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### Message from the Headteacher

I would like to start by congratulating the Year 6 children for completing their SATs. They have worked incredibly hard and shown great resilience throughout the year. We are very proud of them and they all deserve to do really well!

Next half term, it will be the turn of our Year 1 and Year 4 children to show off their amazing learning through the national Phonics Screening Check (for Year 1) and the Multiplication Tables Check (for Year 4). Thank you to all parents and carers for the support you continue to give at home - reading with your child, practising spellings and times tables really do make a huge difference to children's progress and confidence.

Earlier this half term, it was wonderful to welcome parents into our new Early Years playground and Nursery classrooms.

The Nursery, Reception and Rainbow Room children now have a really inspiring outdoor space to support role play, language development and, of course, lots of fun! The children in Nursery have also been loving their new classroom furniture — the reading treehouse has been a particular favourite!

Over the last few years, we have raised lots of money through our Christmas and Summer Fairs and we have now started investing that money directly back into improving the children's experience in school. This half term, we have purchased a new table tennis table, board games for Key Stage 2 wet play lunchtimes, new picnic benches and doll houses for the Reception classrooms. During the summer holidays, we will also be using the remaining funds to build an Adventure Trail in the Key Stage 2 playground to provide even more opportunities for active play at lunchtime.

Finally, we have recently created a new Sensory Room and Soft Play Room. These spaces are designed to support learning and regulation, particularly for our youngest children and children with additional needs. We will be holding an opening event for these spaces during Summer 2 and would love for families to come and see them.

We hope that families can see the continued investment we are making into James Cambell Primary School and our commitment to providing the opportunities and environment that our children deserve.

Kind regards,

Miss Breakwell

Headteacher

## The Brilliant Club Graduation

A group of 14 girls from Year 5 recently celebrated their success in The Scholars Programme at the Brilliant Club Graduation event held at City, University of London. As part of the programme, they worked with a PhD tutor to research and write a university-style essay exploring the question, "What are rights?" This was marked by university tutors and the graduation event gave the girls the opportunity to celebrate their achievement. They also had the opportunity to tour the university campus and learn more about higher education and future opportunities. The Park Charity Trust, who sponsored the programme, also attended to support and celebrate the students' accomplishments. We are incredibly proud of the dedication, resilience and enthusiasm shown by all of the girls throughout the programme.



## Science Fair

The theme for this year's Science fair is, 'Curiosity: What's your question?'

It is all about putting children in the driver's seat and encouraging them to find answers to the most pressing questions they have about the world.

Children are tasked with creating a presentation with an interactive element around their year groups question at the Science fair. Their teachers will explain this further. Two presentations from each class will be selected to present at the fair. Parents will be invited to attend. The children have until 5th June to submit an engaging and insightful presentation about their topic and have the chance to win prizes!

We look forward to seeing all the lovely presentations!



## Year 1 St George's Day Assembly

On Thursday 23rd April, the Year 1 children were delighted to share their St George's Day assembly with their parents and carers. The children had worked incredibly hard on their performance, and they all did a fantastic job! The children used loud, clear speaking voices and made sure that everyone in the audience could hear them. They retold the story of St

George and the Dragon, with some excellent acting from the children playing the different characters. The children also performed a poem about a dragon, which they had learned along with actions. Everyone was extremely impressed with the performance. Well done, Year 1 — we are so proud of you all!

#### Year 4 Art Project with Bow Arts

This half-term, Year 4 worked with artist and teacher Kobi Martin, who introduced the children to the art of the Ancient Maya. Learning about the Maya people, their land and daily life inspired the children to create their own artwork through observational drawing, sketching and painting.

The children explored different forms of Maya art, including frescoes discovered on the walls of Maya temples, which depict vivid scenes of daily life, stories, battles and religious ceremonies.

All of the children thoroughly enjoyed creating their own paintings of Mayan landscapes on canvas. They also carefully reproduced detailed drawings of Mayan farming tools, learning about how these tools were used to plant and harvest crops.



#### Attendance Update

We are delighted to see such positive attendance across the school during the Summer 1 term — thank you for your continued support. Good attendance is vital to children’s progress, confidence, and wellbeing. Please remember that if your child is not unwell enough to require antibiotics, we encourage you to give them Calpol and send them into school so they do not miss valuable learning time. If needed, a medical form can be completed at the front office so that staff are able to administer Calpol during

the school day. As we move towards the end of the summer term, there are many exciting lessons, activities, and transition events planned for the children. Please ensure that children continue attending school right up until the final day so they can enjoy time with their friends, meet their new teacher and classmates, and take part in all end-of-term learning and celebrations.



#### Culture Day

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for your support in helping us celebrate the rich and diverse backgrounds within our school community.

It was wonderful to see the children take part in the vibrant parade, proudly showcasing their cultures, and to admire their fantastic work. We also hope you enjoyed the wide variety of delicious food that was shared—it truly reflected the diversity we are so proud of.

Thank you for being part of such a special celebration!



## Early Years Area Improvements

We were delighted to officially open our fantastic new Early Years outdoor area, alongside our newly improved Nursery classrooms. A video has been uploaded to Class Dojo so families can see the wonderful new space in all its glory, and below are some photographs showcasing our exciting new Nursery equipment and amazing outdoor learning environment.

