Camp Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL1 5PG Tel: 01727 851056 Email: admin@camp.herts.sch.uk www.camp.herts.sch.uk

Gold Class – Autumn Term Newsletter 2025

Dear Reception Parents and Carers,

Welcome to all our new Reception children and parents and welcome back to those who were in our nursery last year. We hope that you had a good summer and are ready for the exciting year ahead of us.
The children have settled in beautifully and we are so proud of their independence in the mornings.

The Reception team are:
Mrs Trollope - Class Teacher Monday and Wednesday (all day) Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings.
Mrs Jaques-Mowat - Class Teacher Monday, Thursday and Friday afternoons.
Mrs Burke Adams - Classroom Assistant
Mrs Crichton - Classroom Assistant
Mr Peter - Classroom Assistant
Natasha - Classroom Assistant

Curriculum focus
Our theme for this term is 'Knowing me, knowing you' where we will be getting to know each other and talking about ourselves and our lives. We will learn about our families, our traditions, our likes and dislikes. Our activities will be based on the children's interests. We will find out about our school, its history and the people who work here. We will learn about where we live, our houses, our town and our country.
We will also be learning about Autumn, Harvest, Diwali, Hanukkah and Christmas. If you have any resources or books that can support the children's learning, please do let us know.

PSHCE (Personal, social and health and citizenship education) sessions this term will focus on settling in, being independent and how we are feeling. After half term there will be a focus on 'Showing Kindness'.

Religious Education
We will be learning about Christianity and Islam this term following the Hertfordshire agreed syllabus of R.E.

Phonics
In Reception we will be learning our sounds every day, following a scheme called Time for Phonics (please see link below) based on the programme Letters and Sounds. The children will learn up to 4 sounds every week. The sounds of the week will be announced via a sticker in their reading records. We would like the children to bring in items from home beginning with those sounds to talk about and display on our sound table.

Books
Children will bring home a library book once a week to share with you at home. These books will be changed on a Friday. Please send your child's book bag every day as there may be other things such as letters or pictures to be sent home.

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PE
PE this term will usually be on Monday and Wednesday. However, please ensure your child has their PE kit in school every day. Most children leave them on their pegs until half term when they will be sent home for washing.

Buddies
In Reception each child has a buddy from Year 5. The buddies have been helping the children at lunch time both in the dining room and outside. The Reception children and the Year 5 children really enjoy buddies and will have a chance to meet up every Friday.

Building Blocks
As you may be aware, we will be offering Building blocks sessions. These sessions give you an opportunity to learn about how and what your child is learning in Reception such as, the way we teach reading and writing through phonics as well as other areas of the curriculum. The sessions will take place in our Community Room situated next to our classroom. You will have a chance to learn alongside your child for part of the morning, but we regret that no crèche facilities are available for younger siblings.
You will be invited to three, two hour sessions. Dates to be confirmed.

Craft and Cooking Contribution
To help us provide and replenish craft and cooking resources this term, we are asking for a voluntary contribution of £5. Payment can be made on Arbor. Thank you.

Other contributions
We are always on the lookout for small cardboard boxes and other recyclable materials including buttons, ribbons, paper and card. We gratefully welcome these at any time in the term.

Tapestry
Tapestry is an app that we use to share photos and information about school life. In the next few weeks you will receive information about how to download the app and login to access your children's information.

Reminders
Things to be left in school:
P.E kit and a bag with spare clothes to be left on their peg.
Please name all items of clothing.

Things they will need every day (which should all be named):
Book bag
A waterproof coat, a pair of wellies (which can be left at school or taken home).
Water bottle

Dates:
Parent Consultations 11th & 12th February 2026 (Further information nearer the time)
Please see our website for other school dates and events.

Yours sincerely

Aimee Trollope, Mrs Jaques-Mowat and the Reception team