name and role	Jaye Cannon Headteacher
How long have you been at Camelford?	6 years
What do you love most about your job?	The children, without a doubt! Seeing their smiling faces each morning and knowing that we have the opportunity to make such an important part of their childhood happy, exciting and memorable is incredibly special. I love making school THE place to be!
What's a favourite book from your own childhood?	I loved The Babysitters Club and Sweet Valley High! My sister and I used to scour second-hand bookshops and were so excited when we found one that we'd never read!
What did you want to be when you were at primary school?	A teacher, an astronaut, a fighter-jet pilot.....
What's your favourite place in Cornwall and why?	Porthtowan - it's where my husband and I made the decision to permanently move to Cornwall.
Do you have a pet?	Yes, I have a VERY energetic Working Cocker called Henry. He loves going for a run on the beach!
If you could have dinner with anyone, who would it be?	Two people: Barack and Michelle Obama
What do you like doing when you're not at school?	Spending time with my family, shopping, cooking

Tea or coffee? COFFEE	Beach or moor? BEACH	Sweet or savoury? SWEET	Early bird or night owl? NEITHER - I LOVE SLEEPING!	Marmite: yes or no? YES BUT VEGEMITE IS BETTER

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! ♥

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

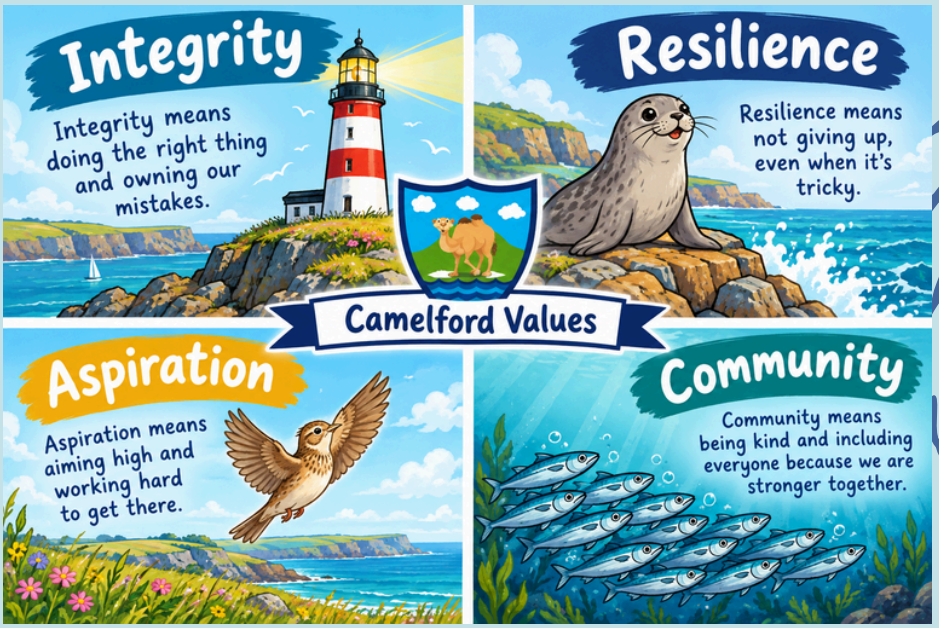
Show respect and understanding. We're in this together.

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.



Our School Values

We are continuing to focus on our school values this term and have begun looking at:



Our friend who helps us learn about resilience is Rory, the grey seal.

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!



Hamper Donations

You should have received a message on ClassDojo from your child's class teacher with details of this year's Christmas hamper donations. As a little thank you for your generosity, every donation received will earn you a raffle ticket, giving you the chance to win one of our lovely Christmas hampers!

We are so grateful for your continued support. Every contribution, big or small, helps us make these hampers extra special and supports our wonderful school community.



Thank you for getting involved!

Longest Bottle Line Competition

To support this year's Christmas Fair, we are asking for donations of bottles for our popular Tombola stall.



Every bottle donated will earn one raffle ticket, giving you an extra chance to win a prize. As an added incentive, the class that creates the longest line of bottles will also win a special prize!

We should warn you that some of our teachers are very competitive (we're looking at you, Mrs Trudgeon!), so please do all you can to help your class claim the title of longest bottle line champion!

Thank you for your continued support. We really appreciate it, and every donation helps make our Christmas Fair a success. Please bring donations in to school anytime up until Friday 27th November.



Anti-Bullying Week

There were lots of colourful and mismatched feet around school on Monday as we wore odd socks for Anti-Bullying Week!

Odd Socks Day reminded us that everyone is different and thats something to celebrate. What a great way to show that everyone belongs in our school.







Children in Need

The coins have been counted and the results are in!

We are delighted to announce that Camelford Primary School raised a grand total of £291.84 for Children in Need!

A huge thank you to everyone who donated and got involved. What a fantastic achievement and a wonderful reflection of the generosity and community spirit we are so proud of at Camelford.

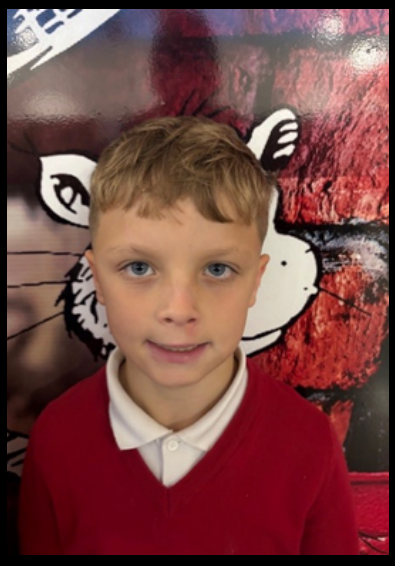
Well done, everyone!



A special thanks to the Mitchell family for counting ALL the coins! How many do you think there were?



Praise Assembly Winners

Integrity	Resilience	Aspiration	Community
			
			
			

Praise Assembly Winners

Integrity	Resilience	Aspiration	Community
			
			
			

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**



Have you spotted this week's mistake?