



NEWS@COM

WELCOME!



I hope you all had a great half term break and that your children have settled well into the new term. As always, this is a very busy time of year, and we are especially proud of our year 11 pupils, who have

conducted themselves extremely well during their mock exams.

Elsewhere in College, there have been a range of trips and activities, including a very special visit to Downing Street for Mr. Gordon and some of our sixth formers!

We were also delighted to receive an award for attendance during the 2024-25 academic year, placing CVC among the strongest schools nationally for attendance.

Key dates for your diary

Monday 17th November: Secondhand Uniform sale (5-6.30pm)

Wednesday 19th November: Year 11 Peterhouse trip

Saturday 22nd November: Big Band Jazz Band (all year groups) in Eddington

Wednesday 26th November: Year 13 mock interviews; 6th form trip to 'Hamilton' and ESU and Mace debate (round 1)

26th - 27th November: Year 11 Drama exam

Thursday 27th November: Snowsports information evening

Friday 28th November: Year 11 Graphic Communication mock exam

Saturday 29th November: Friends' Christmas Fayre and Comberton lights switch on

3rd-6th December: Year 11 Munich & Nuremberg trip

Thursday 4th December: **Year 13 Parents' Evening**

Monday 8th December: Christmas concert

10th - 16th December: German Exchange

Thursday 11th December: **Year 11 Parents' Evening**

Monday 15th December: Rotary Club Christmas concert

17th - 23rd December: Year 12 Snowsports trip to Italy

Friday 19th December: Christmas lunch (no hot food served at breaktime)

Monday 5th January 2026: Training day **(school closed)**

CURRICULUM IMMERSION DAYS

Careers carousel!

Our Year 10 pupils enjoyed an interactive afternoon engaging with a wide variety of professionals to explore future pathways and ask questions.

There were representatives from 28 different industries, local businesses, and further education providers. Pupils gained valuable insights into different career sectors and pathways, including apprenticeships. They also made important connections for work experience opportunities and post-16 options.

We are very grateful to all the employers and educational institutions for their time and support in making this event a resounding success.

Mrs. H. Jarrett, Careers and Development lead.



CVC pupils take an 'Epic Risk'!

Year 10 were delighted to meet Jordan Spencer, pro-basketball player and self-confessed former gambling addict, as part of their Curriculum Immersion Days.

Jordan spoke to us at length about the risks of gambling as well as the knock-on mental health impact for him and his family.

Year 10 particularly appreciated his candor, honesty and patience as he answered their plentiful questions.

Thank you once again to Jordan for his presentation and meeting our Year 10 pupils!

Mrs. S. Newton, Head of PSHE and associate member of SLG.



WALTON-ON-THE-NAZE

As part of our Curriculum Immersion Days, Year 8 visited Walton-on-the-Naze to learn about coastal features and sea defences.

During the trip, pupils walked along the coast and explored the Naze Nature Reserve while studying how the coastline is protected from erosion. It was an enjoyable and educational experience, allowing everyone to see real examples of the geography topics studied in class.



The Y half of the year group was lucky to enjoy sunny weather, while the X half faced strong winds and rain — a true example of typical British weather! But were rewarded with a stunning rainbow!

Despite this, spirits remained high. Miss Landy had a great day out completing her booklet to such a high standard she earned a sticker!

Mr. S. Aitken, Head of Geography and Deputy Head of Sixth Form.



SIXTH FORM TRIP

Year 12 Whipsnade trip

On Friday 7th November, my classmates and I went to Whipsnade Zoo for an environmental science trip.

Our day focused mainly on two workshops, and the topics they covered relate to our course: conservation and zoo ethics. I really enjoyed the visit as I loved seeing the animals, such as the red pandas, otters, and more. As well as seeing the animals, we learnt more about jobs relating to this career including zoologists and environmental advisers.

I also enjoyed learning more about different viewpoints on these topics, for example zoo ethics taught me that training animals isn't always bad as it is not always used for commercialisation and that actually teaching animals tricks can

be beneficial for them. For example, many animals were trained to sit on a weighing scale and wait as they learnt they would get a treat at the end, and the workers can then use the scale measurement to make sure that the animal is healthy.

