

Campion Connections

Easter 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

As we come to the end of an incredibly rewarding half term I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and partnership in ensuring our students thrive both academically and personally.

This half term has been a time of celebrations, with many moments that truly highlight the growth and success of our students. We have been delighted to recognise 150 students through our weekly "Character Caught" draws.

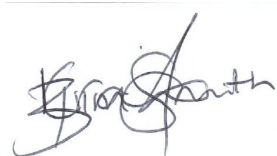
It has been wonderful to see our students exemplify the values of Respect, Ambition, Integrity and Resilience, and we are incredibly proud of their efforts. Additionally, we were excited to launch our Golden Ticket Awards this term to celebrate students who are going above and beyond in their lessons. This initiative has already proven to be a fantastic way to acknowledge those who show exceptional dedication, commitment, and enthusiasm in their studies. These awards will continue to inspire and encourage all of our students to aim high and strive for excellence.

The success of these initiatives is a direct result of the strong collaboration between school and home, and we are truly grateful for your involvement in your child's educational journey. Your ongoing support is instrumental in creating an environment where students feel encouraged and motivated to succeed.

Thank you once again for your commitment to our school community. I look forward to continuing our work together in the coming months as we aim to make this school year one of growth, achievement, and celebration for every student.

A reminder that we welcome students back to school on Wednesday 23rd April.

Wishing you and your family a restful Easter break and a wonderful start to the next half term.



Mrs K Bradley-Smith
Interim Principal



Calendar Dates

Wednesday 30th April

Year 8 Parents' Evening (in person)

Monday 5th May

May Day bank holiday
School closed

Friday 23rd May

School closes for the half term holiday at 3.05 pm

Monday 2nd June

School reopens to all students

Wednesday 4th June

Year 12 Parents' Evening

Thursday 19th and Friday 20th June

Year 11 into Sixth Form
Induction Days

Monday 7th July and Tuesday 8th July

Year 6 Transition Days

Monday 7th July

Year 6 Parents' Evening

Friday 18th July

School closes to all students for the summer holiday

Staffing Update

As we return from the Easter holiday we look forward to welcoming the following staff members:

Rachelle Hellend as Head of Sixth Form
Natasha Jao as Cover Tutor
Jessica Carberry as Teacher of Food

Paul Tillman, Vice Principal - Pastoral and Lisa Ridgard - Deputy SENDCo join us in June.

We say farewell to Mrs Still, Internal Reflection Room Manager and Mr Mallett, PE Teacher. Thank you for your hard work and contribution to Campion and we wish you well in the future.

We wish our Head of Food Technology Mrs Penny, a very happy retirement. Having worked at Campion since September 2016 Mrs Penny is about to embark on an exciting new chapter of walking the British coast with her husband. Mrs Penny's unwavering dedication to every student she's taught and her ability to inspire a love of learning will be greatly missed. Mrs Penny's commitment to excellence has not only secured outstanding outcomes but has also created an environment where students truly thrive. You will be greatly missed by both staff and students alike. We wish you all the very best in your retirement adventures, and hope you enjoy every step of the journey ahead!

Safeguarding Update – Easter Holidays

As we approach the Easter break, we'd like to remind you of a few important safeguarding points to help ensure all our students stay safe, healthy, and supported over the holidays.

Online Safety

With more free time, young people may spend more time online. Please continue to monitor your child's internet use and encourage open conversations about online activity.

Useful resources include:

- [ThinkUKnow](#)
- NSPCC Online Safety Hub

If you would like to look at parental controls for your child's device, Internet Matters has step by step guidance for all the different devices and apps. Please follow the link below to access this great resource: [Parental controls and privacy settings guides | Internet Matters](#)

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Holidays can be a positive time, but for some young people, they may bring challenges. Remind your child that it's okay to talk about how they feel. Support is available through:

- **Childline:** 0800 1111 – [childline.org.uk](https://www.childline.org.uk)
- **YoungMinds:** [youngminds.org.uk](https://www.youngminds.org.uk)
- **Kooth** (free, online counselling): [kooth.com](https://www.kooth.com)

If You're Worried About a Child

If you have concerns about a child's safety over the break, you can contact:

- **Northamptonshire MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub):** 0300 126 7000
- **NSPCC Helpline:** 0808 800 5000

If you believe a child is in immediate danger, please call **999**.

Back to School

We look forward to welcoming students back to school on Wednesday 23rd April. Our pastoral and safeguarding team will be on hand to offer support to any student who needs it.

Wishing all our families a restful and safe Easter break.

