



March 2024 Newsletter



The Forum School

Upcoming Events in April

1st – April Fools Day

2nd – Autism Awareness Day

7th – World Health Day

15th – World Art Day & Child & Nature Awareness Month

23rd – St Georges Day

29th – Online Safety Week



Upcoming Events in March

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
01	02	03	04	05	06	07
School Holiday						
Bank Holiday April Fool's Day	Autisum Awareness Day Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena		Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	TFS Cinema - Theatre	Shillingstone Station Caf� - Meet at blue gates 13:30 DISCO in the theatre	World Book & Health Day
08	09	10	11	12	13	14
School Holiday						
Inflatable Obstacle Course	Inflatable Obstacle Course Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	Inflatable Obstacle Course Silblings Day	Inflatable Obstacle Course Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	Inflatable Obstacle Course TFS Cinema - Theatre	Shillingstone Station Caf� - Meet at blue gates 13:30 DISCO in the theatre	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
World Art Day Child & Nature awareness month Frog pond building & Bird Boxes	Frog pond building & Bird Boxes Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	Frog pond building & Bird Boxes School Council	Frog pond building & Bird Boxes Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	Frog pond building & Bird Boxes TFS Cinema - Theatre	Shillingstone Station Caf� - Meet at blue gates 13:30 DISCO in the theatre	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Frog pond building & Bird Boxes	St. Georges Day Frog pond building & Bird Boxes Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	Frog pond building & Bird Boxes	Frog pond building & Bird Boxes Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	Frog pond building & Bird Boxes TFS Cinema - Theatre	Shillingstone Station Caf� - Meet at blue gates 13:30 DISCO in the theatre	
29	30	01	02	03	04	05
Online Safety Week Frog pond building & Bird Boxes	Frog pond building & Bird Boxes Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena					



The Forum Stars are back!

Shout out a staff member that has gone above and beyond for a young person, yourself, your team or the school.
Email Forum.Stars@cambiangroup.com with a sentence about why a colleague is amazing and they'll be entered into a draw. There will be 3 winners. 1 from Care, 1 from Education and 1 from everyone else! The winners will receive a £10 Love2Shop voucher and Employee of the month for your department!

Upcoming Birthdays

April

Claire Legg

Saba Gilani

Renea Gascoigne

Sally Chambers



Happy
Birthdays



Training Opportunities

We are eagerly looking for staff members across all departments to train in;

Lifeguarding

This training would be paid for by the company and would look great on your CV.

Please let Melissa McCarthy know if you are interested.



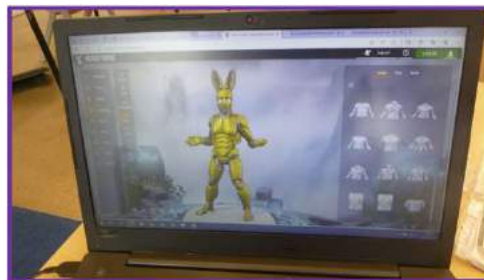


Moments



Toby has been down the stables riding around on Dusty. Toby enjoys time on his favourite math game. He has been helping in the gardens getting them ready for planting lots of different vegetables and fruits over the next month or so.

Kai had a nice session in the sports hall shooting some hoops and on the O.T. swings. He has also been working on 3D CAD and will be starting on a very complex CAD project very soon. Watch this space...!





Moments



Riley has been using an augmented reality app to measure all the vegetable beds and gardening areas and then drawing scale diagrams to get an idea of how much space we have to grow different vegetables.

Having fun on the O.T. swings. Riley has started getting all the garden and growing areas ready for our big planting sessions. There is still plenty to do and Riley is very happy that his suggestions of more gardening activities have been listened to. Very well done!

World Book Day



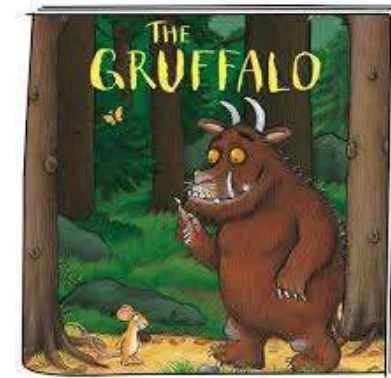
The Masked Reader



The Sugar Puff Monster, reading a story!

