



Issue number: 10

Our school values: **Respect. Honesty. Responsibility. Equality. Resilience.**



Message from the Headteacher

I hope you enjoy the end of half-term newsletter from James Cambell.

I wanted to start by thanking everyone who has been following the Covid-19 guidelines around hands, face and space. Your support – for example in wearing face coverings and social distancing at the school gates – is helping to keep the number of infections in Barking and Dagenham at a low level. The Director of Public Health has also written to everyone to ask that you arrange for a test for your child **before school returns on 7th June** (a copy of the letter is on MySchoolApp and the school website). Let's keep working together to help keep everyone in the school community safe!

You will be pleased to hear that the rest of this newsletter is Covid-free. You can read about some of the exciting things the children have been doing at school over the last two months, from celebrating Shakespeare Day to hosting some special animal visitors in Reception.

Above all, it has been great to see how hard the children have been working over the last few weeks after the disruption they have faced this year. Congratulations to the children, to the staff and to you for your amazing support in helping their learning.

I wish you all a happy half-term week and look forward to seeing you all on the 7th June. Let's hope the weather improves!

With very best wishes,

Joe Wilson

MR WILSON'S TOP TIPS



Turn on the subtitles!

Simply turning on the subtitles while children are watching television can **double the chances of a child becoming good at reading**. It's so brilliantly simple and can help children's literacy so much that we want to shout it from the rooftops!

So, when your children are watching television, please turn on the subtitles!

Easter bonnets and egg competitions

At the end of last term, we were overwhelmed by all the incredible entries into our Easter bonnets (for the infants) and eggs (for the juniors) competitions.

Congratulations to all wonderful winners:

Class A: Phoebe and Loganberry Class B: Zack and Alexander Class C: Dre and Grace	1A:- Keiarah and Leo 1B:- Joy and Sawad 1C:- Warren and Larissa
2a: Wesley and Daisy 2B: George and Ivy 2C: Ben and Lilly	3A: Saif and Eve 3B: David and Eve 3C: Isabella and Mia
4A: Deina and Yasir 4B: Declan and Mia 4C: Cata and Zachary	5A: Jacob and Kya 5B: Derry and Amy 5C: Kadie and Freddie
6A: Hayden and Archie 6B: Oliver and Iyana 6C: Sophia and Cruz	

Here are a few pictures of their beautiful bonnets and *eggcellent* eggs.



Football at James Cambell

Our football team played against St Vincent's, Dagenham, on 27th May. They played really well and were unlucky to lose 3-1.



Bikeability



Some of the year 5 children had the opportunity to complete their bikeability cycle training this half-term. They were a real credit to the school and the instructor said they were impeccably behaved and superb listeners. All the children passed their level 2 which means they can:

- cycle safely and responsibly
- identify and respond to hazards
- start and stop on-road journeys
- maintain suitable riding positions
- share the road with others and communicate with other road users
- comply with signals, signs and road markings
- manage risk when cycling
- negotiate junctions (pass side roads, turn at T junctions, and crossroads and roundabouts if present)

Well done to all the cyclists of year 5!

Goodbye to Mr Hood



It is with sadness that we say goodbye to Mr Hood, who will be leaving James Cambell Primary School after many happy and successful years with us. He has decided to relocate back to Yorkshire, which we know has been a difficult decision for him. We will miss him immensely but we are sure you will join us in wishing him all the best for the future.

Miss Maguire and Mrs Pooley will be taking over the role of class teachers for 6B and ensure that the children in the class have a great final half-term before they go to secondary school in September.

Reception animals visit



Reception were very lucky last week to have some special animal visitors in school to help them learn about how animals grow. The children had the chance to meet a wide range of animals including meerkats, chickens, a parakeet, a mouse, a snake, a tarantula and many more!

The children stroked, held and cuddled all the animals and some were so brave they even had the tarantula on their head.



Shakespeare Day – 23rd April – also St George’s Day (James)

In April, we celebrated Shakespeare Day at James Cambell. Unfortunately for William Shakespeare he died on his birthday on the 23rd April (which is also St George’s Day), but fortunately for us all he left us plays that are gripping, exciting and powerful.

William Shakespeare’s works have shaped the English language as well as influencing our culture and this day offered children of James Cambell an opportunity to have an insight into the importance and significance of his works.

On Shakespeare Day, each class focused on one of his plays and watched stage adaptations of Shakespeare’s plays. From these live action plays, children observed the language and the performances of the actors. Across the school, children read a story version of a Shakespeare play to gain a greater insight to his story structures. Children were given opportunities to act out excerpts of Shakespeare’s plays.

The children at James Cambell had a wonderful day celebrating the famous playwright.



Making children’s playtimes better

As part of our ongoing work on improving playtimes and behaviour, we have teamed up with OPAL, which stands for ‘Outdoor Play and Learning’. They are an award-winning company who will be working with us for the next two years.

