

Message from the Headteacher

Welcome to our October newsletter! It has been another exciting half-term at James Cambell Primary with lots of great learning and opportunities for all the children, ranging from a 10-pin bowling trip for our SEN children to a History workshop at Valence House.

We have also continued our ongoing series of improvements to the school's playground with a fantastic new climbing frame in Key Stage 2. Councillor Elizabeth Kangethe, the Barking and Dagenham Cabinet Member for Educational Attainment and School Improvement, cut the ribbon on the climbing frame when she visited the school on Friday 7th October.

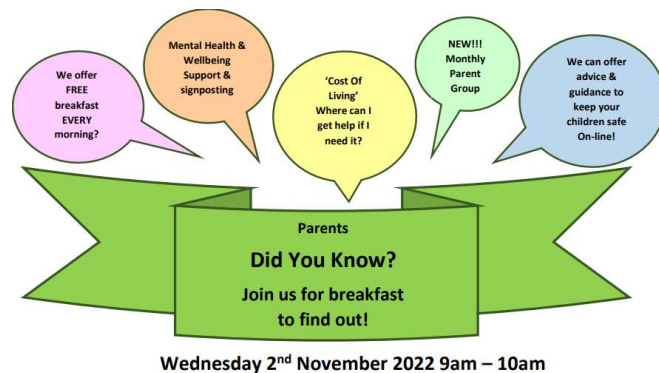
During her visit, Councillor Kangethe also attended year 5's Black History Assembly. She said how much she enjoyed it and hoped that it would inspire the children to go on and achieve future success.



Councillor Kangethe cutting the ribbon on the new KS2 climbing frame.

The current cost of living crisis is making things difficult for many people. We are running a parent breakfast at 9.00am on Wednesday 2nd November on the theme of 'Times are hard: where can I get support?'

Please come to the main reception if you would like to join us. You can also find information on the parent section of our school website.



I hope you all have a relaxing half-term holiday. Please make time during the week to enjoy some reading with your children – encouraging a love of reading is one of our school priorities this year. The love of reading is the gateway to both learning and future success, as well as huge enjoyment and satisfaction. We therefore want our children to choose to read for pleasure every day.

I look forward to seeing you back at school on Tuesday 1st November 2022.

Black History Celebration

On Friday 7th October, the children of year 5 performed a Black History Assembly for parents. The assembly celebrated the achievements and contributions of Black people to the UK and around the world, as well as the wonderful diversity of the school itself.



We were proud to have performed our Assembly based on Icons of the past: 5A looked at Bob Marley who promoted love, peace and harmony and to always stand up for your rights. 5B looked at Black Inventors of the past and their contributions to society and 5C looked at four black mathematicians who helped launch an astronaut into space. Wow!!! Year 5 you have done a brilliant job putting on your performance.



As well as year 5's Black History Assembly, other year groups marked Black History Month in different ways.

Year 2 made Masai tribal necklaces:



Year 3 imagined they had been on the Windrush and wrote letters home:



Meanwhile, Year 4 learnt about US civil rights activist, Ruby Bridges, and sketched a painting of her on her way to an all-white public school:



Some of the children's great work has been sent to the borough for display in Barking Town Hall!

Community Support

Thank you for the generous donations of P.E. Kit and clothing, kindly provided by Upminster Masonic Chapter, Old Libertian Lodge 6096.



Thank you also to St Albans Medical Surgery, Dagenham, at the heart of our local community, for their generous donations of clothing and support for our Bagel Breakfast Club.

Mental Health & Wellbeing

We are also grateful for the support from St Albans Surgery, Dagenham, in the creation of the James Cambell Wellbeing Room. The Wellbeing Room is a hub that will benefit pupils, parents and staff with information events and interventions ... as well as providing a quiet space when needed.

Leadership Team changes

We are delighted to announce that the school has a new member of its senior leadership team, Alan Jacob. He brings a huge amount of experience to the role, having previously been on the senior leadership teams at both Sydney Russell and Thames View Juniors. Mr Jacob will support the school as it continues to improve and in delivering our mission to provide your children with the opportunities they deserve.

Hazel Thompson, who many of you will already know as an excellent teacher, has taken on the important role of Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo), replacing Valerie Kinsella who has retired following many years of dedicated service to the school.

Both Alan Jacob and Hazel Thompson will often be at the gates before and after school

and would be very happy to speak to you. Alternatively, you can arrange to speak with them by contacting the school office.

Year 2 Update

In Year two this half term the children have had lots of hands on activities and lessons exploring habitats in Science, finding out where animals live and how they survive in a variety climates. The children explored the school's wild outdoor area and discovered a number of different insects such as slugs, worms, beetles, which they recorded in tally charts.

The classes also had the opportunity to visit Goresbrook Park and see what they might find there and discuss the differences and similarities. As part of the visit the children also drew maps for our geography topic which focuses on getting to know the local area. In pairs and groups the children talked about the human and physical features they could see in the park and around the surrounding area.

As October is also Black history month we have discussed important people of colour and celebrated them in different ways. In one PE lesson all three classes came together for an African dance. The children really enjoyed trying out new dance moves and listening to the African music as they danced as a year group

Year 5 Valence House visit

Year 5 visited Valence House on 17th and 21st October 2022 to participate in Local History workshops. The children visited the museum and looked at old artefacts, analysing old newspaper clippings and participating in drama. The children were very excited about this opportunity to enhance and enrich their history topic.



