

# NEWS@COM



## WELCOME!

Welcome to the first edition of our new-look News@Com! This year we will be sharing news and updates more frequently from CVC in our refreshed newsletter, which will be published each fortnight. Our aim is to give you a flavour of what has been happening in school and to share some of the many trips and

activities that have taken place. You will see that we have also included a list of upcoming events, which we hope will serve as a useful reminder each fortnight.

It certainly has been a busy first fortnight back, and I have enjoyed meeting many of your children (largely in the queue for the Buttery!). They have settled well into school life at the start of a new academic year, into new routines and new classes. Our new year 7 children have settled in exceptionally well, and we are delighted to once again have welcomed a very large cohort into the sixth form from CVC and across the Cambridgeshire area.

This year a core priority will be building on the excellent outcomes achieved by pupils in year 11 and 13 in 2025, and identifying particular groups of pupils who are at risk of underachievement. We will also continue work that began last year on redeveloping the curriculum, to ensure that it is engaging and relevant, and best meets the needs of our pupils. To support these priorities, teachers at CVC now have a fortnightly subject professional development session as part of the school day, which is designed to provide more time for collaborative planning, the moderation of work, and to support staff in developing subject-specific knowledge and pedagogy.

I look forward to meeting many of you at the various events happening in school this term, including our 'meet the SLG' events that are happening in the next two weeks. If you have not yet signed up, the deadline to do so is Sunday, and you can use this [link](#).

*Victoria Hearn, Principal.*

## Key dates for your diary

18<sup>th</sup> September: **'Parents' Meet SLG' afterschool** (all invited). 'Meet the Tutor' evening (Year 7 parents only)

19<sup>th</sup> September: Year 11 photographs

24<sup>th</sup> September: **'Parents' Meet SLG' morning** (see link to book)

30<sup>th</sup> September: **Year 11 Exam Preparation Evening** and Year 11 post-16 evening

15<sup>th</sup> October: Year 7 International Talent Evening

20-21<sup>st</sup> October: Curriculum Immersion Days

23<sup>rd</sup> October: Open Evening (**school open for pupils**) Please note the time (**5-7pm**)

24<sup>th</sup> October: Training day (**school closed**)

29<sup>th</sup> November: FRIENDS' Christmas Fayre

4<sup>th</sup> December: Year 11 Parents' Evening

11<sup>th</sup> December: Year 13 Parents' Evening

5<sup>th</sup> January 2026: Training day (**school closed**)

# SAFEGUARDING

Each year group notice board displays information to help pupils if they are worried or worried about a friend.

We also encourage pupils to look out for each other and report any concerns to a member of staff.



The Safeguarding Office is located on the main corridor between the pupil entrance and the school nurse. Members of the Safeguarding team all wear a safeguarding badge on their lanyards with the hand logo.

Members of the public can also use the 'Concerned about a child button' on the website (<https://www.combertonvc.org/parent-and-student-information/safety>).



Using the button will link you directly to the Safeguarding team and can detail your concern.

**Do reach out and REPORT!**

# ATTENDANCE

Thank you for supporting our pupils so well during their first week back. It has been fantastic to see Year 7s so enthusiastic about their new school, and to see older year groups quickly settling into learning.

Our Attendance Officer, Mrs Fox, is based in the office next to the Pupil Entrance and who you report an absence to. Mrs Gardiner is our Attendance and Family Support Worker, who is dedicated to supporting pupils who may struggle to attend lessons.



# WELLBEING

We also have a dedicated wellbeing page detailing our wellbeing support in our school. The page also signposts you to support services and apps which may help to support your child.

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

Please do take a look and please contact your child's form tutor in the first instance should you require support.

# RESULTS

## Year 11 results

We are really proud of our pupils' achievements in their GCSE results this summer.

Our pupils continued to perform well against the national picture and our results continue to be extremely stable from last year. This particular Year 11 cohort transitioned to us during the COVID pandemic and so their success showed the hard work that they put into their studies, alongside the support of parents, carers and staff.

As we reflect on our practice and look towards the future, we have a slightly different approach to interventions with our pupils (beginning in KS3 and continuing into KS4) with planned time for staff to support learning beyond the classroom.

We were also delighted to welcome record numbers of Year 11 CVC pupils back into the sixth form, where they have made a fantastic start!



## Sixth Form results

The A level and L3 BTEC results were yet again excellent for Comberton Sixth Form, and we were incredibly proud of our students and their outstanding achievements in their summer exams. Their hard work and commitment to their studies led to some truly impressive outcomes, with 92% of our students securing places at their chosen universities and an impressive 45% progressing to Oxbridge or Russell Group institutions. It was a truly exceptional year for university destinations!

As we begin the new academic year, we are delighted to welcome our largest ever cohort of Sixth Form students to Comberton who have joined us from over 25 different local, national and international colleges. It has been a pleasure to see their positive energy, ambition, and enthusiasm as they settle into their new courses and routines following two fantastic Induction Days, where they got to spend time with the sixth form team and their tutors.

**Mr. Frost, Head of Sixth Form.**

# SOCIALS & MORE!

## Duke of Edinburgh Award

On 16<sup>th</sup> September, we will hold a Teams meeting between 6-6.30pm for all parents of pupils who are interested in Duke of Edinburgh award. This is for year 9 pupils and is to launch the DofE Bronze award.

Our year 10 DofE Silver launch will be on 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 6pm, and the year 12 DofE Gold launch will also be on 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 6.30pm.

**Mr. Gordon, DofE lead and teacher of Maths.**



## Year 8 social event - end of year party!

To finish the Summer term, nearly 250 year 8s came to a Summer BBQ! Pupils arrived on the back field to enjoy food, sport, games, music, and energetic (and very entertaining!) dances led by some excellent Year 10 Sports Leaders.

We finished the year on a positive note and set the tone for a fun, busy, and exciting year 9!

Thank you to everyone who helped make it happen – and watch this space for more socials coming up!

**Ms. Burns, Assistant, Head of Year 9 and Associate member of SLG.**

## Walk for the World



In July, approximately 1400 pupils and the College staff walked the 5k route in under 100 minutes. It was fantastic to see the school coming together as a community and raise meaningful amounts of money for international causes. The total raised by our community was £2,388.56, which can make a huge difference to young children across the world to be able to access education.

It was really great to hear local residents commenting on the 'spectacle' that the walk continues to be!

**Mr. Sycamore, Deputy Head.**

# CURRICULUM IMMERSION DAYS

On Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> October all pupils in years 7 to 11 will undertake activities which are different to their normal timetable. These days are a wonderful chance to study different areas of the curriculum in greater depth and pupils gain a huge amount from them.

All pupils must continue to wear full school uniform, unless informed by an individual department, for example, pupils will wear their PE kit for PE.

The overall programme will be as follows:

**Year 7:** On one of the days, pupils will try alternative sports with the PE department and on the other day will carry out environmental based activities.

**Year 8:** On one of the days, pupils will visit Walton-On-The-Naze to complete their Geography fieldwork. On the other, they will do a variety of language and cultural activities.

**Year 9:** Pupils will undertake a variety of cross-curricular environmental work.

**Year 10:** Pupils will follow a programme of core RPE, personal development and careers activities.

**Year 11:** Those pupils studying arts/technology courses will do their practical assessments. All other pupils will undertake work with subject specialists to prepare for their mock exams, core computing activities and CPR training.



# TERM DATES

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