Mrs Johnson

Assistant Principal, DSL, Behaviour and Attendance



Equipped for Excellence

As we return from the Easter holidays, we would like to take this opportunity to remind you of our school equipment expectations and ask for your continued support in ensuring that students come to school fully prepared each day.

Having the right school equipment is important for several reasons:

Supports Learning – having pens, pencils, rulers, and other materials ensures students can fully participate in lessons, take notes, complete their work, and stay organised.

Encourages Independence – when students have their own equipment, they take responsibility for their learning and develop good habits for the future.

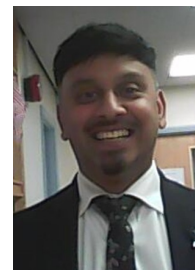
Reduces Disruptions – if students come prepared, lessons can run smoothly without time wasted borrowing or searching for supplies.

Boosts Confidence – being prepared helps students feel more engaged and ready to learn, leading to better focus and achievement.

All students are required to have, at a minimum, a reading book, a scientific calculator, and a pencil case containing a blue, black, and red pen, a pencil, a ruler, a mini whiteboard pen, a scientific calculator and an eraser. Additionally, we encourage students to bring a glue stick and mathematical equipment as desirable extras.

We understand that purchasing school equipment may pose a financial challenge for some families. If this applies to you (for example, if your child qualifies for Pupil Premium), please do not hesitate to reach out. We are happy to offer support, please contact Mrs. Howes at m.howes@campionschool.org.uk for assistance.

Mr Patel
Senior Assistant Principal



Site Update

We have planned work over the holidays while students and staff leave for a well earned break.

Along with the regular maintenance and inspections of lifts, intruder alarms etc, we also have contractors in school to undertake work on two student toilet blocks, and the D Block Drama studio floor will be renovated.

The IT team will also be checking the IT suites across the school and TV screens will be fitted in the last remaining classrooms.

Plans are also in place for the cleaning company to deep clean areas across the site, all in preparation to welcome back everyone after Easter.

Mrs Barry
Business Manager



SEND

Let me introduce you to our SEND team.

I am Mrs Whitlock, Assistant Principal and full time SENDCo.

Lisa Ridgard joins us as our Deputy SENDCo starting in June.

Mrs Bavester is our SEND administrator.

Mrs White is our Reading Lead.

Mrs Drinkwater is the Co-ordinator for Looked After Children.

Mrs Walton is our school counsellor.

Mrs Randall is our Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA).

We are also supported by a fantastic team of Learning Support Assistants:

Mrs Gordon

Mr Akehurst

Mrs Etheridge

Miss Hatfield

Mrs Lloyd-Ellis

Mrs Owens

Miss Rouf

Mrs Cussen

Mrs Giles

We'd also like to introduce our newest additions to the team, Olive and Lessy the guinea pigs. Olive and Lessy are doing some great work as part of our therapeutic intervention.

Reading is an important focus of our work in the SEND department as reading is such a vital skill to ensure all students can access the demands of the curriculum. We use a program called Lexonik Leap which focuses on phonics and sight words. Students are also offered support in reading, working on developing their comprehensions skills and reading fluency.

Mrs Whitlock

Assistant Principal and SENDCo



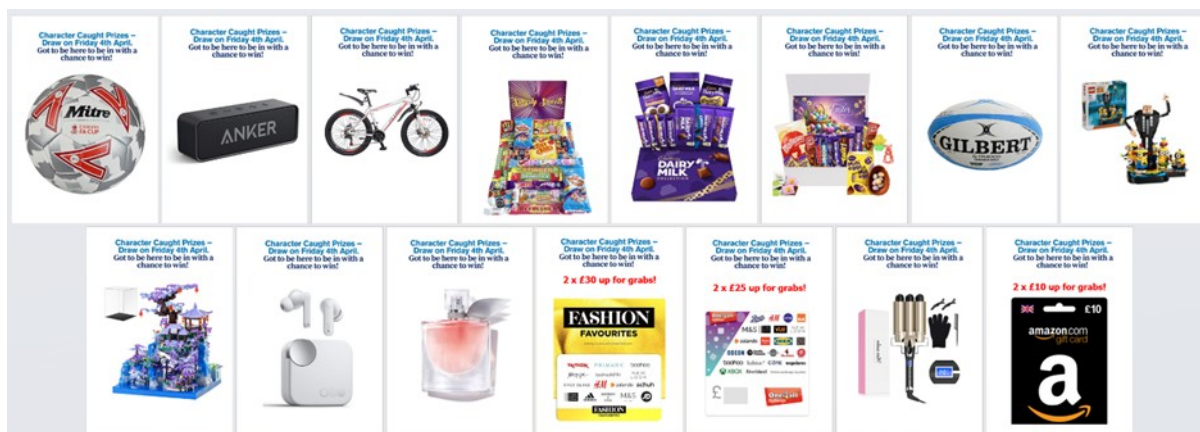
Celebrating our super students

This term, we proudly launched our Character Caught competitions to highlight and celebrate our core school values: Ambition, Integrity, Resilience, and Respect. Students who demonstrate these values have been "caught" in the act and rewarded with a special card. In just five weeks, we have awarded thousands of cards, a true testament to the fantastic character of our students.

