Camp Primary and Nursery School St Albans

Bringing learning to life

Heads' Newsletter

20th March 2026

Welcome

Eid Mubarak to all of our families who are celebrating — we look forward to marking this special occasion with the children in school on Monday, as outlined in our previous letter home. Thank you also for your generous donations to our Ramadan foodbank collection; your support is greatly appreciated.

It has been another busy and exciting fortnight, with highlights including a wonderful music concert, Red Nose Day fundraising activities led by the School Council (please click here to donate online), a successful book fair, Year 6's visit to the fire station, and Year 5's class assembly exploring life as a Victorian child, alongside sporting success for our netballers.

A reminder that school will finish for the end of term next Friday at 1.30pm (please note there will be no Nursery on Friday).

New school menu

Our school menu will be changing after the Easter break. Please follow the link to see the new menu, which is on the school website.

Meal prices will also be changing after the Easter break. As it approaching the end of the financial year our school meal provider, Herts Catering Ltd, has let us know about their price changes and we have updated our lunch charges in line with this.

From 13th March lunches for children in years 3-6 will cost £3.60 per day.

Staffing update

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Alison Farragher back to school following her maternity leave, as she resumes her role as SENCo. As part of a planned handover, Mrs Helen Giffen, who has been our Acting SENCo this year, will continue to support our pupils in Nursery & Reception in this capacity, while also teaching in Year 3 on Thursday mornings and all day Friday. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Mrs Giffen for her dedication and hard work as Acting SENCo, and also to Mrs Alger for her valuable support during this time. Mrs Alger will be stepping back from this role upon Mrs Farragher's return. We are very grateful for all their contributions.

School Council Tuck Shop

Congratulations to our School Council for their hard work in setting up and running the tuck shop this term. It has been incredibly popular, with many children from Years 1–6 enjoying visiting the tuck shop on Wednesday mornings at breaktime. Some of the most popular items so far have included seaweed, Mini Cheddars and fruit smoothies. Due to its resounding success, the newly appointed School Council representatives for the summer term will be continuing to run the tuck shop next term. We will write to families again next week with updated costings, following a review based on the most popular items sold.

Netball

In the last week, the school netball team has taken part in two netball tournaments at Samuel Ryder Academy and performed amazingly at both events with remarkedly similar results.

On Saturday 14th March, the A netball team, consisting of Amara, Eabha, Elliana, Evie, Idris, Lottie, Maggie, Olivia and Phoebe L, played brilliantly. They finished top of their group after winning four matches and only losing one. This meant the team qualified for the semi-finals where they lost in extra time and then only lost the third/fourth play-off to local rivals Windermere due to a golden goal after the scores remained level in extra time.

The Year 5 team also finished top of their group at the tournament on Tuesday 17th March after winning all four of their matches. History then repeated itself, as the Year 5 team then lost their semi-final and also their third/fourth play-off match.

Fourth place finishes for both teams were incredible achievements given they played against larger St Albans schools in the two tournaments. We were incredibly proud of how well both teams played and the progress that all players have made in the last few months. Much of this improvement is due to the extra netball sessions that the players have taken part in on Friday afternoons and we are very grateful to the Year 5 mums who have kindly given up their time to run these sessions. Thank you.

Mr Wootton

Year 5 Netball Team

Book fair success

Thank you to everyone who came along and purchased books from our book fair this week. We sold over £700 worth of books which meant we had £290 to spend on books to go into our library. The librarians helped to select books across different age ranges and will be getting them ready to go into the library for children to read next week.

Year 3 'Joy of moving' sessions

This half term we have had two coaches from Watford FC CSE Trust come and do an array of different activities with us every Friday. It is called 'the joy of moving' programme and my goodness, did we move! We learned lots of ball skills, how to work with partners and then in teams passing and throwing the ball. Today we have done lots of dribbling and playing as a team with the football. We also completed a booklet all about the benefits for our bodies and minds of doing physical activities, how to eat well and how to stay hydrated in a healthy way. Thank you for organising this for us Mr. Wootton, we really enjoyed it!