The aim is create an exciting and imaginative playtime. The children will have a much wider range of activities: creating dens, building castles out of crates, pulling each other around in wheeled suitcases or playing with tyres or cooking ‘meals’ in mud kitchens. Children will be learning through play in the same way as they currently do in our Early Years – but now everyone gets to share the fun.

We need your help in donating items for the children’s playtimes:

- clean fabrics to drape and make dens or cloaks (saris or clean sheets are perfect)
- clean tyres are really useful
- Stacking milk crates
- suitcases with wheels
- If you would like more information or to volunteer to help in our gardens, please speak to Ms Macleod.

Please have a look at this video of another school in the programme <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cm7IfAEsjqI>

We are grateful for your support in this exciting project.



Careers Day for Year 6

We are planning to hold a Careers Day for year 6 children in the week commencing 28th June. This will be an opportunity to raise the children’s awareness of how the work they do at school can help to shape their future lives. This is a great time to do this as the children prepare to leave here and start on the next stage of their education.

We would very much welcome any parents who would be willing to visit the school that week to talk to year 6 children about their careers. We are hoping to have a range of speakers from different jobs to inspire the children.

If you would be interested, please let the school office know – or speak to Mr Wilson on the gate in the morning.



School uniform reminder

At James Cambell, we are proud of how smart our children look when they come to school.

Our School Uniform	PE Kit
Green Blazer (Compulsory for Yr 5 & 6 only)	Black shorts
Tie (Compulsory for Yr 5 & 6 only)	White t-shirt (no buttons)
Dark green jumper/cardigan	Black plimsolls
Grey trousers/skirt/pinafore	Swimming costume/shorts
Yellow polo shirt	Towel
Black school shoes/black trainers	Swimming hat
Grey/ white socks or grey tights	Hair needs to be tied back for PE

Reminder:

- Please ensure children have black everyday school shoes **and** plimsolls or pumps for PE/Sports.
- Small stud earrings (no hoops) are allowed, however, no other jewellery is permitted unless for religious reasons.
- No dyed hair, or patterns/lines cut into hair.

We would like to thank all parents and carers for ensuring that the children come to school dressed in the correct uniform.

Reception releasing butterflies

The children in Reception watched as their tiny caterpillars turned into beautiful Painted Lady Butterflies and then released them into the wild.



Your views matter!

We would really like to find out what you think about James Cambell Primary - what you like and what you think we could do to make the school even better for the children.

Please let us have your views by clicking on the link below to our annual parent survey. It only takes a few minutes to complete.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=feVG C6HV1kK1TMZ16L4zOikx4fRQ8pAkH2XuzlIxp9UNUJaWjhWU UMyRko4QVZRNFN1kyQTE0Ty4u>

We will let you know what we found out from the survey later in the summer term. Your views matter!

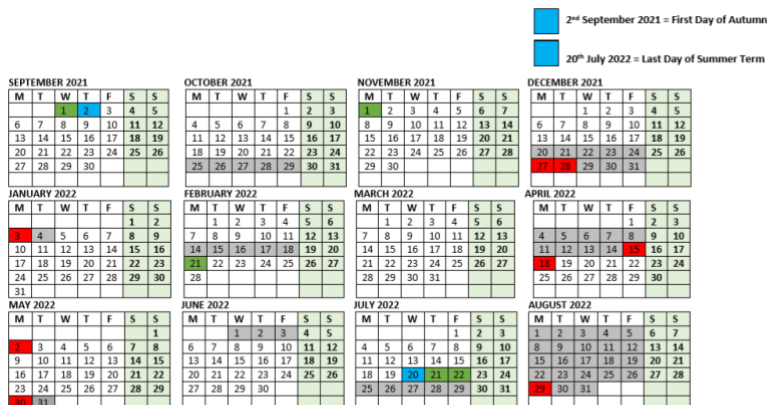
School dates for next year



The term dates for the next school year (2021/22) are on the school website. They are:

Thursday 2 nd September 2021	Start of the School Year
Monday 25 th October 2021	Half Term
Friday 17 th December 2021	Last Day of the Autumn Term
Wednesday 5 th January 2022	First Day of the Spring Term
Monday 14 th February – Friday 18 th February 2022	Half Term
Friday 1 st April 2022	Last Day of the Spring Term
Tuesday 19 th April 2022	First Day of the Summer Term
Tuesday 3 rd May 2022	May Day Holiday
Tuesday 31 st May 2022-Friday 3 rd June 2021	Half Term
Wednesday 20 th July 2022	Last Day of the School Year

JAMES CAMBELL PRIMARY SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2021/2022



For pupils:
 Autumn term: Tuesday 2nd September 2021 – Friday 17th December 2021
 Spring term: Wednesday 5th January 2022 – Friday 1st April 2022
 Summer term: Tuesday 19th April 2022 – Wednesday 20th July 2022

For staff:
 2 disaggregated days to be delivered as twilight: 21st & 22nd July 2022
 2 discretionary days holiday: 20th -21st December 2021

- Bank holidays
- School holidays
- Staff Inset Days – non-pupil days