I know, you can't make this up!
You saw it hear first, and he read us the
Gruffalo beautifully.

But who is under the mask...I wonder?
...Maybe the Gruffalo himself?...



Waters End

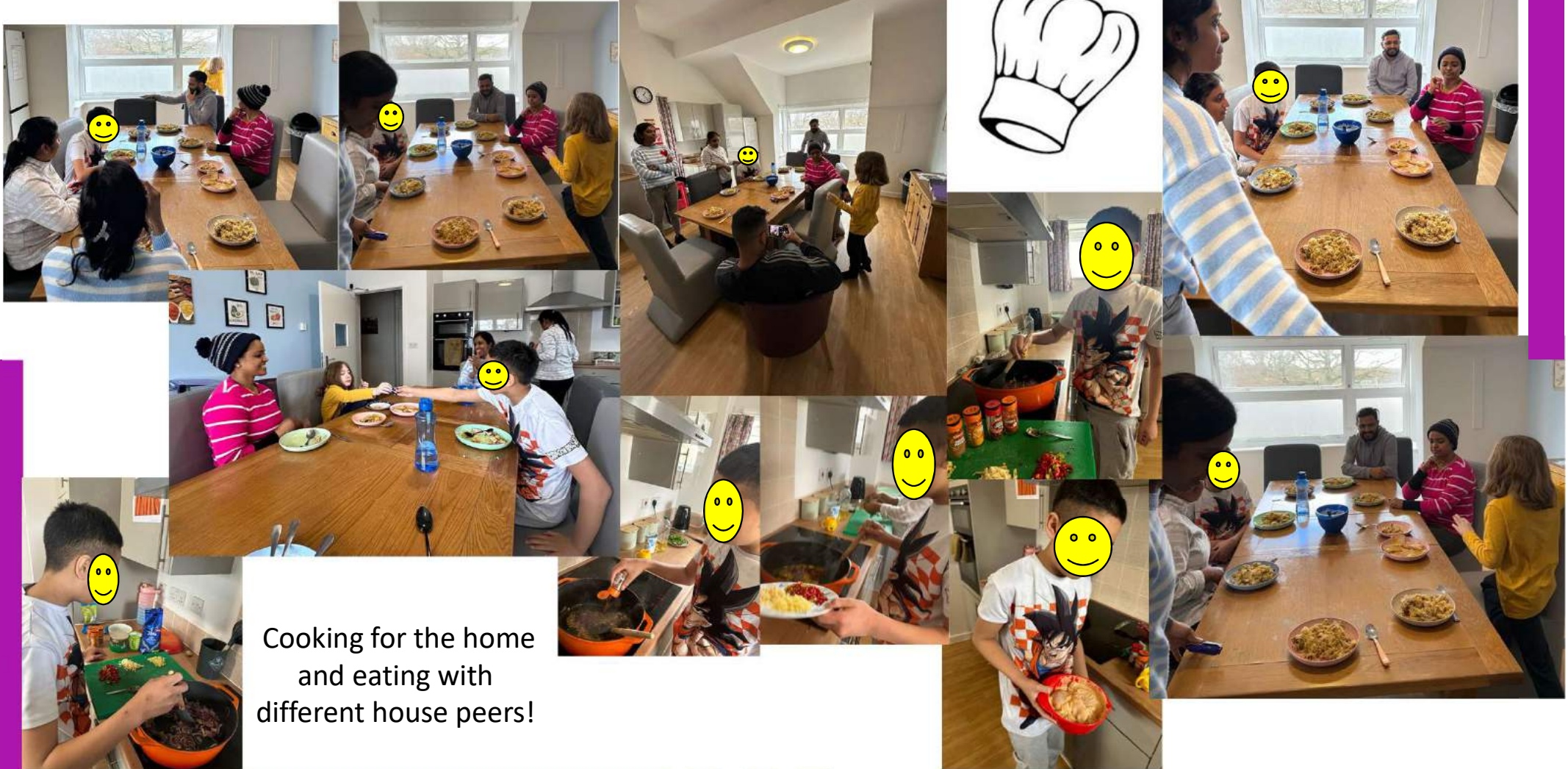


A well deserved break!