By Grace, Year 12.

Credits to Dylan for taking the photos.
His Instagram:
DylanAHsPhotography.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND SUCCESSES!

Ionna's Italian victory!



During October half term break, Ionna, a current member of our Year 12 college community, took part in the WTKA Unified World Championships in Tuscany, Italy, representing Team GB.

Ionna, a member of Adrenaline Martial Arts, won two World Titles in the individual division and also in the team event!

Ionna trains in Shotokan and kick-boxing, and has been committed to the sport for over 10 years.

Huge congratulations to Ionna! It is a tremendous achievement!

Year 8 pupils' dance commitment

Some of our Year 8 pupils have been busy preparing for dance competitions and forthcoming celebratory events.

One pupil, Molly, performed at the 'Can You Dance' event in Liverpool before October half term, and she will be performing at the Cambridge Corn Exchange 150th Anniversary event last week alongside peer, Chloe.

Both pupils will also be performing at the Cambridge Christmas lights switch on 16th December, so if you get the chance, please go to support them!

It is fantastic to hear of our pupils commitments and achievements both within and outside of school!

Alumni pupil rides high to success

You might have read about one of our previous pupils, Charlie Rolls, who won the World Champion competing in the UCI Urban Cycling World Championships in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Huge congratulations to Charlie! Please find the BBC news article [here](#).



CSF TALKS TO NO. 10 ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE

COP 13 briefing

On Monday, 3rd November, we attended the COP 30 briefing at 10 Downing Street, this was a valuable opportunity for us to pass on our worries about the environment and more specifically things we'd like Ed Miliband (the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero) and Katie White (the Minister for Climate) to pass on at the COP 30 summit in Brazil.

Arriving at Downing Street, we found a good number of students and teachers from many sixth forms all around the country had gathered to talk about the same issues. the briefing was held in the state dining room and it was fantastic to see and hear so many people speaking so passionately about such an important topic, and with someone who actually holds the power to put some of those ideas into reality.

Ed started the meeting by outlining the aims of the meeting, focusing on what he wants to know from the young people of the country. He said a quote which really set the tone for the meeting: 'it is really scary what is happening' which seemed to resonate with many of the people in the room. However Ed was quick to follow up with positive reinforcement, along the lines of 80% of the world is now covered by the Net Zero aim, compared to the 0% of fifteen years ago, which helped to lighten the mood.

Students came with pre-prepared questions of what they were most worried about, questions that focused on the worries they had about the future of green jobs and if the government could be trusted to keep the promises that were made about the climate.

Ed had answers for all of them, including plans to set up clean energy technological colleges for the specific jobs in the sector, it was reassuring to hear

the solutions having already been put in place, like the great British energy company and the carbon budget.

A big topic that came up was the hopelessness felt by some people in regard to the environment, in a simple response Ed reinforced the successes and reminded people to not lose hope. Halfway through the meeting, we had a surprise visit from the Prime Minister, Sir Keir Starmer, which was an amazing surprise and he took over answering questions for a bit.

The first big topic brought up was that of hurricane Melissa, which Sir Keir wholeheartedly agreed would be a focus at the summit. The student then pointed out how bigger, more developed countries could be potentially blamed

due to their larger greenhouse gas emissions and the affects they then have on countries near the equator, a position agreed by both Keir and Ed.

At the end of the meeting, we were then able to go on a tour of the property, where we learned about the history of the building. We saw the moon rocks and a chair owned by Winston Churchill as well as a Turner painting worth about £19 million, and of course, Larry the cat!

Isobel, Year 12.



JOIN OUR FRIENDS!

Mr. Sycamore cycles to the continent!



In May 2018, Mr Sycamore's world was turned upside down with uncertainty after a routine referral to hospital uncovered that he had a cancerous tumour which required immediate surgery.

During this time he received incredible support from his family, friends, colleagues and all the amazing hospital staff and cancer specialists, enabling him to get through this period and fulfil all his life goals to date, now, being free of cancer. Unfortunately, others have not been as fortunate.