Children gathered information about Dagenham in the past such as the Ford industry, the chemist and leisure time. We enjoyed looking at the model of Dagenham and the old streets that are still there today.



Children looked in the archives and learnt about James Cambell, a significant person from the local area, who our school is named after. They studied past documents to find out about people's lives in the past.



Through role play children found out that Chadwell Heath was built by the Romans.



Show Racism the Red Card!

On Friday 21st October we are celebrating Wear Red Day. This is with the charity 'Show racism the red card.' In the afternoon, the children are having lessons around this theme. Year 5 and 6 will be looking at the consequences of hate; years 3 and 4 will be looking at the question what is an ally; and years 1 and 2 will be looking at the effects of a crumpled piece of paper. Be a proud anti-racist! Be the difference! Join us in supporting this wonderful charity!

Rainbow Room

This term in the Rainbow Room the children have been introduced to Group Colourful Semantics, to develop their communication and social skills. The children have embraced this new activity with enthusiasm and have enjoyed tickling, hiding and high-fiving their friends whilst developing their speech.

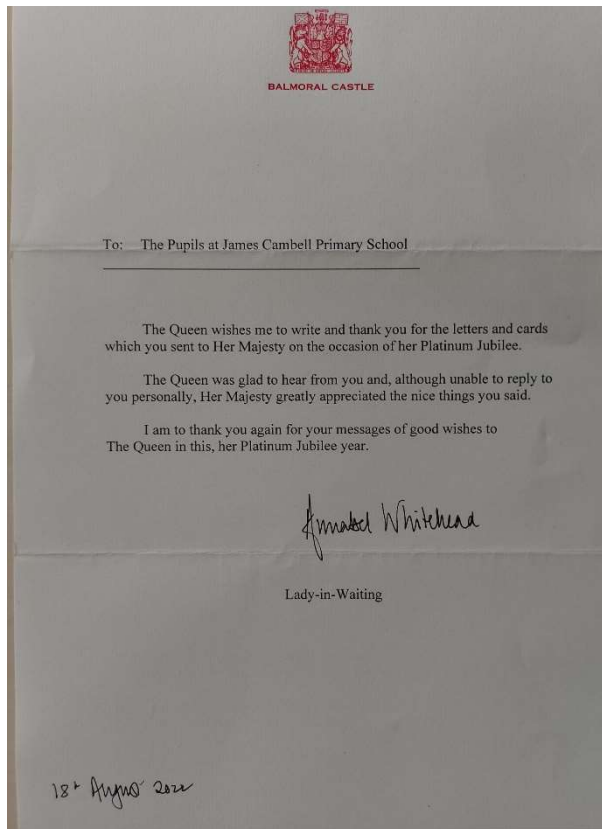


James Cambell pupils receive thank you letter from the Queen

Early this term we had the sad news of the Queen's death.

Just a few weeks before the school had received a thank you letter from Balmoral Castle thanking the children for the letters and cards they sent the Queen on the occasion of her Platinum Jubilee.

You can read the whole letter below – and see the original framed in the school reception.



Thank You!

A huge thank you to Miss Breakwell's mum who has collected over 3000 books for the school libraries. This will be great for the children and give them countless hours of reading pleasure.



Key Dates for next half-term

Tuesday 1 st November	First day back at school after half-term holiday
Thursday 10 th November	Year 3 Diwali Assembly
Monday 14 th to Friday 18 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Wednesday 16 th and Thursday 17 th November	Parents' Evenings
Friday 18 th November	Children in Need
Tuesday 6 th December	Reception and Key Stage 1 (years 1 and 2) Nativity at Saint Alban's Church – A and B classes
Wednesday 7 th December	Reception and Key Stage 1 (years 1 and 2) Nativity at Saint Alban's Church – C class
Thursday 8 th December	Key Stage 2 (years 3 to 6) Carol Concerts at Saint Alban's Church
Thursday 8 th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 20 th December	Christmas Fair
Wednesday 21 st December	Last day of Autumn Term

Eat Out For Less This
October Half Term

EXTREME
COUPONING
AND BARGAINS UK

ASDA
TESCO

Morrisons

M&S

IKEA

Bella Italia

PAUSA Dunelm

SIZZLING
BURGERS

Harvester

Children can eat for just £1 at Asda Cafés

Kids Eat For Free All day, every day with any purchase at The Café when you use your Clubcard.

Only one free meal from the kids menu with any one adult meal with a value of £4.99 or over.

Pick up a FREE main, snack + drink from our Kids' Munch Menu when you spend £5 in the Café.

Kids Pasta with Tomato Sauce and a soft drink for 95p or any other Kids Meal for £1.50. Available every day from 11am at IKEA.

Kids three courses & a drink for £1 from 4-6pm Monday - Thursday With purchase of every adult main meal.

One Free Kids Menu With Every £4 Spent. Monday To Friday After 3pm.

For every adult Sizzling meal, you'll also get a kid's main meal for £1. Monday-Friday 3pm-7pm

We recommend downloading Harvester & Toby Carvery Apps both have offers and regularly include kids Eat For £1 Offers!