Bringing some colour to the garden 😊

Ready, Steady, Cook!



Cooking for the home
and eating with
different house peers!



MASTER BAKER

home edition

Showing off his baking skills
with a marble cake...



YUMMY!



Sensory Stories



A safe and sensory environment was created in the theatre for World Book Day by the therapy team. Bean bags, chairs, and yoga balls were available for the students to sit on and enjoy the stories being read aloud and acted out by Bridget and Jemma.

The first story entitled 'But don't make a mess' allowed students to bang the door knocker and drop jelly during the lesson. It was a sensory experience with the smell of imperial leather to smell and a soft cloth to wipe the skin while we 'messed up the bathroom'. The water pistol was a big hit, although both Jemma and Bridget ended up with wet bottoms from holding it in their pockets. Other stories include the itchy bear, who can't find a place to scratch his itch and is moved on by various creatures. Students met characters from the story through puppets and various voices.

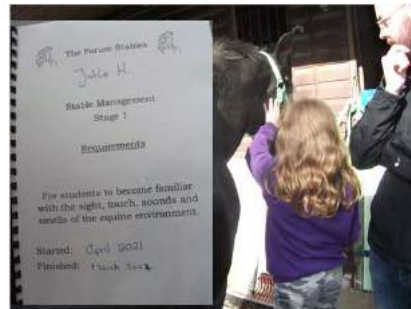
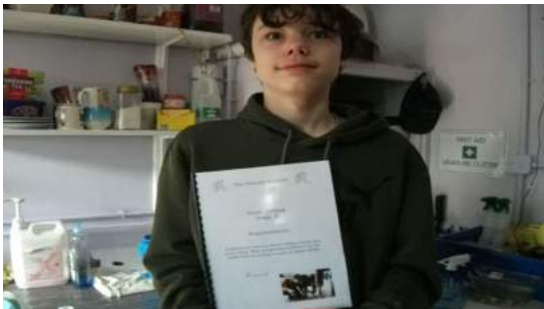
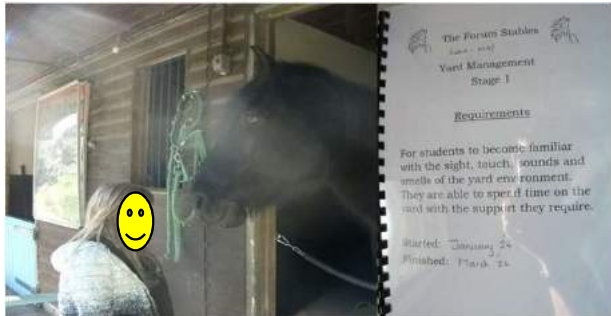
Our students were supported so well by adults and we were so grateful for their support. We had a great time being creative with the young people and participating in such a fun activity with them in such an inclusive atmosphere.

Heavy Muscle Work

Kwaku has been doing heavy muscle work out in the fields to help with his proprioceptive feedback. Doing jobs like poo picking and raking the fields has required Kwaku to use all his muscle groups. Kwaku has been asking to use the pogo stick during play which relates to his sensory programme. This allows Kwaku to be ready to learn.



