

Issue number: 14

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



Message from the Headteacher

It has been another exciting half-term at James Cambell Primary and we hope you enjoy reading about some of the things that have been going on in this newsletter. The children have been doing some great work – and having fun at the same time.

This newsletter also contains information on healthy school dinners and a reminder from the Director of Public Health to test your child before the start of next half-term.

On behalf of all the staff at James Cambell Primary, I wish you all a happy half-term week, and we look forward to seeing you on **Tuesday, 22nd February.**



Art Day



Friday 4th February was a really creative day for some of our pupils in Key Stage 2 as a local professional artist came into our school to deliver an all-day art workshop.

Pupils were introduced to the life and work of Vincent Van Gogh and developed a cultural understanding of how he has positively impacted on society. As well as learning techniques and skills in art, they were set some tasks focused on exploring and improving drawing and painting techniques and had the opportunity of working together to produce a collaborative piece of art.

They investigated colour, tones, proportion, composition, and developed their portraiture skills.

The children all had a fantastic day and produced art work to be really proud of!



Conductive Workshop for years 1 and 2



The children in KS1 were lucky enough at the start of term to attend a specially organised workshop in school. This was run by an external company called Conductive Music and linked elements of Computing, Science and Music together.

Amongst other activities, the children were encouraged to create musical instruments from LEGO and Play Dough, conduct electric currents by holding hands and record themselves composing simple songs. The activities were designed to engage the children further in the subjects and understand links between them. The workshop aimed to inspire future creativity and enjoyment for our future scientists, musicians and IT whiz kids!

Feedback from the children showed they had loved the experience and hoped it was something they could do again in the future.

Year 2 Florence Nightingale workshop



On Friday 14th of January, year 2 had a very special visitor in the Key Stage 1 hall! Our topic this half term is "Helping Hands" and we have been learning all about Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. Children were taken on a journey back in time to learn all about Florence Nightingale, by Florence Nightingale herself!

They learnt all about her early life, where she grew up and the struggles she faced in pursuit of her dream to become a nurse. The children also went on an imaginary journey, acting out how she travelled to Crimea by train and by boat. They learnt all about the challenges she faced in Crimea and how she was celebrated for her amazing work when she returned to England. It was an amazing workshop and the children thoroughly enjoyed it.

PTA



James Cambell's Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is an active and growing PTA which raises money for things that enhance the learning experience for our children. They organise events and activities, which bring the school community together to have some fun.

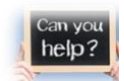
The PTA plays a vital role in assisting the participation of parents in school life by:

- Providing an active but informal communication link between the school and parents on non-academic matters.
- Organising events to foster school community spirit and for the enjoyment of the children.

The PTA have already raise over £1200 due to their tremendous hard work putting together the Christmas Fayre!

We have 7 members on the board and a larger group of volunteers who help whenever they can.

Chair	Keisha Van Kleef-Bolton
Vice Chair	Kate Vickers-Ellis
Secretary	Louise Jaggs
Committee Member	Katy Szilveszter
Committee Member	Elena Petkova
Publicity Officer	Nicola Masters
Treasurer	Caroline Stevens



But we can't run it alone. Thanks to all that have supported us so far, but we still need more volunteers. You don't have to give up an evening every week for the rest of your days! If you could just give a small bit of your time, perhaps help at one event or do some organising, or if you have computer skills (we need that too), it would be enough to help us do so much more! It's actually great fun, you meet great people and get to know your school.

The PTA are now busy planning for the Summer Fayre, which will be held on Friday the 1st July 2022.

For more information about the PTA and upcoming events, please look on the PTA page on the school website:

<http://www.jamescambell.com>

Healthy Packed Lunches



The school provides a range of healthy hot dinners – you can see the menu on our school website.

But, if you do decide to provide your child with a packed lunch, please make sure it's **healthy and balanced**. Here are some ideas on healthy things you should include every day, what to include occasionally (not every day) and what to avoid:

Healthy things to include in a packed lunch every day	Occasional treats (not every day)	What to avoid
At least one portion of fruit or vegetables	Processed meat (sausage rolls, pies, corned meat, sausages)	Salty snacks (such as crisps)
Protein (meat, fish, eggs, lentils, kidney beans, chickpeas, hummus, falafel)	Cake or biscuits (but always in small portions and as part of a balanced packed lunch)	Chocolate bars and chocolate-coated cereal bars
Starchy food (bread, pasta, rice, couscous, noodles, potatoes or another cereal)		Processed fruit bars
Dairy food (milk, cheese, yoghurt)		Sweets
A drink of water, fruit juice or smoothie (maximum size 150ml)		Sugary soft drinks (such as squash and fizzy drinks)

You can find more tips on putting together a healthy packed lunch at <https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/#tips>



Safer Internet Day



At James Cambell we know how important it is that our children can keep themselves safe online. Different aspects of internet safety are taught in each year group every half term.

On Tuesday 8th February, it was Safer Internet Day 2022. Safer Internet Day is celebrated globally in February each year to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people, and to inspire a national conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively.

Each year group had different activities and discussions linked to the theme: 'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online'. Activities included:

- writing a recipe for respectful relationships online
- designing a gaming guide character to keep people safe online
- acting out different scenarios
- discussing what they should do if something bad online were to happen to them.

For advice about keeping children safe online and top tips for parents and carers please visit: <https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2022/advice-for-parents-and-carers>

Reception Animal Sanctuary visit

After learning about different pets this term, and using non-fiction texts to research them, Reception were very lucky to have some real animals come and visit us. The children had the chance to meet a wide range of animals including baby meerkats, a guinea pig, a very large rabbit, a tortoise, a snake, a tarantula and many more! The children stroked, held and cuddled all the animals. The children made all of us very proud with how calm they were around the animals and the excellent questions they asked the animal handlers.



Votes for Schools



Every week children discuss a 'Votes for Schools' topic, which helps develop their speaking skills, as well as increasing their knowledge and understanding of current affairs.

Last week children were debating whether punishments work. They explored the reasons why punishments are given and whether there are better routes to getting children to learn from their mistakes. At the end of the debate, they gave their votes – and compared them to what other children voted nationally.

This week, with the focus on Internet Safety, the children are discussing whether the Internet is bad for friendships and relationships. This half-term, why not ask your children about 'Votes for Schools' and start a debate at home?

Times Tables Rock Stars



The school was invited to take part in a national times table competition. We came 263rd out of the whole country. 5B stormed to first place in our school and have won a non-uniform day!

Look out for more maths completions coming up. Details will be posted on Class Dojo.



COVID-19

The Director of Public Health has written to all parents and carers in Barking and Dagenham on how to continue preventing the spread of the virus and keeping safe:

- Keep a sensible distance from others
- Avoid gathering too closely at school gates (if there are a lot of people at the gate, then wait a distance away and enter when there is more space)
- Encourage your family to keep their hands clean
- Test regularly as a family
- Take up the offer of the vaccine or booster
- Follow self-isolation rules
- **It's very important that your child takes a test before the start of next term**

You can read the full letter at:

<http://www.jamescambell.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/DPH-letter-to-Parents-Feb-2022-Primary.pdf>



KEY DATES



Key dates for next term

Tuesday 22 nd February 2022	School returns
Wednesday 2 nd March and Thursday 3 rd March 2022	Parents' Evenings
Thursday 3 rd March 2022	World Book Day
Friday 1 st April 2022	Last day of spring term
Tuesday 19 th April 2022	First day of summer term