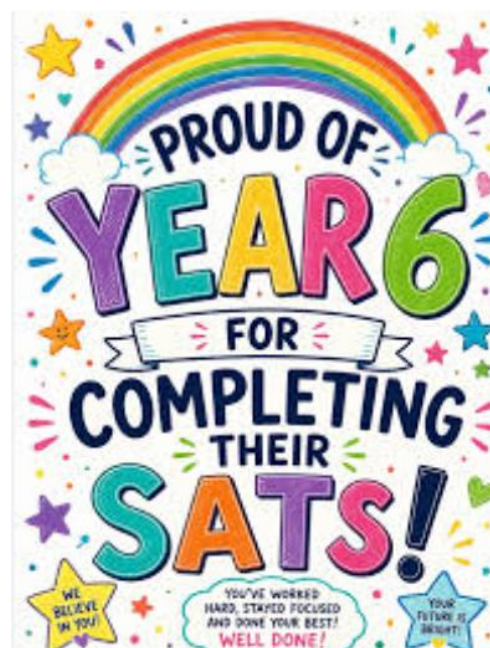
At James Cambell, providing rich, engaging, and inspiring learning experiences is at the heart of everything we do and that begins with our youngest learners. We are incredibly proud of this beautiful new space and hope you agree that it is something truly special. It has been designed to allow children's learning, imagination, confidence, and creativity to flourish, while ensuring they make the very best progress in a safe, stimulating and nurturing environment.



## Year 6 SATs

We are incredibly proud of all our children who recently completed their SATs. Throughout the week, they demonstrated outstanding resilience, determination and a positive attitude, approaching each challenge with the aim of doing their very best. Their hard work, focus and commitment have truly shone through, and they should feel very proud of everything they have achieved.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to all the teachers who have supported the Year 6 cohort throughout the year, helping to prepare them so thoroughly for this important milestone. In addition, we are very grateful to parents and carers for their ongoing support, particularly in ensuring that weekly homework was completed – this has played a vital role in the children's success.



## SEND

As always, thank you for your continued support and partnership—together, we make a powerful difference for our learners. Working together—school, parents, carers and professionals—gives our children the very best chance to thrive. If you have any questions, would like support, or simply want to chat, please don't hesitate to get in touch. We look forward to another successful term supporting our wonderful learners.

### Half-Term Highlights

We've had a busy and positive half term across the school. Here are some of the key successes we're proud to share:

### Strong Progress towards Targets

Children across the SEND register have been working incredibly hard, and we are delighted to see so many pupils making strong, meaningful progress towards their individual targets. Their effort, resilience and determination are shining through— well done to all our learners!

### National Primary Ten Pin Finals

Congratulations to the team who did extremely well to get through to the National final. They showed great resilience and were a great credit to their parents and the school.

### Spotlight on SEND: Understanding Autism

This issue's focus is on Autism, to help families gain a clearer understanding of what it is, how it may affect learners, and how we can support our children together.



### What is Autism?

Autism is a neurodevelopmental difference that affects how a person communicates, interacts with others, and experiences the world around them. It is lifelong, but with the right support and understanding, autistic children can thrive, succeed and feel confident in school and at home.

*Every autistic child is unique—there is no one way to be autistic.*

### How Might Learners Be Affected?

Autistic learners may experience:

- Differences in communication (spoken or non-spoken)
- A strong need for routine and predictability
- Sensory differences—finding some sounds, lights, textures or environments overwhelming
- Intense interests in particular topics
- Social interactions that look different from their peers
- Emotional regulation differences (e.g. anxiety, shutdowns or dysregulation)

- Not all children experience all of these—and many strengths often accompany these differences, including attention to detail, creativity, honesty, and strong memory skills.

### How Parents Can Support Autistic Children at Home



Here are some practical ways to provide structure and reduce stress for autistic learners:

#### Routines and Boundaries

- Predictability helps children feel safe.
- Use simple visual timetables or consistent daily routines.
- Prepare children for changes early and gently.



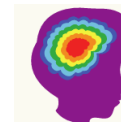
#### Diet and Eating Habits

- Many autistic children have sensory-based food preferences. You can support them by:
  - Offering familiar, safe foods alongside new options without pressure
  - Allowing gradual, low-stress exploration of new tastes or textures
  - Keeping mealtime routines calm and predictable



#### Sleep Routines

- Sleep can be challenging. These steps often help:
  - A calming, consistent bedtime routine
  - Reduced sensory stimulation before bed
  - Dim lighting or white noise if soothing
  - Avoiding heavy screen use before sleep (blue light disrupts sleep signals)



#### Reducing Digital Dependence

- While iPads and screens can be motivating and calming for some children, too much reliance can affect sleep, behaviour and flexibility. Try:
  - Setting clear, consistent screen-time boundaries
  - Creating “screen-free” times of day

- Offering alternative calming activities such as drawing, building, puzzles or sensory play
- Using screens as part of a balanced routine rather than the main source of regulation



### Key dates for next term

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	First day of term
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Year 6 attending LBBB Junior Citizen event
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Farm visit for EYFS & KS1
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Y6 Go Ape trip
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Y2 trip to Mosque
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	6B Ben Kinsella trip
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	6A Ben Kinsella trip
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Y3 Science Museum trip
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	History Bee
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Reception (10am) & Year 1 (1:30pm) Sports Day
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	6C Ben Kinsella trip
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 Bikeability Programme (select pupils only)
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 2 (10am) & Year 3 (1:30pm) Sports Day
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 (10am) & Year 5 (1:30pm) Sports Day
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Science Fair
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Year 6 (10am) Sports Day
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Year 1 Chalkwell Beach trip
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 2 Chalkwell Beach trip
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Chalkwell Beach trip
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 5 Chalkwell Beach trip
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Careers Week
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3 Chalkwell Beach trip
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Year 4 Chalkwell Beach trip
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 5 Geography Bee
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Summer Fair
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Black & White Ball
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of term