Each week, Mrs Bradley-Smith selects one lucky winner from each year group to receive a £10 voucher, whilst four additional students per year group earn a jump-the-queue canteen pass. Our Sixth Formers aren't left out either, they enjoy a hot chocolate and cookie as their reward. Every Friday, all winners get the opportunity to meet with Mrs Bradley-Smith for a celebratory hot chocolate, where they eagerly share the stories behind their achievements.



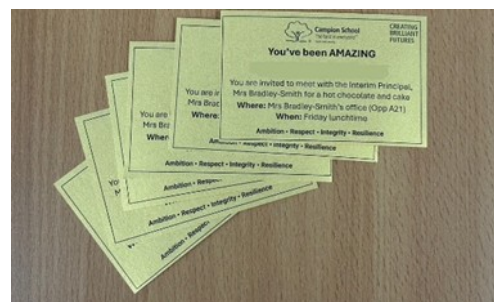
Looking ahead, the excitement continues! On the last day of term, we will be awarding some big prizes, including a bike, vouchers, speakers, and more to students who have consistently demonstrated our values.



In addition to Character Caught, we also introduced our Golden Ticket Winners. These students have gone above and beyond in their lessons and are nominated by staff. As a reward, they get to spend lunchtime with Mrs Bradley-Smith, enjoying hot chocolate and cake, a well earned treat!

It has been fantastic to celebrate the hard work, dedication, and positive spirit of our students. Well done to everyone. Check out our social media for the selected winners.

Mr Patel
Senior Assistant Principal



Proud Table

A huge congratulations to the students who visited our Proud Table this term. It was fantastic to see students from all Key Stages proud to share and celebrate their achievements with us. Look out for news of next term's Proud Table. We hope to see you all there.



Home Learning Success

We're proud of how many students have shown responsibility and independence by completing their home learning to such a high standard. The effort being made at home is helping students deepen their understanding and prepare for their future success.

Mrs Ashton

Assistant Principal KS3 Raising Standards

Campion Speed Demons: Racing Towards Victory!

Since October, our dedicated STEM Club, *The Campion Speed Demons*, have been working tirelessly every week after school to build a go-kart for the national finals on 14th June 2025. Their journey has been more than just engineering—it has pushed them beyond their comfort zone, as they have confidently presented to their peers and pitched their ideas to adults they had never met before.

The team has developed three strong working groups to drive their success:

- **The Marketing Team** has secured several sponsors, organised a Sixth Form mufti day, and are planning an exciting silent auction featuring F1-related products.
- **The Graphics Team** has designed the *Speed Demons* logo, created striking graphics for the kart, and are now working on team T-shirts for race day.
- **The Technical Team** has been constructing the go-kart, ensuring it meets all safety and performance standards ahead of the official test day on 6th May.

This incredible project has united our entire school community—thank you to our parents, students and sponsors for your support.

With race day fast approaching, the Speed Demons are fired up and ready to leave the competition in the dust! Get behind the team, show your support, and let's race to victory together!

Mrs Aziz

Head of ADTV Faculty



Year 11 - The Final Push

Year 11 Attendance Challenge

As we approach the final stretch before exams, attendance has never been more crucial for our Year 11 students. Every lesson counts, and being in school every day ensures that students have access to all the support, revision, and guidance they need to succeed. As part of our attendance drive, we have challenged Year 11 to achieve 96% attendance as a cohort by 25th April. Students were asked how they would like to celebrate if they meet this goal, and they have chosen a well-deserved movie afternoon with refreshments—a fantastic way to celebrate their commitment to their education.

Period 6 Rewards Cards

To further support students in their learning, we have launched our Period 6 Rewards Cards. For every additional study session attended, students will receive a signature on their card. Those who collect 10 signatures before exams begin will earn an exciting prize.

Wellbeing Support

We understand that this period can be stressful, so we want to remind students and parents about the importance of wellbeing. Here are some key reminders to help manage stress at home:

1. Encourage Balanced Study Routines

While revision is important, so is rest. Help your child plan a manageable revision schedule that includes regular breaks and allows time for relaxation. Encourage them to take short breaks between study sessions and avoid studying late into the night, as sleep is essential for concentration and retention.

