



At The Centre

The Centre School

End of Summer Term Newsletter

June 2026

Principal's Message

Welcome to our Centre Celebration!

We hope that you will have a hugely enjoyable visit. Please spend some time touring around and looking at the wall displays, which paint a fantastic picture of all that we do at The Centre.

Our philosophy is based on the belief that learning can and does take place in a whole range of different environments. Young people need to spend some time in the classroom, but they can transfer (back and forward) the skills that they learn in other activities e.g. weighing a fish, portioning and costing food for farm animals and reading and following instructions at the local swimming pool. We also place great importance on the development of social skills and managing your behaviour in public spaces.

This evening is a wonderful opportunity for us to celebrate the work of our students together. It is also a great opportunity to meet our excellent staff team and to ask any questions you might have.

Grab a map and plot your course around our campus. Take in the classwork on display, and our exceptional art show. Have a go at the activities in science and PE, learn more about work and careers in the Atrium and sample the catering! Our ever-popular BBQ will be serving in the garden at the front of school. Have a great evening!

Sue Raven, June 2026



It is time to apply for Local Authority transport for next year.

Whether you are returning to The Centre School or moving on to college or alternative provision, **the deadline for application is Friday 26 June 2026. See the back page for more details.**





Down on the Farm

By Richenda & Dunks

It has been another busy and successful year on the school farm, with students playing an active role in caring for the animals and helping to improve the site.

This year, we were delighted to welcome two sets of lambs to the farm, with lambs arriving in both September and February. Students thoroughly enjoyed caring for the new arrivals and learning about the responsibilities involved in looking after young livestock.

There have also been several exciting developments around the farm. New material has been fitted to the polytunnel, helping to improve our growing space, while new fencing has been erected in several areas. Students have also been involved in practical projects, including building Richenda's new wheelbarrow and our Vocational Construction students, building a new lean-to for the storage of pony equipment.

The farm continues to provide valuable opportunities for hands-on learning. Students have developed their understanding of animal welfare through activities such as sheep shearing, and gained experience of animal healthcare procedures, including worming, and identifying and treating fly strike.

We have also welcomed several new additions to the farm family. Ducklings hatched earlier in the year and have now matured, new chickens have arrived, and we have recently welcomed more runner ducklings.

One of the highlights of the year was seeing students represent the school at the TNS Christmas Spectacular in Littleport during the Christmas holidays. Students proudly showcased our sheep to members of the public and demonstrated excellent knowledge, confidence, and responsibility throughout the event.

Perhaps most importantly, it has been wonderful to see so many students become involved with farm life this year. From younger students experiencing the farm for the first time to older students taking on greater responsibility, it has been fantastic to watch their confidence, skills, and enthusiasm grow. The farm remains a valuable part of school life, providing opportunities for learning, teamwork, and personal development in a unique and rewarding environment.



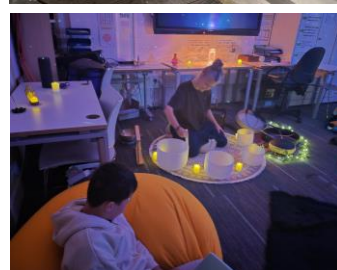


Festival Celebrations

Summer 2026

By Laura

This term's Festival Friday focused on Vesak Day, also known as Buddha Day — an important celebration for Buddhists around the world which recognises the birth, enlightenment and death of Buddha. Students took part in a wide range of exciting activities throughout the day, exploring Buddhism through science, cooking, art and mindfulness.



Science explored the fascinating topic of sky burials and the Buddhist beliefs surrounding reincarnation, leading to some thoughtful discussion and brilliant questions from students. In cooking, students worked together to create a delicious Buddha Bowl feast, experimenting with fresh ingredients, flavours and presentation skills.

During art, students designed and created beautiful mandalas, learning about their symbolism within Buddhism and practising patience, focus and creativity. Students also took part in stretching and mindfulness sessions delivered by Toria and Harlee, helping everyone slow down, relax and reflect during the busy school day.

Croxie and Hannah introduced students to the Eightfold Path — the Buddhist guide to living a positive and meaningful life. Students discussed what their own “eight goals” for life and wellbeing might look like.



Knife Angel

By Croxie

A group of fourteen students attended a knife awareness day in Ely, organised by Cambridge County Council and Cambridgeshire Police. Throughout the day, students took part in a range of workshops covering first aid, domestic violence and the impact of knife crime. They heard an inspiring talk from youth ambassador Quinton Green. They also visited the Knife Angel statue, which is made from 100,000 surrendered blades.

