Camp Primary and Nursery School St Albans

Bringing learning to life

Heads' Newsletter

1st May 2026

Welcome

It has been lovely to welcome everyone back to school for the summer term and the children have quickly settled into their learning. It has also been good to have some sunny lunchtimes to enjoy - with the blossom on the cherry tree looking absolutely stunning over the last week.

The summer term is always a busy one with lots to look forward to. Class newsletters went home last Friday with some class specific information and an overview of the learning for the term. We will keep you up to date on other whole school events through newsletters, emails and the school calendar.

Thank you to those parents who came in for the first maths workshop this morning with Mrs Du Plessis - we hope you found it both helpful and entertaining!

Reception Class Assembly

On Thursday Reception Class shared their learning with the rest of the school and their families.

The children did some lovely, confident singing including their good morning and goodbye songs. They also signed their favourite book, 'Lost and found' by Oliver Jeffers.

Everyone enjoyed seeing their work on writing instructions about good tooth brushing and they had created beautiful pictures of blossom trees.

Well done Reception Class!

Early Years 5 mile challenge

We are incredibly proud of our EYFS children, who successfully ran 5 miles over 5 days to raise money for our outdoor area. Their determination and resilience were truly inspiring, and they approached the challenge with great enthusiasm each day. We are so thankful for the generous support and money raised, which will go towards enhancing our outdoor provision. We are very much looking forward to purchasing new resources that will enrich the children's learning and play experiences.

Reminder - Absence notifications

Illness: we would like to remind all families of the importance of informing the School Office when your child is absent and of providing a brief explanation for the absence, including the nature of any illness / symptoms; e.g. fever, sickness. In order to authorise the absence we need more detail than just saying that they are unwell/poorly/not in today.

Medical appointments: these should be made outside of the school day or during the school holidays, unless this is unavoidable. If you do need to request time out of school for your child to attend an appointment, please do so via the school office including wherever possible some evidence of the appointment.

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Years 1 & 5 trip to Kew Gardens

To support their learning in Art and Science for Year 1 and Geography for Year 5, both classes took a trip to Kew gardens on Wednesday. As part of engaging with their topics, each class had a workshop to - Year 5 about Biomes and Year 1 about Colour and Seasons.

They had beautiful weather, and although they walked a very long way the children were fantastic all day.

The highlights were the (very high) treetop walk and seeing the Titan Arum in bloom - it only happens for 2 days each year! Everyone really enjoyed the day and the children were very well behaved. Year 1 kept an eye out for the peacock all day, but he was nowhere to be seen.

Evie: I really liked it when we went on the treetop walkway. My favorite part up there was when we could see the city peaks.

Danila: It was really awesome to go to Kew Gardens because I really wanted to see the stinky plant! Also, we were very lucky to see the stinky plant because it only blooms for 2-3 days a year.

Lorcan: I enjoyed going to Kew Gardens because I loved learning about all of the plants.

Emilia: I really enjoyed exploring around the conservatories and I enjoy the treetop walkway.

Zareen: I enjoyed climbing up onto the Treetop walkway because I really liked how you could see all the trees.

Safiyyah: I liked The Hive because in the middle it was made of glass and you could see people below you and wave at them.

Henry: I liked exploring all the different trees and plants. I learnt that the Jade vine was pollinated by bats. I also enjoyed the treetop walkway because it was really high.

Dylan K: My favourite part was in the Palm House when we walked up the steps. It was a lot hotter and more humid at the top.

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'My Screen and Me' online safety workshops for KS2

Next Wednesday 6th May, years 3 to 6 will each be having a 1 hour online safety workshop led by the organisation Papaya. They will be covering topics such as inappropriate online content, gaming, mental health issues related to excessive screen time, persuasive design of tech, dopamine and gaming/smartphone addiction. The discussions will be age-appropriate and so slightly different for each class. We hope the children will find these sessions really interesting and useful. If you'd like to find out more about Papaya, you can visit their website by following the link: About — Papaya Talks .