2. Promote Healthy Lifestyle Choices

A balanced diet, hydration, and exercise all play an important role in maintaining focus and energy levels. Encouraging your child to take short walks, do some light exercise, or engage in a hobby can be a great way to relieve stress and clear their mind.

3. Practice Mindfulness and Relaxation Techniques

Mindfulness exercises and breathing techniques can help your child manage anxiety and focus their mind. Even a few minutes of calm breathing each day can help them feel more centred. You might want to explore apps like *Headspace* or *Calm*, which offer free resources for students.

4. Promote Open Communication

Talk with your child about their feelings toward the exams, and reassure them that their efforts are what matter most. Let them know that it's okay to ask for help and to share their worries with you, their friends, or their teachers.

5. Know Where to Find Additional Support

There are lots of useful guides available on line should your child require extra support during this time:

- **YoungMinds:** [Exam Stress | How To Deal with Exam Stress | YoungMinds](#) – Offers advice and support for young people dealing with anxiety, stress, and other mental health challenges.
- **Gov UK:** [Coping with exam pressure - a guide for students - GOV.UK](#) – Provides guidance from Ofqual on revision & stress.
- **NHS:** [Tips on preparing for exams - NHS](#) – Provides revision tips for students.
- **NHS:** [Help your child beat exam stress - NHS](#) – Provides tips for parents supporting exam stress.
- **NHS Every Mind Matters:** www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters – A valuable resource for general mental wellbeing, including tips on managing exam stress and anxiety.
- **Mind UK:** [Information for 11-18 year olds – Exam stress - Mind](#) – Provides information on exam stress and where to go for support.

We are incredibly proud of the ambition, and resilience our Year 11s have shown in the run-up to their exams. Their hard work is truly commendable, and we will continue to support them every step of the way. Let's make these final weeks count! Keep up the great work. Don't forget the Year 11 Prom is on 11th July.

Miss Bain

Assistant Principal KS4 Raising Standards

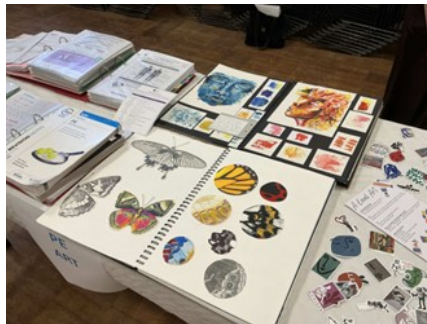
Sixth Form Update

As we move into a busy and exciting term, we are delighted to share some of the key events and opportunities that have taken place at Campion Sixth Form recently, as well as what's coming up.



Year 11 Sixth Form Mixer Event

On Wednesday 26th March, we welcomed both internal and external Year 11 students to our Sixth Form Mixer Event. This was a fantastic opportunity for them to engage with current post-16 students and subject teachers, gaining valuable insights into Sixth Form life and course expectations. A huge thank you to everyone involved in making the event such a success.



Safe Driver Workshop – Northamptonshire Police

We were pleased to welcome Northamptonshire Police to Campion Sixth Form, where they led a Safe Driver Workshop for Year 12 and Year 13 students. The sessions helped educate young drivers on road safety, awareness, and responsible driving habits as they prepare to take their tests or start driving independently.



University Offers

Oxbridge Offers

We are thrilled to share the fantastic news that two of our Year 13 students, Daniel and Freddie, have received offers from Oxford University – a remarkable achievement and a testament to their hard work and dedication.



- Daniel has been offered a place at Balliol College, Oxford, to study Chemistry.
- Freddie has received an offer from St Catherine's College, Oxford, to study Law with German Law.

Congratulations Daniel and Freddie. We are incredibly proud of you.

Aberystwyth University Offers

We are incredibly proud to announce the outstanding achievements of several of our Year 13 students, who have received unconditional offers from Aberystwyth University following their entrance exams. These exceptional students have demonstrated great academic ability and determination, and their success is a testament to their hard work.



- Eeva has been awarded the Open Scholarship along with an unconditional offer
- Harry has received the Merit Award and an unconditional offer
- Ned has earned an unconditional offer
- Eirini has also secured an unconditional offer

Other Offers

Congratulations to all of our Year 13 students who have received university offers from a range of prestigious institutions. This is an incredible achievement, and we are so proud of each and every student for their hard work and dedication.

