Camp Primary and Nursery School St Albans

Bringing learning to life

Heads' Newsletter

17th July 2026

Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,
it's hard to believe we've reached the end of another fantastic school year! The final few weeks have been packed with events, from celebrating the progress our pupils have made during Parent Consultations, to welcoming families at our Open Evening, and supporting the children through successful transition sessions as they look ahead to September. We also had 3 sports days to enjoy and were so pleased that lots of parents were able to come along and support.
Thank you for your continued support, encouragement and partnership—it makes such a difference to our school community. We hope you all have a restful, fun-filled summer, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year ahead!

Summer Music Concerts

On Tuesday 14th July children from Years 1-6 took aprt in two music concerts, showing their hard work and talent on piano, flute, guitar and ukulele.
Thanks to Cynthia Millinger, our piano and flute teacher, who supported the children in the assembly.

School dinners

Please can we remind parents and carers that school dinners should be paid for in advance and all accounts should be settled by the end of term. If you have an outstanding balance please pay this by the end of term, next Wefnesday 22nd July.

10th annual Camp Out & Summer Fair

The 10th annual Camp Out was a big hit yet again, with a silent disco, pizza van and the added excitement of the England-Norway World Cup Quarter Final. The Summer Fair raised a fantastic £2203!
We would like to say a huge thank you to all the PA volunteers, and especially the Chair, Louise Freeman, for organising such great events for the school community while raising funds for the school.

Dates for your diary

JULY
Tues 21st - Nursery end of term
Tues 21st - Y6 leaving assembly 2pm prompt!
Wed 22nd - End of term **1:30pm finish**

SEPTEMBER
Tues 1st - INSET day **SCHOOL CLOSED**
Wed 2nd - Term starts
Sat 26th - Love Your School Day 9:30am-4pm

OCTOBER
Mon 26th - Fri 30th - Half term

NOVEMBER
Wed 4th - School photos - individual & sibling

DECEMBER
Fri 18th - 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.

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Love Your School Day - Saturday 26th September

We are delighted to invite all our families to join us for Love Your School Day on Saturday 26th September. This is our annual in-house maintenance day, where our school community comes together to help care for and enhance our wonderful school environment. There will be a variety of jobs to suit all abilities, from weeding and gardening to assembling equipment and painting sheds, so whether you can spare an hour or the whole day, your help will be greatly appreciated. Bring a picnic and enjoy a relaxed day with family and friends while getting to know other Camp School families. Every helping hand makes a real difference, and we would love to see as many of you there as possible! (Start at 9:30am finish at 4pm).

Half Marathon Challenge

Unfortunately, the recent hot weather has meant that it has been too warm to safely complete the Half Marathon Challenge on the school track.

We have therefore postponed the event to Friday 2nd October, starting at 2pm. If you would like to join Chloe for part of the run, we would be delighted to see you there – the more support and smiling faces, the better!

Thank you so much for your continued encouragement and generosity – it is greatly appreciated.

Chloe Berry

Whole School RE Assembly

Rabbi Adam delivered an engaging whole school assembly to support the RE curriculum. He spoke about the traditions and practices that pull the Jewish community together in the same way that our school's Golden Rules (Be Kind, Be Respectful, Try Your Best, Stay Safe) bring us together as a community.

He spoke about his community's love of history, tradition and books, showing a beautiful scroll and the horn traditionally blown to herald the Jewish new year, Rosh Hashanah.

Mrs Giffen

Dance for rights

Years 4, 5 and 6 took part in an event organised by the Royal Ballet and Opera House. It involved some preparation lessons and a live dance performance.

This year's theme was Dance for Rights and championed the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child exploring themes of identity, community and hope inspired by Crystal Pite's 'Covenant'.

Year 5 said

Emilia: *I think it was REALLY fun and it gave me the confidence to be myself and dance without being embarrassed one bit.*

Dylan K: *I liked the way they taught us how to express ourselves and it was really inclusive.*

Lyla: *it was really fun and I liked learning about children's rights. My favourite thing was making the tableaux and balances with a partner.*

Emma: *I don't really like dancing that much but I really did enjoy this one. I think the whole community thing was great.*

Abi: I liked the dance because I thought it was really fun and interesting. I also thought the them - every child has a right to play, eat and have a voice was important. I think it was 10/10

Arkadii: *I didn't really like doing it but I tried my best and in the end I enjoyed it.*

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Sports Days

All the children in school have been taking part in some exciting sporting activities, with our Sports Days for KS1 and KS2 taking place over the last two Wednesdays to allow for the very hot weather, and the EYFS Sports Day for Nursery and Reception taking place this morning.