Horse Management Achievements



- Konane – Horse Riding stage 3
- Lola-May – Yard Management stage 1
- Riley – Equine Adventures stage 8
- Sophie – Stable Management Stable Management stage 4
- Jake – Stable Management stage 1
- Kwaku – Stable Management stage 2



NOMINEES FOR EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



Amy Dawson
Holley Meadus
Vineesh Vailayaparambil
Anju Mathai
Shiblu Saifur
Julian Tomlinson
Carissa Ealson
Desmond Sarpong
Soumya Anthony
Nick Stevens
Bindhu John
Divya Kuriakose
Cameron Guest
Cameron Guest

Maria Zacharias
Rosemol Kurian
Lovely Mathew
Verna Edwards
Dan Bradberry
Yadu Kulambil
Paul Odey
Rashmi Gajji
Safi Conde
Sally Rawlings
Oliver Handibode
Deepa Mathew
Mark Speller
Vanessa Lloyd

Steve Lee
Megan Wood
Yadu Kulambil

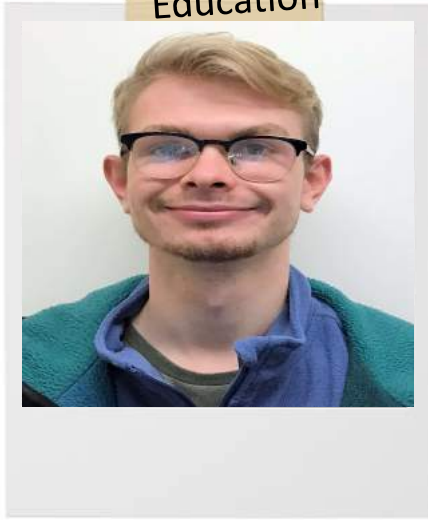
Cameron Guest
Nin Halford
Katie Loftus

*Keep Up the
Good Work!*

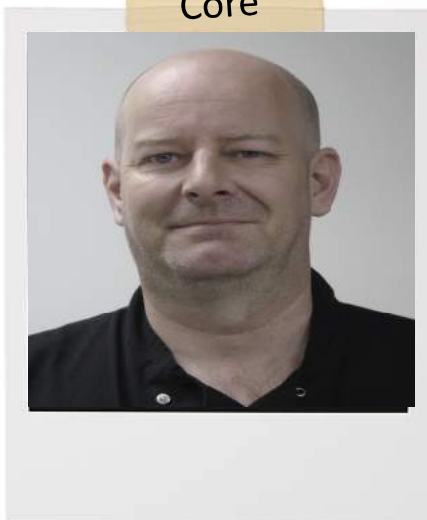
CONGRATULATIONS – EMPLOYEE’S OF THE MONTH!



Education



Core



Care/Nights



Shout Outs!

Shout out to *Nin Halford*, who has managed a SAR request at TFS. Nin has ensured this was completed in timescales and organised support from others where needed. Thank you for leading on this.
From *Melissa McCarthy*.

Shout out to *Megan Wood*, thank you for all of your support and hard work ensuring that Dragon fly sensory room has had a full revamp. The young people have communicated that they really enjoy this room and the new items that have been put in place.
From *Melissa McCarthy*

Shout out to *Cameron Guest*, thank you for all of your support and hard work ensuring that Dragon fly sensory room has had a full revamp. The young people have communicated that they really enjoy this room and the new items that have been put in place.
From *Melissa McCarthy*

Shout out to *Julie Walker, Alice Backwell, Nin Halford & Claire Legg*, thank you for all of your support and knowledge of the school.
You truly are the core of the school and take on extra workloads daily to support everyone.
Each and every one of you are amazing!
From *Hannah Everard*

OUTDOOR LEARNING!

March 18th - March 29th

Nest Building, Bird Boxes & Tree Planting



Nest Building

Students can resource different materials from the surrounding areas such as horse hair, hay moss and small sticks and design and create their own bird nests. They can then make, draw or cut out a bird of their choice to sit in the nest. They can also add some chocolate eggs if they wish.

Tree Planting

Students will arrive at the yard and be given a choice of trees to plant, they can then go to their designated planting site to plant their trees, adults can assist if and when required.

Bird Boxes

Students can build a bird box using the wooden slats or plastic bottles. They can decorate them as they like, they can then show a member of staff where they would like to put them, it could be in the school grounds, the woods or outside their home/class.

OUTDOOR LEARNING!

March 21st – International Day of Forests
Bark / leaf rubbing, Wood walk to recognise different trees, tree planting.