Since becoming cancer free, he has found cycling to be a great way to access and promote mental health. This challenge will involve a four-day bike ride, starting in London and cycling through to the finish line in Paris. The longest day of riding will be from London to Northern France on day 1 (nearly 90 miles). This event will be his longest ride to date totaling over 320 miles.

His target is to raise £2,000 for Cancer Research UK, please find the link here. Any donations no matter how small (or big) are very welcome via this [link](#). Help bring forward the day when all Cancers are cured.

Thank you and wish him luck!

How to become a FRIEND of CVC Trust Fund

The trustees of the Friends of CVC Trust Fund are actively expanding their range of fundraising activities. Please consider nominating the Friends of CVC Trust Fund for a charity grant by clicking on this [link](#). It's fast, easy and free! All you need is our charity number, which is 288773. Thank you in advance.

If you want to get involved with the Friends of CVC Trust Fund, you would be very welcome indeed. Please email secretary@friendsofcvc.org.



**Friends Of CVC Trust Fund
And The School Council**
Presents:
CHRISTMAS
FAYRE
Saturday 29th November
From 11AM - 2PM
Comberton Village
College Performance Hall

Stalls available for local sellers
Contact: friends@combertonvc.org

ENTRY FEE:
ADULT 50P
CHILDREN
FREE

Refreshments,
Lunches, Gift
Stalls, Raffle,
Tombola and
much, much
more.



14 NOVEMBER 2025

KEY MESSAGES

Request for replies to parent-member to the local advisory board (LAB) election

Further to the CombertonPost that was sent out on Friday 7th November, we are thrilled that 5 candidates for the position of parent-member to the LAB. The email includes a voting form along with the candidates' statements.

Closing for voting is at **midday on Friday 21st November**. Don't forget to vote!

Christmas concerts with CVC!

The Music Department Christmas concert is on Monday 8th December 7pm in the Performance Hall.

Tickets are available to purchase on ParentPay (£7 and £5). This is a special evening featuring all the Music Department ensembles and the new Year 7 massed choir.

Pupils participating do not need to buy a ticket. Please note that tickets will not be available to purchase on the door.

Rotary Christmas concert

Our lovely Comberton Young Voices choir (Yrs 7 and 8) will be once again performing at the Rotary Club Christmas Concert on Monday 15th December. Public tickets for the concert at 7.15pm are available from:

[Schools Concert - GREEN - Cambridge Live Tickets.](#)

Comberton Village Christmas lights switch-on!

On Saturday 29th November at 6pm the Comberton village lights will be switched on with a performance by our pupils. Please come to support and enjoy the Christmas lights!



Christmas hampers

This year will be our 10th year of Comberton pupils supporting the Cambridge City Foodbank Christmas hamper appeal. The foodbank have said that we are their longest standing hamper partner!

This local charity provides emergency food supplies and support to individuals and families in crisis throughout the year across Cambridge and the surrounding area. The foodbank is run by volunteers and is part of a nationwide network, supported by The Trussell Trust, working to combat poverty and hunger across the UK.

Pupils will be supporting the scheme with each tutor group aiming to donate two hampers filled with specific items requested by the foodbank. Each hamper will contain some basic necessities for families, along with some special Christmas treats.

In form time your child will have the opportunity to select **one item** from the list to donate – this is a **voluntary contribution** and therefore pupils will be made aware of this when confirming contributions.

Please note that the foodbank can only accept non-perishable items which are within their sell-by date.

We will ask pupils to bring their donations from now until **Monday the 8th of December**. Form tutors will be collecting items during form time each day up until this deadline.

The items will then be donated to the foodbank on Monday the 8th of December to go out to families for Christmas.

Thank you in advance!