Mrs Du Plessis

Year 6 trip to Fire Station

Last Thursday, Year 6 went to St Albans Fire Station to take part in the Crucial Crew scheme, run by the local Community Safety Partnership, which includes Herts Constabulary, Herts Fire & Rescue and other voluntary organisations. Crucial Crew aims to help children assess the risks and dangers of everyday activities and learn to act accordingly. The children walked to and from the Fire Station and spent the session engaged in eight different scenarios where they had to assess and discuss the risks linked to issues such as: people offering them drugs, dealing with their emotions, road safety and safety around electricity, 'lives not knives', vaping, objects that could cause a fire in your house, how to help unconscious people and water safety.

The sessions involved watching videos, talking with firefighters and police officers, role play and detective work, and putting into practise some new skills such as how to put a person into the recovery position. It was a really enjoyable afternoon, the class also saw fire engines returning back to the station and enjoyed some delicious cookies during the trip.

Mr Wootton

Year 6 at Crucial Crew

Music concerts Years 1-6

On Thursday 19th March 2026 the school had the pleasure of listening to a fantastic spring concert. There were 40 pianists and 2 flautists across the whole school from Year 1 to Year 6 who all played beautifully. Year 4 performed 'Marry You' as a class ukulele band! We would like to say a big thank you to Cynthia Millinger who teaches all of the piano and flute students.

Miss Charnock

"*I really liked hearing all the different songs played on the piano and I was really impressed how well the pianists knew what to play*" Caroline, Year 5

Year 5 Class Assembly

On Thursday last week, Year 5 performed their class assembly telling the story of a group of school children visiting a museum all about the Victorians. With the press of a button, each scene in the museum came to life to share details of key points in Victorian history. This included the life of a rich family and the servants and workers in their house, experiences of poor children during this time taking on dangerous jobs or living on the streets and a Victorian school scene with a very strict teacher!

The children performed brilliantly, saying their lines clearly and remembering all the words to the songs.

Miss Rowlatt

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Dates for your diary

MARCH

Tues 24th - Year 4 Performance 9:15am
Wed 25th - Choir concert at Alban Arena 6:45pm
Thurs 26th - Nursery End of term
Thurs 26th - Year 4 Performance 6pm
Thurs 27th - End of term 1:30pm

APRIL

Mon 13th - Start of summer term
Fri 17th - Sat 18th - Year 4 school sleepover
Wed 29th - Years 1 & 5 trip to Kew gardens (more info to follow)

MAY

Mon 4th - Bank holiday (school closed)
Wed 6th - Online safety workshops for KS2
Wed 20th - Y6 journey parent briefing 6-7pm
Mon 25th - Fri 29th - Half term (school closed)

JUNE

Sun 7th - Wed 10th - Year 6 school journey
Tues 15th - Wuka period talks for Y5 and Y6 girls (more info to follow)
Fri 26th - INSET (school closed)

JULY

Tues 21st - Nursery end of term
Wed 22nd - End of term 1:30pm finish

Please note that the return to school in both September 2026 and September 2027 will be on 2nd September. In both years, 1st September will be an INSET day, and school will be closed to pupils.

Lunchtime craft activities run by Helen Maher, Site Manager

Lunchtime play

Enhancing our play provision throughout school has been a focus as part of our School Development Plan. This has included purchasing the play crates, boombox, and other new play equipment, with the help of your generous contributions, as well as donations of dressing up equipment, which the children love.

Some of the children told us what they like best about lunchtime play.

"Playing with my buddy" Liberty, Reception

"I like dancing to the music on the playground because it sometimes has my favourite songs" Sadie, Year 5

"I love to go in the library, there is something different every day and new people too" Vera, Year 5

"Everything!" Marianne, Year 3

Year 3's top choices were dressing up, playing football, making up shows and racing on the field.

Kind regards,
Sharon Barton & Rachel Rowe
Head Teachers