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Head's lines...

How can we be well over a month into the new academic year already? All the children are now feeling very settled into their new classes and are fully immersed in the variety of learning experiences being offered across the curriculum. Having a whole school topic 'Under the Sea' for the first time has created a real buzz throughout the school.

I know that each class offered transition meetings, outlining the day to day arrangements in class and details of topics and class timetables. I am sure you found these useful – copies of the class newsletters, as with all major communication, are on the website for you to refer back to.

It has been lovely getting to know the children, and parents, who have joined us this year in Nursery and Reception. We hope you already feel part of the Camp School Community. Again it is hard to believe but I have just completed my first admission tour today for potential new parents to Reception next September!

I received a wonderful cheque for £10,000 from Meg Bellingham and Andi Yoxall on behalf of the PA just before the AGM. School is so grateful for this support which will go towards the new library furniture we have chosen. I am also pleased that a new committee have come forward full of enthusiasm and ideas to take forward.

You will have noticed some new gates appearing down the side walkway into school. This is the first stage in a project to open up and develop the outside learning space for both Nursery and Reception. New tarmac will follow and then playground markings and equipment to provide more fun hands-on learning opportunities.

We are looking forward to welcoming you all in to school this week for parent consultation meetings where the teachers will be able to share not only how the children have settled into new classes but also the progress we are already seeing being made.

In the meantime fingers crossed for better weather tomorrow for the seaside trip!

With very best wishes - **Sharon Barton**

Important Dates:

Tuesday 16 th October	Y3 & 4 trip to Southend
Wednesday 17 th &	Parent consultations
Thursday 18 th October	
Monday 29 th October to	Half Term
Friday 2 nd November	
Monday 5 th November	School Photographs
27 th & 28 th November	Y1 & 2 production
Friday 14 th December	EYFS performance
Tuesday 18 th December	Panto trip for Rec – Y6
Thursday 20 th December	Christmas Dinner
Thursday 20 th December	Nursery end of term
Friday 21 st December	End of Term @ 1.30pm

The school council are working this term on the new library project as well as trying to improve wet play resources for each class. If you have any board or card games, in good condition, that you feel would work well for wet play please do let us have them to use in school. Thank you

Positions of responsibility

At the start of each year the children in Year 6 put themselves forward for some of the leadership responsibilities available. They either have to deliver a speech or write an application letter stating why they believe they are the best person for the job.

Congratulations go to our newly elected President and Vice President of the School Council – Tom C and Megan. I know both of you are excited about the year ahead and with the representatives for this term have planned lots to keep us very busy.

Congratulations too to Sophie and Stanley, our Bronze sporting ambassadors and Eliza and Charlie W our Health ambassadors. Training for these roles was completed last week at the University of Hertfordshire and I am sure you will all lead the Sports Council well in the year ahead.



#passonplastic

As part of our whole school topic "Under the Sea" we are focusing on the issue of plastic pollution in our seas and oceans. The children are learning about the enormous impact plastic is having on the health of the oceans and the sea life in lessons.

At Camp we would like the whole school community to think of ways to reduce the use of single use plastic in school and at home.

Members of Eco Committee visited The Refill Pantry in St Albans where they were shown how customers can bring in containers and fill them up with items such as pasta, rice, pulses, oils etc. The shop also sells other items such as lunchboxes made out of recycled materials and alternative products to cling film.

Take a look at this website to see if there are any ways you can reduce the amount of plastic you use at home.

<https://lessplastic.co.uk/9-tips-living-less-plastic/>

Further events this Autumn Term:

A whole school non uniform day where children can dress up as a sea creature. Prizes given for the most innovative and eco friendly.

A family pledge to reduce the use of plastic

A chance to look at some of the work on "Under The Sea"

Well done to our football and netball teams who have started playing the first of a number of fixtures coming up over the next few weeks. They both had an exceptional day last Thursday - winning both matches at school. Your help in transporting the children and of course cheering them on is much appreciated.

Our running club is ever popular and the children have already represented the school well in their first cross-country event at Colney Heath School and are off this week to Fleetville. Well done to all those who took part.

Road safety

Road safety continues to be an important issue for us to discuss with the children and parents in our school community. We were pleased to offer sessions for Reception and Year 1 recently in school where they were given some clear messages to 'Stop, Listen, think' before you cross the road and also to hold an adults hand when crossing - messages that they could recall and inform me about some 2 weeks later. They all got to practice crossing the road too - even though it was in the classroom!



Schools in Bloom

We were very pleased as a school to receive the first place award for Vibrant Vegetables in the Schools in Bloom annual awards ceremony. The judges rewarded the school for growing a variety of vegetables which currently includes some impressive pumpkins! We were also runners up in wonderful wildlife category. As well as framed certificates we have won some useful equipment for the allotment that will I'm sure be put to very good use.

Thanks to all the children who take part in the growing and watering at the allotments and the adults that support them so well. Our pupils are pictured below with the Mayor of the City and District of St Albans, Councillor, Rosemary Farmer



Reminders:

Please can all children have their PE kits in school every day.

Please always use the side entrance at the start and end of each day.

Thank you