Tree Identification

Students will arrive at the yard and pick up the tree identification cards, they will then walk around the school grounds with their adult/s to see how many they can find, some of the students may want to write down where they saw them.



Bark / Leaf Rubbing

Students will arrive at the yard and chose which paper and coloured wax crayon or chalk they want to use, they will then go for a walk in the grounds and chose their trees or leaves (or both) they would like to use for bark rubbing.



Tree Planting

Students will arrive at the yard and be given a choice of trees to plant, they can then go to their designated planting site to plant their trees, adults can assist if and when required.



The Forum Farm

Hi.

We are a very busy team of two at the Forum Farm that consists of myself - Renea, I am the animal lead and a qualified animal assisted therapist and Sam, who is my right hand woman and is the animal therapy assistant. I would like to introduce you to the many ways we work with the students here at the Forum School. We currently have two horses, eight guinea pigs, three rabbits and a bearded dragon and we are based on a 28 acre site.



We have a very busy timetable including student 1-1 sessions, outdoor learning, lunchtime club, after school activities, we also encourage drop in sessions at any time. We have our 'Guinea Pig gang' where students can sit with the guinea pigs. This has two bucket seat chairs, a bookcase and fairy lights. Our 'Warren' has our rabbits. There is a table for students to work at, as well as homemade rabbit games for them to play!



The Forum Farm... Continued

We have four different curriculum-based courses, all of these have 12 stages to complete and each stage is broken down into 10 bite sized achievable sections. When the students complete a stage, they are presented with a booklet and certificate acknowledging their achievements.

Horse Riding – This is for students to experience our horse-riding sessions which helps to improve their core muscle groups, coordination, balance and sense of wellbeing.

Yard Management – This is designed for our students who are not keen on riding the horses but enjoy the yard environment. They learn skills such as feeding, grooming and basic first aid for all of the animals in our care.

Equine Adventures – Some of our students enjoy being around the horses on the ground rather than riding them. This allows students to learn about care of equines and how to interact with them. This is the students first steps into horse care and leads onto Stable Management.

Stable Management – This is similar to Equine Adventures however it focuses more on the horse's health and wellbeing, including tack care, vet responsibilities etc.

Outdoor Learning

We believe that outdoor learning has a valuable impact on our students learning and there has been many studies that place a high importance on its many positive values including social skills, special awareness, ownership of work and overall mental wellbeing. We have designed a yearly planner that ties in with our curriculum, with myself and Sam working closely with the teachers and T.As. It has also enhanced our wider community ties with local businesses donating some of our supplies and creating a wider community spirit.



Thank you for allowing us to show what we do here at the Forum School Farm, we are always busy and exhausted but we do have a great time here. If you would like any more information please do contact us at any time. Renea and Sam xxxx

Renea.Gascoigne@cambianguroup.com Samantha.fry@cambianguroup.com

Drop in sessions

Some of our students from time to time need a place to reflect or relax. They are always encouraged to visit whenever they feel the need to and we have found that some of our students like to just pop in to say hello to either myself and Sam or the animals. It is always nice to see the students on the yard and we understand the importance of them being able to do so.

Lunchtime Club

This is our latest idea for the yard and we wanted to give our students a place to blow off some steam or be creative and make different art/crafts. It is held in the indoor arena every day and is for all students to drop in as they wish.

After School Activities

Our indoor arena is always accessible to our residential students. Mondays are our sensory play activities and Wednesdays are for arts and crafts, however, we are happy for any student to enjoy the facilities at any time.

Outdoor Learning

Dates for your diary

January 29th – February 9th: Building bug houses, Year of the dragon making dragons from plates and egg boxes.

February 20th – March 15th: Building bug houses, Making seed feeders, Making wind chimes.

March 18th – March 29th; **run up to Easter** : Nest Building, Bird Boxes, tree planting.

March 21st: International day of forests : Bark rubbing, wood walk to recognise different trees, tree planting.

April 15th – April 30th: **Child and nature awareness month** : Frog pond building, Bird boxes.

