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

Year 1 – Red Class Newsletter – Spring Term 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the new term and a new year. Thank you very much to all of you for the lovely gifts for the Year 1 team at Christmas. The children have settled back into school and are ready for their learning. We have a busy term ahead, so here is some information about the learning topics we have to look forward to.

Curriculum
This term we will be learning about St Albans and ourselves. In History, we will learn about the key events in our own lives so far and sequence these chronologically. We will learn what a timeline is and will make our own timelines of our lives. We will also learn about the life of a local person: Samuel Ryder. In geography, we will be making maps of our school and local area.

We would like to invite some parents/carers to talk about their career / work life, which links with our PSHCE topic this term - 'Learning to Learn for the Future'. If you are interested in coming in, then please do get in touch.

The Medium Term Overview provides more details about the curriculum areas for this term.

Homework, Reading Books & Library
In terms of reading, 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. It is essential that you make a note or initial in the reading record so we can keep a note of when and how often the children are reading at home and so that we know they are ready to change their book. We read with each child from their reading books each week so we need them here daily. On Tuesdays and Wednesdays, we have some lovely parent volunteers reading with each child in turn. It is suggested to re-read the same book a few times as this helps develop fluency in reading. We will continue to change books at least once a week (usually Tuesday and/or Friday) but if your child is ready for a new book then they can change it as often as required. Additionally, if you let any of the Year 1 team know that they need a new book then (provided it has been read at home) we will make that our priority to change it that day.

As well as reading at home, homework will continue to be set once a week. We will collect homework books on Tuesdays and return them on Friday. Please encourage your child to complete their homework to the best of their ability and to return it on time.

The class will continue to 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 on the day.

PE Kits
We will still have PE on Mondays and Thursdays so please send your child in wearing their kits on these days. PE kits should include the Camp School PE top or a white t-shirt, black shorts/tracksuit trousers, and a pair of plimsolls/trainers to change into. During the school day the class will complete the daily mile (for Year 1, one lap) on the school's running track. During the winter weather, you may wish to also send a spare pair of pants and socks. The playground can get muddy/slippery in winter and spares to change into, from the PE kit, would be helpful.

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We do keep a few spares clothes in school too - we're happy to hand these out when needed but would really appreciate these coming back in again at a later date.

Cold Weather and outside learning
The children will still 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.)**. If your child doesn't already have a pair of wellies at school, please send some in with your child. 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**. We wish to remind you that children with long hair should always wear it tied back for school so that it doesn't get in their way during learning activities.

Craft resources and contributions
Please could we ask for a voluntary contribution of £5 for craft and cooking resources. Please arrange to pay this on Arbor - thank you.
Any other resources for our craft area will be gratefully received too! We would love items such as buttons, beads, ribbon, wool, wrapping paper, small fabric squares, small card boxes/tubes, sticky tape, string, pom poms, CD's, feathers and straws.

Communication
As before, 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 are happy to schedule a time to talk so that we have the 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 the term ahead.

Best wishes,

The Year 1 team