Camp Primary and Nursery School St Albans
Bringing learning to life

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

September 2025

Year 1 – Red Class Newsletter – Autumn Term 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the new term and a new school year. The children have settled back into school incredibly well and have made a fantastic start to learning in Year 1. We are really looking forward to supporting them with their learning and development this year. The Year 1 teaching team this year is being led by Ms Sultan (Monday to Wednesday) & Mrs Ridge (Wednesday to Friday) and they will be supported by Mrs Downey, Beccy, Jameelah and Mrs Milton.
We have a busy term ahead, so here is some key information about the learning topics we have to look forward to.

Curriculum
Having completed the Early Years Foundation Stage, the children in Year 1 follow the National Curriculum which, for Key Stage 1, consists of English (including phonics), maths, science, design and technology, history, geography, art and design, music, physical education (PE) and computing. We also teach PSHCE (personal, social, health, citizenship and economic education). Each term we tend to have a key topic which brings together learning in lots of the different subject areas. This term we will be learning about maps and the Continents, Climates & weather as well looking at the theme of 'Old and New' which will include learning about how to identify things that are from the past and present day. The **Medium-Term Overview** provides more details about the focus areas for each subject this term.

We have started the year with a focus on PSHCE and 'settling into learning'. We have identified the features of a happy classroom and spent time revisiting our golden rules and how important kindness, respect, trying our best and keeping safe are.

Morning routines
Please encourage your child to independently enter the classroom, choose their lunch and add their name on the lunch board in the cloakroom. The lunch menu is available on the school website here should you wish to take a look and prepare your child for the day's menu. If your child is having packed lunch, please be aware that we encourage the children to keep any rubbish in their lunchbox and bring it home with them. This is so that packaging can be recycled at home and so that you can see how much your child has eaten.

Homework & Reading Books
All children are expected to bring their reading books and Reading records to school every day and should be reading at home to an adult or older sibling regularly. Please write a brief note in your child's reading record to let us know how they are getting on with their book. It is ok to re-read the same book a few times as this helps develop fluency in reading. Books will be changed once a week. We will listen to your child read on a 1:1 basis or in guided reading sessions. Your child will move up a reading level whenever we find that they are making sufficient progress.

As well as reading at home, homework will be set once a week. We will collect homework books on a Tuesday and return them with new homework on Thursday. In line with our homework policy, home learning will focus on reading, spelling and maths skills. From time to time it may also include an activity from another area of the curriculum. As they will usually need your help to access this it will often include something to show or talk to you about. Please encourage your child to

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complete their homework to the best of their ability and to return it on time. Homework should take no more than 20 minutes to complete.

Library
The class will have the opportunity to visit the main school Library on Tuesdays. If your child would like their book changed, please ensure it is in their book bag. There may be occasions that the library is otherwise in use but we will endeavour to offer changes as soon as possible if this is the case.

PE Kits
This year we will be asking children to come to school in their PE kits on PE days (Mondays and Thursdays). The school PE kit consists of a white t-shirt with the Camp School logo, black shorts or jogging bottoms and trainers. Children are permitted to wear their school jumper on top as the weather will be getting colder. Long hair must be tied back and no items of jewellery are to be worn on PE days.

Clothing and other items
The children will be doing some of their learning outside daily in all but severe weather. It is therefore important they all come with a waterproof, warm coat daily (hats, gloves, etc.) and sun hats for hot days. Wellies are needed as the weather gets wetter; we have a fair amount of muddy puddles to enjoy on the main playground. These items, as well as PE kits and all uniform items worn to school, **should all have your child's name clearly on the label**. If your child is likely to have occasional toilet accidents please do let us know and provide a spare pair of pants/socks/trousers. We suggest that children with long hair wear it tied back for school so that it doesn't get in their way during learning activities.

Snack and milk
Please make sure that your child always has a water bottle in school filled with **water** only each day. We help children top these up when needed. Milk is ordered ahead of the term starting. At morning play, the children are offered a piece of fruit which is provided by the fruit for schools initiative and is free of charge.

Craft and cooking contributions
We would like to ask for a voluntary contribution of £5 towards cooking and craft that we will be offering children during active learning this term. Please pay on Arbor if you would like to make a contribution.
We also welcome donations of craft resources such as small boxes, card tubes, straws, sequins, buttons, ribbon, wrapping paper, envelopes, wool and small pieces of fabric (fat quarters).

Birthday celebrations
At Camp, we do not allow sweets to be shared for birthday celebrations but we celebrate the children's birthdays during special birthday assemblies which take place fortnightly on a Monday. In the assembly, your child will sit at the front, blow out some birthday candles along with others celebrating that week and will also be given a birthday book to keep (courtesy of Camp PA).

Communication
The best time to catch us for a quick conversation is at the end of the day, but of course we know that sometimes you will need to pass on an urgent message in the morning. Should you have any concerns you wish to discuss in more detail we can schedule a time to talk so that we have the

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time needed to address these properly. Please do come to us (or send an email via the office) with any concerns or questions.

We look forward to a fabulous year ahead with this lovely class.

INSET and Occasional Days for the next academic year:
Monday 5th & Tuesday 6th January
Monday 23rd February
Friday 26th June
Thursday 23rd July

Key Dates:
Class drop ins – Wednesday 17th September 3:25-4pm
Parent Consultations – 22nd/23rd October
Half Term – 27th – 31st October

Best wishes,

Ms Sultan, Mrs Ridge and the Year 1 team