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

Year 2 – Purple Class Newsletter – Spring Term 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! We wanted to say thank you once again for all of our lovely gifts that were given at Christmas, you are all very kind - thank you. Welcome back to the Spring Term! The children have settled back into their routines brilliantly and are already making a great start to this term's learning. We have a busy term ahead, so below is some key information about the learning we have to look forward to.

Curriculum focus

We will be finishing our learning on the Great Fire of London, building on pupils' understanding of past and present. To support this, the local fire brigade will visit the school on 2nd March to talk to the children about how fire safety and firefighting has changed over time. They will also bring a fire engine for the children to see, helping them make real-life connections between historical events and modern services. This term we have a Geography focus and we will be looking at the city of Sylhet in Bangladesh and comparing it with St Albans. We will be identifying the geographical differences between the two locations and will also explore the similarities and differences between our own lives and those of children living in Sylhet. Linking with this, in History, we will learn about migration and the reasons why some people might have migrated to the UK. We will learn about the Bangladeshi community within St Albans as well as the Windrush Generation. Our science this term will be very hands-on as we identify and compare the suitability of different everyday materials, for particular uses. We will also explore how the shapes of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching.

As always, we do love having visitors in our Year 2 class - if any family member (parent or grandparent, aunt or uncle) has migrated to St Albans from another part of the UK, or from further afield (a different country, or even continent) and would be happy to come and talk to the class about why they chose to migrate to St Albans and how this location differs from where they grew up, they would be very welcome. Or if your family has an interesting story to tell about how they found themselves in England / St Albans (even in generations past), then we would love to hear from you - even pictures of St Albans from days gone by would be so helpful to our learning. Thank you in advance - do come and speak to any one of us or feel free to email Mrs Browne.

The **Medium-Term Overview** provides further information about everything we will be doing this term and please do not hesitate to ask if you have any questions.

Reading

All reading books will continue to be changed throughout the week so please ensure that they are in their bookbags every day, as the specific day can vary. Before moving them to the next level, we will check that the children have 95% fluency on their current level, which means they should be able to read the book easily. The books that the children bring home to read should not be a challenge for them. This builds reading confidence and we provide more teaching and challenge in our weekly guided reading sessions which will stretch children further. In our guided reading sessions, we focus on decoding texts, but we are also working on language development and comprehension skills. The children will also have the opportunity to change their library books

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throughout the week, therefore please ensure the library books are in their bookbags every day. Ideally, we would like the children to be reading daily at home, either with an adult or older sibling.

Homework
As well as reading at home, homework will be set once a week and will usually come home on a Thursday or Friday. 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. Homework should take no more than 20-30 minutes so please do not spend longer than this. Please return it to the homework tray by the following **Wednesday (but it can come in earlier)** to give us time to look at it before sending the books home again - more information on homework is in the front of the homework books. We have added the children's log in details for their google classrooms to the front of their homework books in case for any reason we have to teach remotely - learning will be set in their google classroom (e.g. in case of bad weather etc. - a separate letter was sent out about this last week); hopefully they will not be needed.

PE Kits
Our PE days will continue to be on **Mondays** and **Fridays**. Children will be required to come into school wearing their PE kits on those days. This 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 2, two laps) on the school's running track - but they do not need to be in a PE kit for this. Monday lessons will mostly be indoors and Friday lessons will mostly be outdoors for this term. As we are now well into winter, please make sure children have a jumper to wear outside for PE (school jumper / plain black or navy) - and please make sure these are named. Additional layers are also needed some weeks - thermal vest or additional fleece jacket under a coat, hats and gloves are also needed when it is cold. Similarly, please send children with appropriate coats and outwear. These should also be named.

Craft and cooking contribution
We would like to ask for a voluntary contribution of £5 towards cooking and craft activities that we have planned for this term. We ask that parents make this payment on Arbor please. Thank you.

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

Best wishes,
Miss Begum and Mrs Browne
The Year 2 Team