

Cambian Potterspury Lodge School

Bulletin 5th Edition

22nd January 2026

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Dear Parents/Carers

The spring term is upon us! The Christmas celebrations went well and as you will see from the article in this bulletin, we had great decorations around the school and lots of super events and activities. Thank you to all those parents that came for the Christmas Fair on the Wednesday before we broke up!

Thank you also to the parents that have fed back on the reports that went out just before the break. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive and will develop further as we move to the next reporting point at the end of this term before our Easter break.

At this point in the year, we as a school continue to expand and as you can imagine pupils are keen to obtain places at the school. Please be reassured that we will try to communicate any changes ahead of time where possible and pupils as well as parents will be informed of any additions or moves of class ahead of time and these adjustments explained to support you and your child.

In this edition, you will not only find information about some of the work that has already taken place in the first two and a half weeks back, but additional information recently released around attendance to support our young people and you at home. We hope you find this information as useful as the safeguarding parental guide released in the second half of the autumn term.

Sincerely,

Mr. J Amps
Head Teacher

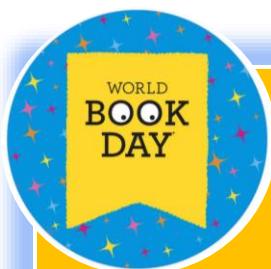
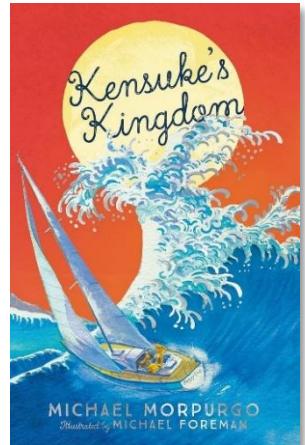


English

KS3 English has had an energetic start to the half term, with each year group diving into rich stories and new writing skills. Year 7 have wrapped up their work on 'Kensuke's Kingdom' by crafting their own newspaper articles, and they are now beginning their journey into 'Beowulf'. We are also excited for our upcoming visit to The Story Museum in Oxford, which promises to bring even more inspiration to their reading and writing.

In Year 8, students are completing their study of 'Refugee Boy' and will soon move on to our 'Myths and Legends' unit, where they'll explore storytelling traditions and narratives from around the world.

Year 9 have begun developing their informative writing skills through reports, newspaper articles and leaflets, before shifting their focus later this half term to persuasive writing.



WORLD BOOK DAY!



On Thursday 5th March, we will be celebrating world book day!

Miss Kelly will send out all the information closer to the time on how we are celebrating at Potterspury.

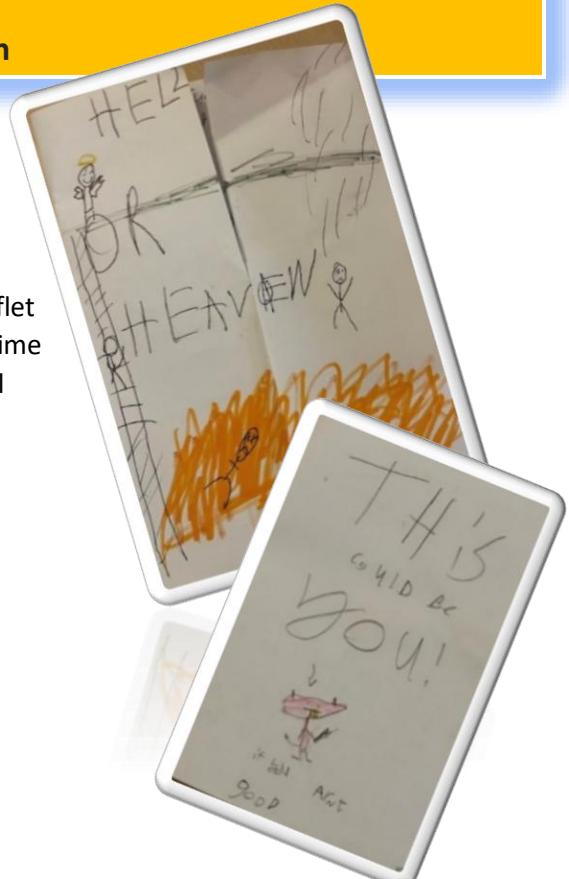
See our updated key dates list at the end of this bulletin

History KS3

Year 7's has been studying the lives of medieval people.