Year 4 Tri-Golf at Batchwood

Eight of our Year 4 pupils went to Batchwood Golf Course and Sports Centre to take part in a mini Tri-Golf competition with other local schools.

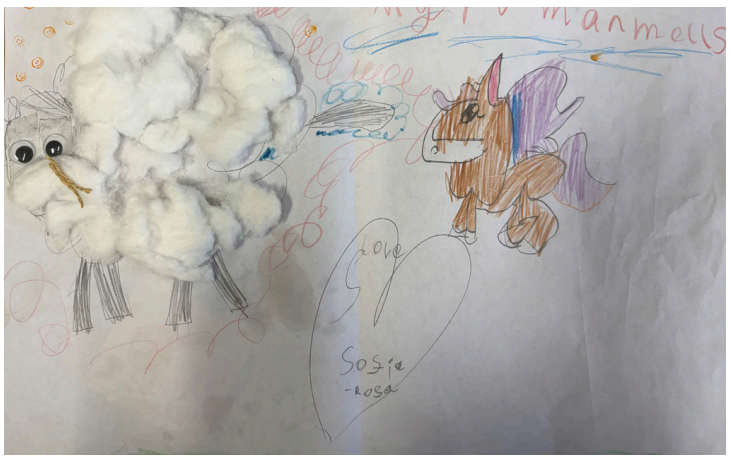
Bella, Delilah, Grace, Jack, Leo, Maggie, Maksim, Ruben, Sophia and Tommy really enjoyed the experience in the sunshine and did very well to come third out of eight schools in a sport they have just started to play.

Call for gardening volunteers

If anyone is interested in helping with maintenance and upkeep of the school allotment please contact the School Office. We have a team of gardening volunteers to run gardening club and group activities for the children but we would like some additional support.

Oaklands Lambing Weekend Competition

Congratulations to Matthew in Reception, Callie in Year 1, and Sofia-Rosa in Year 2 who were the winners in the Oaklands College Farm Pictures competition run by PA. Their creative and vibrant mixed-media farm pictures won them family tickets to Lambing Weekend.



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Dates for your diary

MAY

Mon 4th - Bank holiday (school closed)

Wed 6th - Online safety workshops for KS2

Thurs 7th - Year 2 class assembly 9:10am

Fri 8th - Phase 1 Maths workshop for parents

Thurs 14th - Year 1 class assembly 9:10am

W/B 18th - Theme week (more info to follow)

Wed 20th - Y6 journey parent briefing 6-7pm

Fri 22nd - Building Blocks session 9-11am

Mon 25th - Fri 29th - Half term (school closed)

JUNE

Thurs 4th - KS1&2 Sports Day (more info to follow)

Thurs 4th - PA Summer wreath event

Fri 5th - Building Blocks session 9-11am

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.

Year 4 Sleepover

On Friday 17th April, Year 4 came back to school to enjoy our class sleepover. We played games in the dark, watched a film and drank hot chocolates before attempting to fall asleep in the classrooms. The children were so brilliant and it was such an amazing experience for them all to sleep away from home.

'My least favourite bit was going to sleep!' - Sophia (Our last to fall asleep)

'My favourite bit was trying to pull an all nighter if i'm being honest'Jonnie (Our earliest riser)

Edward - 'My favourite part was playing hide and seek in the dark because it was so fun!'

Thank you so much to the team who gave up their time to enjoy this brilliant experience - Miss Charnock, Milo, Mrs Crichton and Mr Wootton.

Heating upgrade

I am sure you will have all noticed the large container and skip out the front of the school since the Easter holidays. We are currently having the whole heating system in school upgraded and a new boiler installed. This is being organised and paid for by Herts County Council following a successful capital bid we made a few years ago. The work is being completed every evening so is not affecting the operation of school each day. The team from the company who won the contract arrive ready to start at 4pm and work into the night. The project should be completed by 10th August so everything will be back to normal for the new academic year.

Kind regards,
Sharon Barton & Rachel Rowe
Head Teachers