

Issue number: 22

Our school values: **R**espect. **H**onesty. **R**esponsibility. **E**quality. **R**esilience.

Message from the Headteacher

Welcome to our James Cambell half-termly newsletter. I would like to start by congratulating the children of Years 2 and 6 for completing their SATs. They have worked incredibly hard – as have all the other children across the school – and deserve to do really well.

Next half-term, it's the turn of Year 1 and Year 4 to show off all their amazing learning with the national Phonics Screening checks (for year 1) and the Multiplication Tables Check (for Year 4). Your work as parents and carers in supporting the children with their learning has been amazing – supporting your child with their reading or practising times tables and spellings makes a huge difference to their progress. Thank you!

Of course, there have been lots of other opportunities for the children this half-term, which you can read about in this newsletter. These include Year 4's superb Eid Assembly for parents, Year 3's visit to the Science Museum and the Science Wonderdome for Year 5.

Over the last two years, we have made significant improvements to the school's outdoor areas as part of our commitment to providing top quality outdoor play and learning (OPAL). This has included the introduction of new climbing structures in Key Stage 1 and 2, a massive sand pit and a wider range of activities for the children's play, including scooters and mud kitchens. You can find out more in this issue.

Your views as parents and carers really matter to us. I would encourage you all to complete the annual survey which we have sent out on

ParentMail and let us know what we are doing well and anything we can do even better.

I wish you all a very happy half-term holiday and look forward to seeing you all back at school on Monday June 5th.

Best wishes,

Mr Wilson

Summer Fair – Tuesday 18th July

The PTA are working really hard so that we can all have fun at the Summer Fair which will be held 18th July from 3:30pm to 6pm.

We would appreciate any donations of toiletries, beauty, non-perishable food & drinks, toys and unwanted gifts for our raffle prizes and to sell.

Please bring these donations into the office when you find them. If you would like to get involved in any way, please let us know.

Coronation Celebrations

The children really enjoyed their coronation celebrations on Friday 5th May, dressing in red, white and blue, and tucking into a special coronation lunch.



Children from Reception B class enjoying dressing up in red, white and blue to celebrate the King's Coronation.

Your views matter!

Please let us know what you think the school is doing well and any ideas for improvement by completing our parent survey. You can find the survey on Parent Mail. It will only take a few minutes.

You can complete the survey any time before Friday 10th June. Thank you!

We will provide you with the results of the survey in our next newsletter.

CPC Update

The children in CPC have enjoyed their topic of 'New Life', working in their garden, looking after caterpillars and visiting animals at Hainault Forest. Here they are helping pass on their growing skills to other children in school.



Year 6 Go Ape

On Friday 19th May, Year 6 went on a trip to 'Go Ape' at Alexandra Palace, as a celebration of all their hard work and completion of their SATs exams.



Our day started early, with a coach trip to our destination. Upon arrival, we were welcomed by a friendly and encouraging team of instructors. Our classes either started with the challenging 'Team Games' or the 'Treetop Adventure'- full of wobbly bridges, cargo nets and zip wires. We were all pushed outside of our comfort zones, as we crossed from tree to tree, safely secured in our harness.



It was a great day, filled with lots of fun! Well done Year 6!



Year 4 Eid Assembly



Year 4 presented a special assembly on Eid. It was wonderful to see all the children participate in all the Eid celebrations. Year 4 gave the whole school lots of interesting information about Eid, which is a festival celebrated by Muslims. The children spoke so clearly and sang 'Ramadan Moon' by Yusef Islam so beautifully.

It was so good to see so many parents attending and supporting our school community.

Outdoor Play and Learning at James Cambell



Since the pandemic, we at James Cambell have been working really hard to improve the play opportunities for all our children.