Years 1-6 had their carousel of activities last week, which included Cricket stumps throw, Speedstacking, Football goal shoot, Balance on beam activity with bat and ball, Tennis net, Distance throw for KS1 and Javelin throw, Netball shoot, Speedstacking, Cricket bowling, Hockey dribble and shoot, Golf target putt for KS2.

The running events this week included sprints, relay and Daily Mile races for all years, with egg and spoon, and sack races for Years 1 to 3 and assault course and hurdles events for Years 4 to 6.

Nursery and Reception had a fantastic time and did very well with all their activities this morning after a warm up to music

- Parachute launching balls in the air
- Mini car race
- Balance a bean bag on your head race
- Sack race
- Aim/hit the teddy from different distances
- Balance a ball or bean bag on a racket race
- Sprint races for Nursery and Reception children
- Sprint (very competitive!) for mums and then dads

This was all rounded off with families staying for picnic time on the field. The Year 6s did a great job supporting Early Years, thank you and well done to them all!

Thank you to all the families who came to support and to all the staff, especially Mr Wootton and Mrs Berry for their hard work.

Reception Class Poem, Summer is...

Summer is...
Waterparks, the seaside and ice cream.
Swimming in Dubai, getting the paddling pool out and the Portugal sun.
Summer is...
A trip to the park, time with family and beautiful butterflies.
A splash in the sea in Cornwall, a night boat in Greece and pool time with family.
Summer is...
Waterparks with brothers and sisters, picnics in the garden and evenings at my uncle's in London.
West Wittering beach and jammy doughnuts.
Summer is...
Camping, with smores around the fire, sunny nights in Valencia and water fights.
Summer is...
time with Grandma, spraying my brother at the beach, waterslides and balloons.

Staffing Update

We would like to extend a huge thank you to two members of staff who will be stepping back from their roles at the end of this academic year.

Maria I, who currently works as a teaching assistant in our Year 2 class, will be leaving to pursue training and a career in the health sector. We wish her every success as she begins this exciting new chapter.

Rukeya Begum will also be stepping back from her roles as our lunchtime dining room supervisor and as a full-time teaching assistant in Key Stage 1.

We would like to thank both Maria and Rukeya for their hard work, dedication and the enormous care they have shown to the children throughout their time at our school. We wish them every happiness and success for the future.

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K'nex challenge Y5 and 6

Year 5 and 6 took part in the annual Knex challenge and this year had to create a rocket with several features. This year booth classes made fantastic models and every group was successful! The children enjoyed the morning and were very creative.
Mrs Holliday

Nursery Class Assembly

Our Nursery Class delighted everyone with a wonderful class assembly, confidently performing 'Welcome to Kenya' in their very first independent performance. We are incredibly proud of how well the children did, showing confidence, enthusiasm and joy throughout.
They did an amazing job of retelling the story Handa's Surprise, they beautifully sang and signed 'Down in the Savannah', and proudly shared their stunning Kenyan-inspired necklaces with their families.
It was a fantastic celebration of all they have been learning, and the children should be very proud of their achievements.

Egyptian Day

On 1st July Year 3 had an Egyptian Day to support their History learning. Lots of the children dressed up, although it was hard to rival Mrs Du Plessis as Cleopatra!
Ella, Matilda and Louis shared what the children had done during their busy day, which included:

- Finishing their Canopic Jars in paper mache and clay and decorating them
- Making and decorating paper mache pyramids
- An archaeological dig in the allotments to find egyptian artefacts
- Creating model cats (very important in Ancient Egypt) or jewellery from card, beads, paint, glitter etc.

Ella's favourite was making the pyramids, Matilda loved making jewellery (end enjoyed having special makeup on, and Louis the Pharoah enjoyed finishing the canopic jars.
Thank you to Mrs Du Plessis and Mrs Rahman for making this a fun and special day.

Summer reading challenge

We would like to encourage families to join the Summer Reading Challenge: Read to the Beat, which aims to keep children reading throughout the summer holidays and rewards them for reading for pleasure. Your children can sign up for FREE at any Hertfordshire Library from 4 July 2026.
Children are encouraged to read any 6 library books over the summer holidays. This could include listening to an e-audiobook, reading independently, or reading with parents or carers – any reading is good reading in our book!

Kind regards,
Sharon Barton & Rachel Rowe
Head Teachers