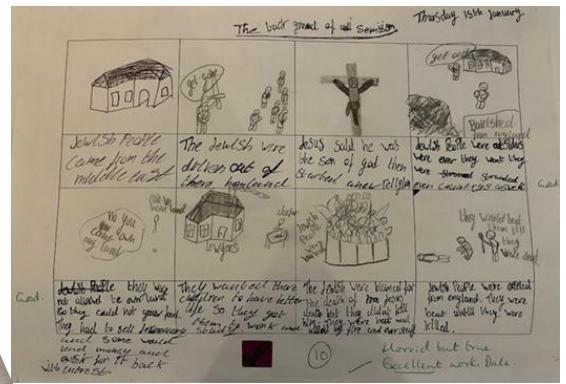
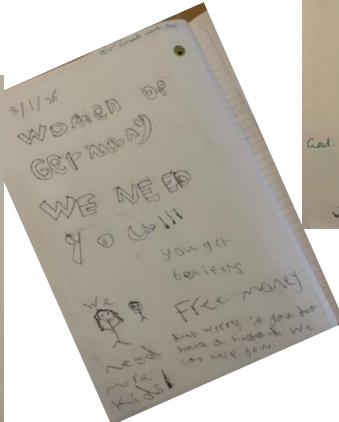
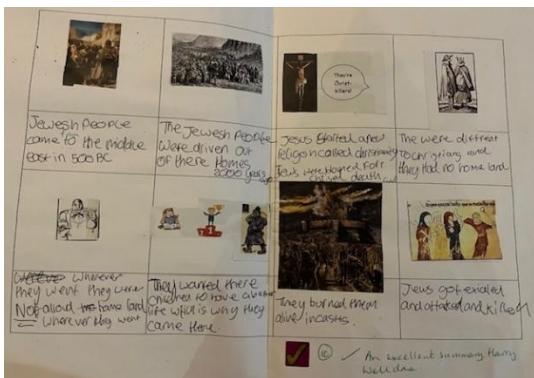
As part of this work one of the tasks was to design and produce a leaflet to show what medieval people believed about heaven and hell, in a time where literacy levels were low and religious observance was a central part of how people lived their lives.

Year 7 have produced some great outcomes and taken part in some super discussions, well Done!

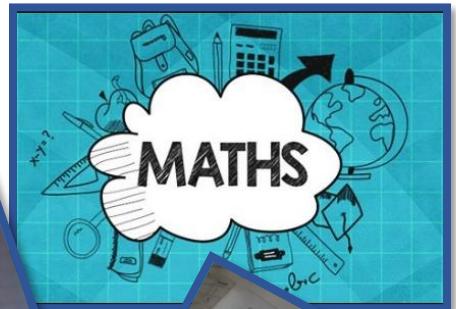
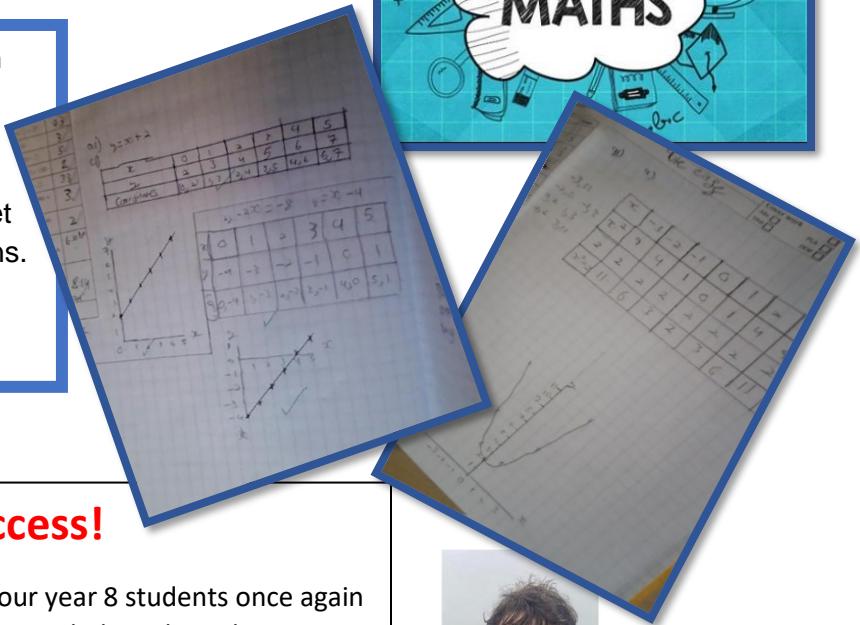


History KS4

Y10 have been finding out about the role of women in Nazi Germany and why antisemitism had developed in Germany.