This helps will physical and mental wellbeing. We stagger lunches and make sure lunch times run efficiently so children have as much play as possible. We have invested heavily in two state of the art climbing frames and a superb, huge sandpit which the children love. Children at OPAL schools rapidly develop creativity, imagination, cooperation, resilience, social skills, emotional regulation, stamina, confidence and readiness to learn on returning to the classroom.

Play is a human need and a human right. Children and staff at OPAL's schools report feeling less stressed and happier, and more excited about school.



In addition, we have dressing up clothes, a ball playground, a quiet lunchtime club, a scooter and skateboard zone, a quiet area for outdoor art and reading, and 600 tyres for den building. We also have mud kitchens which were kindly made by some Y4 parents. We also have an outdoor music area with pots and pans, as well as instruments donated by the Music Hub.

The children have a fantastic open ended playtime, where they can play with their siblings and children of all ages. It's a return to old fashioned play and our visitors comment on the joy and laughter in our playgrounds.



Our junior children can play across 3 play grounds and we have a sports coach on the playing field everyday organising things like badminton, tennis and field games.

With outdoor play and learning, there is no such thing as bad weather- just bad clothing! So make sure your child has a hat with a hood. Of course, if it rains heavily or the weather is inclement, the children are brought in and play with our 'wet play' toys- then back out as soon as the weather is better.

Please let the Office know if you would like to get involved. We welcome any donations from businesses who can supply loose parts e.g. pipes, pallets or if you are skilled in obtaining funding too.

We are always looking for games, scooters, balls, hoops, tarpaulin etc.

We are now planning the next phase of our outdoor improvements, with work staring over

the summer holiday. This will include two major projects:

- a major revamp for the Reception courtyard, including a new timber tower (design below) and extended canopies to provide better shelter for the children; and
- New canopies for the Key Stage 2 playground to provide shade in sunny weather and shelter from light rain.



For more information, have a look at the OPAL website or get in touch with Mrs Macleod at school.

Year 5 Wonderdome Planetarium Experience

Year 5's thoroughly enjoyed the Wonderdome Experience at the beginning of this term. Children learnt interesting facts about each planet in our Solar System. It was "out of this world!"



Keeping children safe online

The upcoming half term break provides a wonderful opportunity for children to spend quality time with their families, engaging in various activities, including the use of internet-enabled electronic devices. However, it's crucial to acknowledge that during these periods, children may be more exposed to potential risks while exploring the online world and using apps that may not be suitable for their age. Thankfully, the NSPCC (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children) has taken the initiative to publish a valuable guide on age-appropriate apps. By visiting their website, you can easily familiarize yourself with the apps that are specifically designed for your child's age group. This resource serves as an invaluable tool to ensure your child's online experiences are safe, enjoyable, and beneficial for their development.



Please drive carefully

Please keep the children safe by driving slowly and carefully before and after schools, and not pulling up on the zig-zag lines by the school gates. Thank you.

Year 3 Pizza Making

For Design and Technology in Year 3, we have been designing and making healthy pizzas. We learned all about a balanced diet and where food comes from. We had lots of fun tasting different bread bases and toppings. Then we designed a healthy pizza and made them. They were delicious.



Year 3 Science Museum

Year 3 had an interesting visit to The Science Museum. We developed our knowledge of forces and went to the Flight Gallery to learn about the history of flight. From mankind's earliest dreams of flight, through to the Wright brothers and the jumbo jet.



Key Dates for next term

Monday 5 th June	First day back at school
Wednesday 14 th June	Year 6 Dental Screening
Friday 16 th June	Culture Day
Wednesday 21 st June	5A & 5B trip to Eastbury Manor House
Thursday 22 nd June	5C trip to Eastbury Manor House
Thursday 22 nd June	6B & 6C trip to Valence House
Friday 23 rd June	Science Fair
Friday 23 rd June	6A trip to Valence House
Monday 3 rd – Friday 7 th July	Year 6 Careers Week
Tuesday 18 th July	Summer Fair
Thursday 20 th July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Thursday 20 th July	Last day of term (normal times apply)