Notable offers have been received from top universities including:

- University of York
- University of Leeds
- University of Sheffield
- University of Southampton
- University of Manchester
- Newcastle University
- University of Nottingham

This is just a glimpse of the many universities that our students are being offered places at, demonstrating the exceptional academic standards they have achieved and the exciting paths they are heading towards.

We are so proud of all our students who are continuing to excel and secure their future at some of the best universities in the country.

Apprenticeships

Congratulations to our Year 13 students who have successfully applied for apprenticeships and degree apprenticeships with some of the most renowned institutions and companies.

These apprenticeship opportunities provide students with the chance to earn while they learn, gaining valuable work experience and qualifications that will pave the way for successful careers in top industries.

As we approach a crucial period for our students, here are some important Year 13 dates to keep in mind.

Year 13 – Exam Season and Key Events:

- Friday 9th May (9am – 11am) – End of Year 13 Celebrations
- Monday 12th May – Exam arrangements begin
- Thursday 27th June – Year 13 Prom

Year 12 Oxbridge Trip

A group of Year 12 students had the exciting opportunity to visit Corpus Christi College, Cambridge on Tuesday 25th March. This visit gave students a deeper understanding of Oxbridge applications, university life, and academic expectations. It was an inspiring day that will help them as they prepare for their future Russell Group and Oxbridge applications.



Year 11 transition into Sixth Form

Year 11 – Breakfast morning – Friday 25th April 9:05 - 10:05

Our Breakfast Morning is designed to equip Year 11 students with effective revision strategies as they prepare for their GCSE exams. This session will provide valuable insights into study techniques, time management, and exam preparation, helping students build confidence and perform at their best. A fantastic opportunity for Year 11s to develop essential skills for success.

Thursday 3rd April and Wednesday 23rd April – Year 11 Sixth Form Interviews

On Thursday 3rd April and Wednesday 23rd April, Year 11 students will have their Sixth Form interviews to discuss their subject choices, future aspirations, and how Campion Sixth Form can support their goals. This is an important step in helping students make informed decisions about their post-16 education. Further details will be confirmed soon.

Friday 20th June – Year 11 Induction Day to year 11

On Friday 20th June, Year 11 students will take part in our Sixth Form Induction Day, designed to help them transition smoothly into post-16 education. The day will include:

- An external presenter delivering a session on Making the Most of Sixth Form and Post-16 Destinations
- Sample Sixth Form lessons to experience A-Level and Vocational study
- A team-building event to connect with fellow students and develop key skills

This is an exciting opportunity to get a head start on Sixth Form life. We encourage all students to take full advantage of these opportunities as they prepare for their next steps.

Mrs Elliott
Associate Assistant Principal KS5 Raising Standards

Careers

Careers education remains a top priority at Campion. We recently held a Careers Fair for our Year 8 and Year 10 students. This event provided students with exposure to a range of industries, employers, and further education opportunities, helping them to explore future pathways and make informed choices about their next steps.

Thank you to all students, staff, and external speakers for making these events so impactful. We look forward to more exciting opportunities in the coming months.





Women in Engineering Project (Cummins)

As part of our Women in Engineering Project, we have organised three visits for students to explore careers in engineering and gain hands-on experience in this dynamic and innovative field. This project aims to inspire students, particularly young women, to consider engineering as a rewarding career path and break down barriers in a traditionally male-dominated industry.

So far, two visits have already taken place, and the final visit will be happening next term. During these visits, students have had the opportunity to tour engineering facilities, meet professionals in the field, learn about career opportunities and hands-on activities.

Upcoming Events

Year 10 Work Experience

As part of our commitment to providing real-world learning opportunities, we are excited to announce the Year 10 Work Experience placements, scheduled for the week commencing 28th April 2025. This important initiative is designed to give students valuable hands-on experience in the workplace, allowing them to explore various industries, build essential skills, and gain a better understanding of their career interests.

We are confident that these placements will be incredibly beneficial for Year 10 students, providing them with the practical experience and confidence they need to move forward in their academic and career journeys.

Careers Newsletter

We are excited to announce the launch of our new Careers Newsletter, designed to keep students and families up-to-date on the latest career opportunities, events, and resources to support students in making informed decisions about their future pathways.

The Careers Newsletter will be a regular publication, offering valuable insights in upcoming Careers Events, Work Experience and Apprenticeships, Post-16 Pathways, Career Advice and Resources. and Success Stories and Alumni Insights.

The Careers Newsletter is a great resource for both students and families to stay informed and engaged in career development throughout the school year. We encourage everyone to subscribe and make use of the wealth of information and resources that will be shared.

Mrs Elliott

Associate Assistant Headteacher, KS5 Raising Standards, Whole School Careers Lead