Our students engaged exceptionally well in all the activities, with the Air Ambulance paramedic particularly impressed by their first aid skills. The experience provided a valuable opportunity for students to reflect on the consequences of carrying knives and the long-term impact that knife crime can have on individuals, families, and communities.

Want to know more about the Knife Angel?

[Official Knife Angel Page |](#)
[The British Ironwork Centre](#)



Joan Mann Sports Day



By Stu



On Thursday 4 June, 23 students from TCS had the opportunity to attend the annual Joan Mann Special Sports Day at RAF Mildenhall. This long-standing event celebrates inclusion, community spirit, and the achievements of individuals with additional needs.

The Joan Mann Special Sports Day was established in 1981 by the Mildenhall Top III Fellowship to bring together military volunteers and children and young people with special educational needs for a day of sport, friendship, and fun.

Throughout the day, our students took part in a wide range of exciting sporting activities and friendly competitions designed to be accessible, engaging, and enjoyable for everyone. Highlights included the 100-yard dash, the ever-popular Hungry Hippos challenge, and the annual dance off, where students enthusiastically showcased their moves and cheered on their peers. These events provided opportunities for students to challenge themselves, celebrate success, and build confidence in a supportive and encouraging environment.

Beyond the sporting activities, students enjoyed a range of unique experiences made possible by RAF Mildenhall personnel. They had the chance to climb into military vehicles, try on military equipment, and even experience using night vision goggles. These hands-on activities offered a fascinating insight into military life and were a particular highlight for many of our students.

The day also included opportunities to meet friendly service animals and learn more about the work carried out by military personnel. Students were treated to a taste of American culture with a traditional lunch of American style burgers and hot dogs, generously provided by the hosts. The day was filled with excitement, laughter, teamwork, and new experiences, creating lasting memories for all who attended.

We are incredibly proud of our students for the enthusiasm, determination, and excellent behaviour they demonstrated throughout the day. We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to RAF Mildenhall and all the volunteers who worked so hard to organise such a memorable and inspiring event.

It was truly a fantastic day, and one that our students will remember for years to come.

The paddle boarding trips to Grafham Water have been a great success so far. Building water confidence was a big part of the early sessions – making sure that everyone was happy to fall in! Being able to self-rescue is a necessary skill for everyone to learn.

Next comes being able to paddle about, starting off in a kneeling position, building up to standing. Some started off on a shared board, but everyone has managed to get to a position of paddling on their own. Grafham Water is a big place and being able to paddle out and back, especially in windy conditions, has been an exciting challenge that everyone has been prepared to take on.

Probably our favourite part of the session is when we take out the mega sup which is large enough for everyone to fit on! We all clamber on board and then leap into the water to kick start the world-renowned ‘wobble off championship’!

We would like to say big thanks to the staff at Grafham Water for supporting our sessions.



Apply for School Transport

If you've not already applied for home to school transport for the school year 2026/27, do it now!
The deadline for application is Friday 26 June.

If you don't get your application in on or before Friday 26 June, there is no guarantee that your child's home to school transport will be in place for the start of the new school year.

Pre-16 Form For all students going into Years 7 to 11 at TCS	Pre 16 SEN application form - Instructions and Data Protection - Cambridgeshire County Council website
Post-16 Form For all students going into Year 12 and above at TCS or for students going to College/Alternative provision	Post 16 SEN application form - Instructions and Data Protection - Cambridgeshire County Council website

The Cambridgeshire County Council website has a page dedicated to School Transport
[School transport | Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

For Post-16 applications, it's important to note that a range of eligibility criteria will be considered. If you are 'fully eligible' then free post-16 travel will be offered. If you are not 'fully eligible' you may be required to pay a contribution towards the cost of home to school transport. For 2026/27 the contribution you will have to make is £280 per term.



Key Dates

Fri 19 June	Staff Training Day - school closed to students
Fri 3 July	Staff Training Day - school closed to students
Thu 16 July	TCS Games & Sports Day
Fri 17 July	TCS Aqua Park Trip
Mon 20 July	Final day of the school year Early finish, taxis will collect students from 11.50am
Tue 1 September	Staff Training Day - school closed to students
Wed 2 September	Staff Training Day - school closed to students
Thu 3 September	Autumn Term Home Visits (you will be contacted by one of our team on Tue 1 September to confirm a time that suits)
Fri 4 September	Students return to school to start the new school year