Camp Primary and Nursery School St Albans

Bringing learning to life

Heads' Newsletter

25th September 2026

Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

The term is well underway and our classrooms have been a hive of activity! It has been lovely to see the children settling so well into their new classes and getting stuck into their learning.

We have been making the most of the September sunshine at lunchtimes with children enjoying dancing to music, playing with the bubble machine, getting active with all the sports equipment including a giant team-tennis game today, building and balancing with the tyres and crates, and using their imaginations with dressing-up clothes! Our Reception children have also started venturing onto the main playground at lunchtime — and are having great fun!

During Assembly today the new class representatives for the School Council were announced following class elections earlier this week. Congratulations to: Phoebe L (President), Danila (Vice President), Vera and Hetty (Y6), Lily, Jaxson and Rhian (Y5), Jack C and Holly (Y4), Mia and Isaac (Y3), Chloe, Rey and Oscar (Y2), Lola and Logan (Y1). We are really looking forward to working with them this term and know that they are already busy planning their first task of organising donations for Harvest Festival.

Don't forget that Love Your School Day is tomorrow, 9.30am–4pm. Organised by our wonderful PA. It is a chance to come along and help with jobs around school. Any time you can spare would be very much appreciated and all skill levels very welcome — we hope to see you there!

Assembly with ex-pupils

We had a visit from 3 ex-pupils who came to talk to children in Years 4, 5 & 6 about their experience of secondary school and A levels and what was next for them. Freddie went to Samuel Ryder, then moved to Sandringham for sixth form, and is now heading off to the Royal Welsh college of music and drama (Wales National Conservatoire) to study stage management and technical theatre. Tabarek went to STAGS and will be living at home while studying for a degree in Business and Marketing at the University of Herts - with the option of a year studying abroad in Egypt. Lucia also went to STAGS and told the children all about her love of textiles - she is off to study Fashion Design at Manchester Metropolitan University. It was lovely to welcome them all back to Camp.

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Dates for your diary

SEPTEMBER
Sat 26th - Love Your School Day 9:30am-4pm

OCTOBER
Thurs 8th - Year 4 Class Assembly 9:10am
Wed 21st-Thurs 22nd - Parent Consultations
Thurs 22nd - Year 5 Class Assembly 9:10am
Mon 26th-Fri 30th - HALF TERM

NOVEMBER
Wed 4th - Individual & sibling photos

DECEMBER
Wed 2nd – Year 2 Performance PM
Thurs 3rd – Year 2 Performance AM
Thurs 10th & Fri 11th – EYFS Performance
Thurs 17th – Christmas Lunch
Thurs 17th – Nursery term ends
Fri 18th – School term ends 1:30pm

JANUARY
Mon 4th – INSET (school closed)
Tues 5th – Term starts

FEBRUARY
Mon 15th-Fri 19th – HALF TERM
Mon 22nd – INSET (school closed)

MARCH
Thurs 4th – World Book Day
Wed 17th – Year 4 Performance AM
Thurs 18th – Year 4 Performance Evening
Wed 24th – Nursery term ends
Thurs 25th – School term ends 1:30pm

APRIL
Mon 12th – Term starts

MAY
Mon 3rd – Bank holiday (school closed)
Mon 10th-Thurs 13th – Year 6 SATs week
Thurs 27th – KS1 & KS2 Sports Day (part 1)
Mon 31st-Fri 4th June – HALF TERM

JUNE
Thurs 10th – KS1 & KS2 Sports Day (part 2)
Sun 13th-Wed 16th – Year 6 School Journey
Wed 16th-Thurs 17th – Parent Consultations
Fri 25th – INSET (school closed)

JULY
Thurs 1st – Open evening
Thurs 8th – Class transition sessions & Year 6 secondary transfer day
Fri 9th – EYFS Sports Day
Mon 19th – Nursery term ends
Mon 19th - Year 6 Leaving Assembly 2pm
Tues 20th – School term ends 1:30pm

Attendance

We would like to remind all our families that we are aiming for all children in school to have attendance above 95%.

If you need to request authorisation for a pre-planned absence for exceptional circumstances (these would be events that are "rare, significant, unavoidable and short") please fill in a form, available on our school website here. Please provide as much detail as possible when completing the form so that we can make the most informed decision.

In cases of requests for absence for medical appointments these should be made in writing to the school office and we would ask that you attach evidence of the appointment (e.g. letter, email, screenshot of appointment confirmation) in order for it to be authorised.

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Reception and Year 5 Buddies

The children in Reception and Year 5 have been paired up as buddies. Every Friday, they meet to enjoy an activity together, as well as having time to play and get to know one another. It has been wonderful to see their friendships developing and the children growing in confidence as they spend time together. We know that Buddy Time has quickly become a real highlight of the week for many of the children in both classes.

Outside learning

Lots of our classes are lucky to use outdoor space for their learning in the school day. Can we please very politely ask that parents and carers supervise their school age and younger children so they do not play or use the (very tempting) equipment set up in the outdoor areas around school in the mornings. These areas are set up for learning and although it must be exciting to see these lovely opportunities for play and learning like sand and water, our staff don't get a chance to reset it before the school day.

We really appreciate your support in this.

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Year 6 trip to London

On Thursday this week Year 6 travelled in style - going First Class (!) to take the train from St Albans into London. The first stop on their adventure was visiting the St Albans South Signal Box where they saw how some of their art (that they had created when they were in Year 4) had been turned into a lovely mosaic bench, which sits in the signal box museum. They briefly had the opportunity to practise using some of the old signals and levers, before the class caught the train from St Albans into London Blackfriars. The class then visited Tate Modern and explored some of the galleries inside the former power station, where they viewed art linked to media, materials and objects by artists such as Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, Cildo Meireles and many more. They even spent time drawing on a huge orange carpet that was stuck to the wall! In the Tate Draw room, the children were able to digitally create their own artwork, which within seconds was displayed on the wall in front of them. After lunch the class took in the views of London and the Thames by walking on the Millennium Bridge before it was time to take the train home. It was a great day out and all the children behaved brilliantly as they negotiated busy train stations and art galleries.

Toys and objects from home

Please can we remind everyone that it is best not to bring in toys or items from home, unless specifically agreed with the class teacher for a particular purpose. If children do bring something in from home it needs to be at their own risk of being lost or broken.

Kind regards,
Sharon Barton & Rachel Rowe
Head Teachers