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

Reception - Gold Class Newsletter - Summer 26

Dear Reception Parents and Carers,

We are so pleased to have you all back after the holidays and the children are settling back into their Reception routines. We have already kicked off the new term with our five miles in five days which has been lovely in the sunny weather and the children have shown real perseverance.

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

Curriculum focus
Our theme for this term is 'The Great Outdoors' and we have some exciting adventures ahead in Reception! Over the coming weeks, we will be focusing on how to keep our bodies and minds in tip-top shape. The children will be learning about:

- **Healthy Habits:** Discovering the types of food that give us "superpower" energy and why a balanced plate is so important.
- **Active Bodies:** We will explore how exercise makes our hearts strong and our bodies flexible through plenty of outdoor play and movement.
- **Brilliant Brushes:** We will take a deep dive into dental hygiene, practicing the best ways to keep our teeth pearly white and healthy.

As the weather warms up, our focus will move towards the wonderful world of nature. Later this term, we will be diving into:

- **Minibeast Missions:** Identifying the tiny creatures that live in our garden, from wriggly worms to busy bees.
- **Habitats:** Learning about where these creatures live and why they choose their specific "hotels" and homes.
- **Summer Sensations:** Celebrating the change in seasons, exploring the sun, shadows, and how the world around us transforms during the summertime.

You can support this learning by encouraging those two-minute tooth-brushing sessions! On your walks to school, keep an eye out for any interesting bugs or blossoms to help spark your child's curiosity for our upcoming nature unit.

PSHCE
Alongside our physical health and nature studies, we will be following the school **PSHCE scheme of work** to help the children grow as confident, kind, and resilient individuals. Over the coming weeks, we will be focusing on:

- **Becoming Caring Citizens:** The children will explore what it means to be a helpful member of their family, our school, and the wider community.

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- **Kind Choices & Teamwork:** We will be practicing how to work together effectively, making positive choices that support our friends and classmates.
- **Building Resilience:** To support further independence and perseverance, we will be developing strategies to tackle challenges head-on—such as during our upcoming **5 miles in 5 days challenge!**
- **Valuing Ourselves and Others:** We will help the children see themselves as valuable individuals while building respectful relationships. A key focus will be learning how to express their own feelings while considering the perspectives of others.

You can support this development by encouraging your child to take on small "independent" tasks at home or by discussing how they showed kindness during their school day. We are so excited to see their confidence grow as they take on these new challenges!

Phonics
In phonics this term, we will be focussing on phase 4 which is all about decoding simple four letter words e.g. camp, drum, sand. We will also be revising phase 2 and phase 3. You should have received a phase 2 and 3 sound mat to practise at home.

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. The children's reading books are changed on a Monday. Keep reading sessions short and engaging with your child and when you have heard them read please write a short comment in their reading record book.

PE
PE this term will usually be on Monday and Thursday. 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. As part of the Early Learning Goals children should be able to get changed independently so please ensure your child gets a chance to practise this at home. Even being able to take their jumper off independently really helps.

Buddies
In Reception, each child has a buddy from Year 5. The Reception children and the Year 5 children really enjoy being buddies and playing together during lunch time and in their buddy time on a Friday afternoon.

Building Blocks
Building Blocks sessions will continue this term with a focus on maths. These sessions give you an opportunity to learn about how and what your child is learning in maths in Reception. 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. Dates for these sessions will be confirmed next week.

Craft and Cooking Contribution
To help us provide and replenish craft and cooking resources this term, we are asking for a voluntary contribution of £6.00. Payment can be made on Arbor>Trips>Craft & Cookery Reception Summer 26. Thank you.

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Tapestry
We update Tapestry once a week with a snapshot of the children's learning from across the week. This gives you an opportunity to see their learning in action and use it as a conversation starter with them at home.

Reminders
Things to be left in school:
PE kit and a bag with spare clothes to be left on their peg.
Please name all items of clothing.
On sunnier days, please ensure your child comes to school with sun cream applied and a sun hat.

Things they will need every day:
Book bag
A waterproof coat, a pair of wellies (which can be left at school or taken home).
Water bottle with water in (not juice)

This term we also start to think about the transition from Reception into Year 1. There are lots of things we do to help the children's transition feel as smooth as possible including visits to their new classroom, stories and chats with their new teachers, reflecting on our year together and looking forward to what they might be learning in Year 1. To help this transition you may want to start saying goodbye to your child at the door in the mornings and allowing them to choose their lunch, put their coat and their things on their pegs independently.

Key Dates:
Our class assembly is Thursday 30th April at 9:10am. We will be sharing our most recent learning with you all.

Yours sincerely

Aimee Trollope, Mrs Jacques-Mowat and the Reception team