14 NOVEMBER 2025



FOOD MENU

OPEN

EVERYDAY
8-8.25AM
10.30-10.50AM
12.30-13.05PM

Monday 17th November

CHICKEN KIEV	£1.58
VEGETABLE RATATOUILLE (V) (G/F & DF)	£1.58
PASTA POMODORO (V) (D/F)	£1.58
PEACH CRUMBLE (D/F)	£1.01

Tuesday 18th November

SPICY CHICKEN & RICE (G/F & DF)	£1.58
QUORN BOLOGNESE (V) (G/F & D/F)	£1.58
PESTO PASTA (V) (D/F)	£1.58
RICE PUDDING (G/F)	£1.01

Wednesday 19th November

STICKY BBQ CHICKEN (G/F & D/F)	£1.58
VEGETABLE PIE (V)	£1.58
PASTA BASILICO (V) (D/F)	£1.58
JAM ROLY POLY (D/F)	£1.01

Thursday 20th November

BEEF HOTPOT (G/F & D/F)	£1.58
CHEESE & TOMATO SWIRLS (V)	£1.58
CHUNKY VEG PASTA (V) (D/F)	£1.58
APPLE SPONGE (D/F)	£1.01

Friday 21st November

CHICKEN STIR FRY (G/F & D/F)	£1.58
VEGETABLE TRAYBAKE (V) (G/F & D/F)	£1.58
PASTA BAKE (V)	£1.58
SPOTTED DICK (D/F)	£1.01

N.B MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE RE DELIVERIES OF STOCK/STAFF SHORTAGES ETC

<https://www.combertonvc.org/parent-and-student-information/catering.php>





14 NOVEMBER 2025



FOOD MENU

OPEN

EVERYDAY
8-8.25AM
10.30-10.50AM
12.30-13.05PM

Monday 24th November

CORNISH PASTY	£1.58
VEG JAMBALAYA (V) (G/F & D/F)	£1.58
PASTA POMODORO (V) (G/F & D/F)	£1.58
GINGERBREAD (D/F)	£1.01

Tuesday 25th November

TANDOORI STYLE CHICKEN (G/F)	£1.58
QUORN CHILLI (V) (G/F & D/F)	£1.58
PESTO PASTA (V) (D/F)	£1.58
RICE PUDDING (G/F)	£1.01

Wednesday 26th November

CHILLI CON CARNE (G/F & D/F)	£1.58
VEG CURRY (V) (G/F & D/F)	£1.58
PASTA BASILICO (V) (D/F)	£1.58
SPOTTED DICK (D/F)	£1.01

Thursday 27th November

CHICKEN CURRY (G/F & D/F)	£1.58
TOMATO PASTA (V) (D/F)	£1.58
MAC N CHEESE (V)	£1.58
APPLE CRUMBLE (D/F)	£1.01

Friday 28th November

COTTAGE PIE (G/F & D/F)	£1.58
VEGETABLE RISOTTO (V) (G/F & D/F)	£1.58
PASTA BAKE (V)	£1.58
BAKEWELL TART	£1.01

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<https://www.combertonvc.org/parent-and-student-information/catering.php>



TERM DATES

School Term & Holiday Dates 2025/2026 – Revised	
Mon 1 st Sept	Staff Training Day – school closed
Tues 2 nd Sept	Autumn Term opens for Yr 7 and ½ of Yr 12
Wed 3 rd Sept	Term opens for Yr 7 to 11, ½ of Year 12
Thurs 4 th Sept	Term opens for all years
Thurs 23 rd Oct	Open Evening (school open all day)
Friday 24 th Oct	Cross Trust Training Day – school closed
Mon 27 th Oct – Fri 31 st Oct	Half Term
Fri 19 th Dec	Last Day of Term
Spring Term 2026	
Mon 5 th Jan	Staff training day – school closed
Tues 6 th Jan	Spring Term Opens
Mon 16 th Feb – Fri 20 th Feb	Half Term
Fri 27 th Mar	Last day of Spring Term
Mon 30 th Mar – Fri 10 th Apr	Easter Break
Summer Term 2026	
Mon 13 th Apr	Staff training Day – school closed
Tues 14 th Apr	Summer Term Opens
Mon 4 th May	May Bank holiday
Mon 25 th May – Fri 29 th May	Half Term
Fri 17 th July	Last Day of Summer Term
Mon 20 th July	Disaggregated Training Day – school closed