May 1st – May 24th : Wind chimes, Frog ponds, Sensory Garden building.

June 3rd – June 21st : scarecrow making

June 24th – June 28th: **Insect week** : mini beast hunt, Habitat Hunt, Bug art

July 1st – July 23rd: Creating water feature, Making a music tree.

**** making a wishing tree to run alongside all activities.**



TFS WISHING TREE!



The wishing tree is starting to come together slowly.

The more beautiful things we have on it the better.

Any wishes the young people may have can be added too!





Ducks & Drakes

The Ducks and Drakes Cancer Trust was founded to help save lives and promote well-being by raising awareness of cancer and specifically Bowel Cancer in young people in Dorset and to support Bowel Cancer patients and their families through the provision of specialist medical equipment and financial aid. The Trust was founded in 2012 by Andrew Drake and his family following the bowel cancer diagnosis of Andrew, aged 24. The Trust is registered with the Charity Commission No: 1147024.

The Trust was founded to:

Create awareness of bowel cancer in young people in Dorset

To support bowel cancer patients and their families through the provision of specialist equipment and financial aid

To fund specialist nurses in Dorset County Hospital specifically in the Colorectal Department and financially support Dorset County Hospital's new cancer unit.

All money raised by the Charity will go towards making a difference to the lives of younger people with bowel cancer in Dorset. We thank you for your support, together, we are stronger.

Caretech Foundation has emailed Becky

I am delighted to let you know that your application has been successful and the Foundation will be matching your efforts and donating £350.00 to The Ducks and Drakes Cancer Trust.





TFS Wellbeing Walk

I would like to invite care, therapy and core staff to join in a wellbeing walk.

Personally I feel I would benefit from getting away from the desk, although I do this already, I would like to invite you all too.

This can be within the school grounds, or if like me you like to get out there is a small loop down the trail way which wouldn't take too long.

Maybe you would just like to get away for 15 / 20 minutes to; 'catch your breath', gather your thoughts or frog march for a bit to let the stress go.

Whatever your reason, our mental and physical wellbeing is paramount!

If you would like to join a wellbeing walk, please let me know and we can get started.

Contact Claire.Legg@cambianguroup.com





Staff Discounts

<https://www.bluelightcard.co.uk/>

Discount service for the emergency services, NHS, social care sector and armed forces - [£4.99 for 2 years](#)

Members of the Blue Light community can register for access to more than 15,000 discounts from large national retailers to local businesses across categories such as holidays, cars, days out, fashion, gifts, insurance, phones, and many more.

<https://discountsforcarers.com/>

Carer & Care Worker Discounts – [sign up for free](#)

Exclusive discounts, cashback & vouchers for Carers & Care Workers.
For care assistants, live-in carers, those that care for loved ones, and everyone in between.

<https://www.discountsforteachers.co.uk/>


Teacher & Education Staff Discounts – [sign up for free](#)

Exclusive discounts, cashback & vouchers for Teachers & Education Staff.
For teaching assistants, headteachers, administrators, and everyone in between.

<https://www.carerscarduk.co.uk/discounts-for-carers>

Your carer ID card unlocks access to a wide range of online discounts, savings, benefits, perks and offers, for carers. - [£8 for 2 years](#)

Our team constantly work on creating partnerships with big name brands so that we can provide carers with discounts on all aspects of life, from food to fashion, fitness to electrical, technology to travel, home utilities to entertainment and much more





Staff Discounts Continued

<https://carers.org/grants-and-discounts/carersmart-discount-club>

Joining is simple and [free](#). And once you're a member, you'll be able to benefit from a wide range of offers, including:

- Cash back on shopping from numerous high street retailers
- Reductions on insurance renewals
- Discounts on holidays and travel arrangements
- Reduced price lifestyle activities
- Free and discounted legal advice services

<https://www.frontlinestaffdiscounts.co.uk/>

Frontline Staff Discounts is [FREE](#) to all Members, we charge no fees to join & never will

We aim to save you and all of our members as much money as possible on all of your purchases online.