During this term, the Year 11's has been working on drawing linear and quadratic graphs from equations. They have produced some superb work as they continue to move towards their next set of mocks and on to summer examinations. Really well done to our year 11's once again!



Footballing Success!

On the weekend, one of our year 8 students once again played an instrumental part in helping his side win again their league rivals and scoring a crucial goal to help the team continue their season and enter the next game full of confidence.

**Congratulation and well done
from us all at PLS**



Man of the match was given to Isaac & Timmi both were instrumental in the win. They both worked really hard & had a massive influence in the way the team as a whole played.

Looking back on our Christmas Celebrations!

It may already seem like a long time ago but Christmas really wasn't that long ago. We hope you all had chance to take a break and relax over this period and in to the new year!

Here are just a few photos of the Christmas dinner celebrations our pupils engaged in on the Thursday before we broke up.



It was also lovely to have with us the local MP Sarah Bool who joined us for the dinner and presented three of our pupils with their certificate for entering the regional Christmas Card Competition!

Happy memories and on to the next exciting set of events and activities across this term'



Big thanks to all the staff. Special mentions for Sue, Kelly, Steve and Rik who decorated the school late in to the night one day after school. Pictured here left to right are Wendy, Kelly and Rosie. Super dinner! Thank you!

⌚ Attendance ☺

As always, our policies page can be accessed via the school's website.

The direct link is:

<https://www.cambiangroup.com/specialist-education/our-schools/autism-schools/potterspury-lodge-school/reports-policies/>

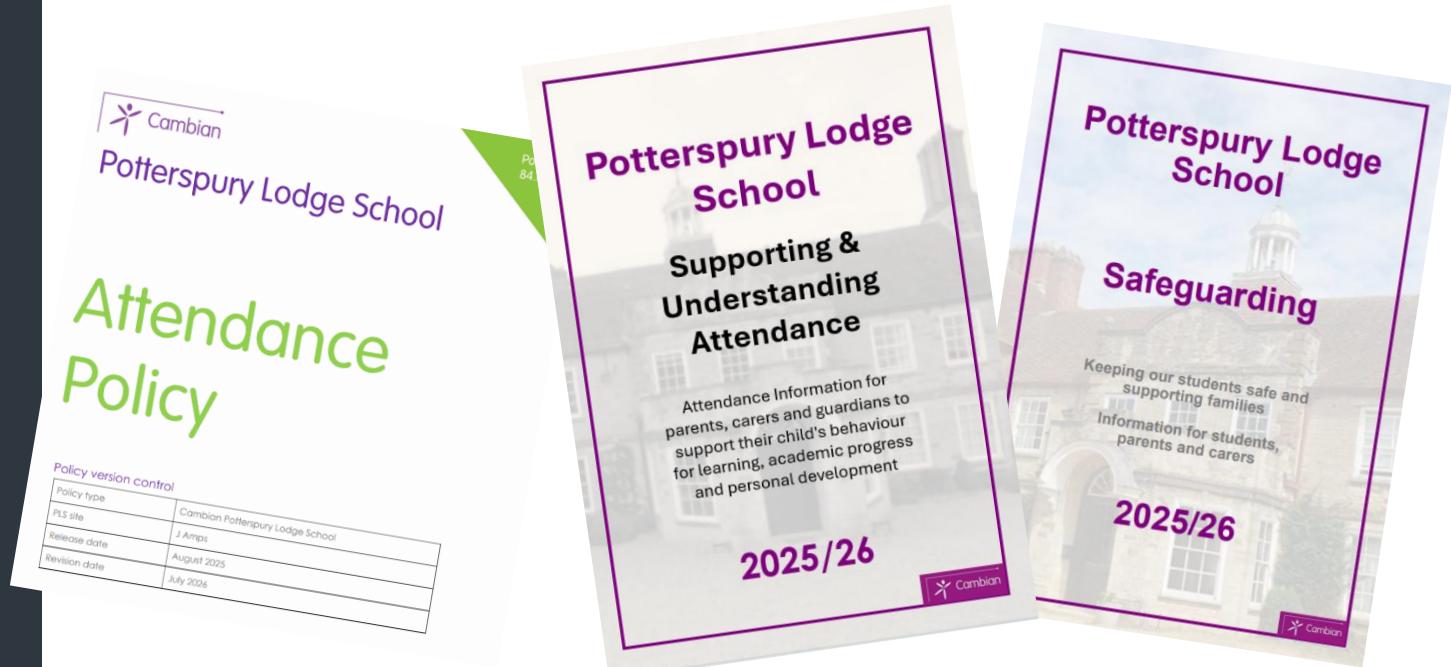
Specifically in this instance I refer to the attendance policy I reviewed just before our return in the September and a recent parental query that has led to an additional booklet being released for parental information at the link below:

Supporting Attendance at Potterspury Lodge School:

[https://www.cambiangroup.com/media/3414671/Attendance_ BookletPLS.pdf](https://www.cambiangroup.com/media/3414671/Attendance_BookletPLS.pdf)

Most important to me is the message that we are here to help. Yes, there are nationally recognised thresholds of attendance and we hope that each pupil attends full time all the time, which many do. However, we also appreciate that many pupils coming to our school have either been completely out of educational setting for a period of time, or have found the mental load and ability to access education at previous settings a real challenge.

We hope the parental guide helps you at home understand not only our approach, but also empowers you to ask for support if it is needed as well as understand the reasons, we will contact you when absence occurs.



Potterspury Lodge School

Careers

Year 11 Careers Sessions

Towards the end of last term, we provided our Year 11 students with an overview of post-16 pathways, focusing on academic, vocational, and technical options.

The Senior Team prepared a number of booths for the students to visit with a range of future interests, detailing skills required, key personality traits and potential income opportunities. These future interests included Accounting, Bricklaying, Carpentry, Design and roles within the care and hospitality sector

Based on their questions and feedback, we are planning similar events in the future and have asked our current Year 11 students to state the areas of interest they would like us to investigate. Beyond these students will be having a 1:1 session with a Careers Advisor to align their mock exam results with their preferred pathway over the course of the next few weeks.

Safeguarding 😊

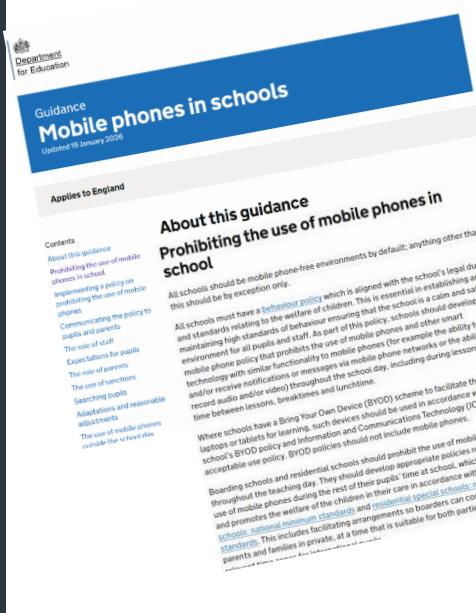
As you know, we at Potterspury Lodge School have pupils' hand in their phones each day at reception.

Where a student does not hand this in and is either known to be in their possession, or is seen, we then insist that they hand it in and contact is made home.

Thank you for the continued support with this as we know mobile phones in schools can detract from learning and place them and others at risk if they are accessing online content that we are unable to monitor through our wireless login network. The list below to the right, are some of the benefits our pupils have come up with themselves to a mobile free school

On school devices we continue to use the groups monitoring and filtering service across all our devices called *Fast Vue* referenced in the parent guide to safeguarding and if it occurs, any searches that flag a concern, are received and supported live across the day by safeguarding and pastoral staff.

.gov.uk Link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mobile-phones-in-schools/mobile-phones-in-schools#prohibiting-the-use-of-mobile-phones-in-school>



Promotes learning in class

Promotes mindfulness

Increases productivity

Support social in-person interactions

Reduces anxiety