<https://www.teacherperks.co.uk/>




[Free](#) membership for school staff and schools to access incredible perks from high street brands and edu-suppliers.



✦ Employee Discounts

Marketing activity 2024

Key dates January to March

January 	February 	March 
Friends & Family special travel offer - 2nd - 31st January	Registration & opt-in competition - 19th February - 3rd March	Easter Extravaganza campaign 25th March - 1st April
Other email themes <ul style="list-style-type: none">- January Sales- Travel	Other email themes <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Gifting- Wellbeing	Other email themes <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Spring clean- Garden, DIY
Assets provided <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Late November	Look out for your assets <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Late January	Look out for your assets <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Late February
Promote from: 1st week of Jan	Promote from: 19th Feb	Promote from: Mid March

Campaigns are subject to change. Keep an eye on your client updates for up to date information.

Standard Employee Comms



Regular hand picked offer emails



Ad-hoc spotlight offer emails

Client Comms



Regular updates with downloadable assets

Assets include:



Posters
Intranet banners
Internal comms copy
Monthly offer copy

Encourage your employees to opt in to marketing for special offers, competitions & more

Your Account Manager will be in touch with your bespoke comms when available



Amazing savings via your platform

Employee Benefits Platform

March highlights

<p>save 20%</p> <p>Discover gifts worth sharing at Virgin Experience Days and save 20% for a limited time only, until 31st March 2024 with our promo code.</p> 	
<p>save 5%</p>  <p>Take advantage of IKEA's favourite products at affordable prices and save an extra 5% with an eVoucher.</p>	<p>save 4%</p>  <p>Spend less money whilst stocking up on all your must-haves at Boots and save 4% via your platform.</p>
<p>save 40%</p>  <p>Save 40% on all Food Intolerance, Allergy and Health tests at Yorktest when you use our promo code.</p>	<p>save 15%</p>  <p>Get 15% off a beautiful bouquet and free delivery for new and existing customers via your platform.</p>

Nothing caught your eye? Pick from hundreds of other great deals on your platform.

Want to find out more?
Visit: www.cambianextras.co.uk
Call: 01908 303531



Full terms and conditions apply - visit your benefits website for full details



Win 1 of 10
£100
eVouchers

Employee Benefits Platform

Register today... unlock savings

Explore an array of discounts via your platform to help with your everyday spending and make your money go further.

Join your benefits platform anytime between **19th February – 3rd March 2024** and you'll be automatically entered into the prize draw!

Don't forget to opt-in to our marketing emails so we can keep you in the loop of new offers, competitions, and more!

Register today

Want to find out more?
Visit: www.cambianextras.co.uk
Call: 01908 303531

Full terms and conditions apply - visit your benefits website for full details





A message from Mel

What another positive month we have had, there is so much to cover which is great. I have picked out some of the highlights!

A new young person has arrived this month. This young person has been out of education for a considerable amount of time. Since his first day with us as a resident he has also attended school every day without fail. This is incredible and really shows the support and commitment of all adults across The School.

Firstly I would like to thank each and everyone of you for the support you have had provided to our young people to personally engage in their reviews. There has been a significant improvement in this area this month and this has been noted by parents, social workers and SENCO's. It is so important that our young people's voices are heard and that they are able to participate in their plans and make choices based on their futures.

To further evidence this we have now reviewed our daily paperwork systems that will support us as adults to evidence the views, wishes and feelings of young people. We have also imbedded Ofsted Quality standards to the daily paperwork to further improve in other areas to show a full over view of positive praise, achievements, activities and sensory diet support. While this is new, the reviews so far have considerably improved recordings of young people's lived experiences and the support provided by adults that care.

All young people have had their opportunity to complete their say with a survey this month. Young people have mainly reported that they are happy and safe.

There has been some fantastic whole school activities this period with the celebration of Chinese new year, world book day and plans for an end of term disco organised and planned by one of our students L.

There are some exciting plans for the half term holiday with Easter egg hunts and obstacle courses organised.

Again, thank you all for the nurture and care you provide to our young people 😊



Thank You!