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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 all very proud of them and they deserve to do 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 great – reading to your child or practising times tables and spellings with them makes a huge difference to their progress.

This week was national Walk to School Week and we really encourage everyone who can to leave the car at home and find other ways to get to school. There are lots of benefits:

- Health and Wellbeing: walking improves children's physical health and mental wellbeing, leading to better concentration and academic performance
- Environmental Impact: reducing car journeys decreases traffic congestion and air pollution around schools, contributing to a healthier environment
- Community Engagement: walking to school fosters a sense of community, allowing children and parents to connect with their local surroundings and neighbours
- Road Safety: fewer cars before and after school leads to greater safety for everyone.

If you do need to drive to school, please be careful and drive slowly, and do not park on zigzag lines or in front of residents' driveways.

I wish you all a very happy half-term holiday and look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday 2nd June.

VE Day

On 8th May 2025, the school joined in the celebrations to mark the 80th anniversary of VE Day.

The flag was raised outside the school and the dining hall was covered in bunting for a special VE Day lunch. Children impeccably observed the two-minute silence at 12pm and discussed the significance of VE Day in their classes.

At the celebration assemblies we talked about the importance of VE Day in remembering how the sacrifices made by those in the past have helped give us the freedoms we have today.



Year 3 Design & Technology

On 1st May, Year 3 had a fantastic tasting session as part of our Design and Technology topic making pizzas. The children had the opportunity to taste a variety of breads and toppings such as cheese, olives, peppers, onions, pineapple, and sweetcorn.

For some children, it was their first time trying some of these toppings—and they absolutely loved the experience! It was great to see their enthusiasm and adventurous taste buds in action.

On 22nd May their creativity really shone when they designed, made and ate their own pizzas!



The children in Year 3 also took part in some stitching and sewing activities as part of their Design and Technology lessons—and they absolutely loved it!



Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS)

Multiplication facts are important to support further maths topics such as fractions, percentages, area and perimeter as well as being an important life skill.

In year 4, the children will be taking their multiplication test in June. Please encourage your child from years 2-6 to use TTRS to support their practice. It really does make a difference!



Year 4 Greek Day

Greek Day was a huge success. We had the best day designing our own Greek pots competing in our own Greek Olympics and enjoying a Mythology workshop.

Wouldn't you agree that all the children look like gods and goddesses! It was a fun day had by all.



Year 1 St Georges Day Assembly

The children in Year 1 all worked extremely hard to rehearse and then to share their St George's Day assembly. They all used their loudest and clearest speaking voices and did a fantastic job of speaking confidently to their audience. They finished their assembly with a performance of a poem about a dragon!



Easter Parade Brings Joy to The James Cambell Primary

The spirit of spring was in full bloom at The James Cambell Primary School as pupils, parents, and staff came together to celebrate this year's Easter Parade. The playground was alive with colour and creativity as children proudly wore handmade Easter bonnets, each one uniquely decorated with bunnies, chicks, flowers, and plenty of sparkle.

Parents lined the route with smiles and cheers, showing their wonderful support and sharing in the festive fun. It was heart-warming to see families and staff encouraging the children, who clearly took great pride in their imaginative creations.

The parade was not only a delightful way to mark the season but also a lovely reminder of the strong school community that makes events like these so special.

The Year Two children sounded so confident in their Easter assembly which followed.



Year Two had a fantastic time putting on their Easter assembly! We acted out the Easter story, helping everyone remember its special meaning. We also learned how Easter is celebrated around the world and shared some of these traditions during our performance. To finish, we sang a cheerful Easter bonnet song while wearing our colourful bonnets. It was a fun and memorable way to celebrate together!

Once again, the children in KS2 surpassed themselves with their creations in the Easter egg decorating competition. Mr Wilson and Reverend Faye had a tough time choosing the

winners. Thank you to all the parents that joined in the fun.

The children in the juniors were very well behaved and listened attentively to the Easter Story led by Reverend Faye.



The Importance of Primary School Attendance in the Summer Term

As we approach the second half of the summer term, it's crucial to emphasise the significance of consistent school attendance for our primary aged children. While the appeal of warmer weather and upcoming holidays may tempt families to take time off, maintaining regular school attendance during this period is vital for several reasons:

1. Prevention of Summer Learning Loss

Extended breaks from school can lead to "summer learning loss," where students forget previously learned material. By attending school consistently in the summer term, children can retain and build upon their knowledge, ensuring a smoother transition into the next academic year.

2. Building Positive Attendance Habits

Establishing a routine of regular school attendance helps children develop positive habits that will benefit them throughout their education. Consistent attendance fosters a sense of responsibility and prepares students for the expectations they will encounter in higher education and the workforce.

3. Maximising Educational Opportunities

Each day of school provides unique learning experiences that contribute to a child's academic and social development. Missing school, even occasionally, can result in gaps in learning and missed opportunities for enrichment activities. Regular attendance ensures that children fully benefit from the curriculum and extracurricular offerings.

4. Enhancing Social Connections

School is not only a place for academic learning but also for social interaction. Regular attendance allows children to build and maintain friendships, develop communication skills, and participate in group activities that enhance their social development.

5. Supporting Long-Term Success

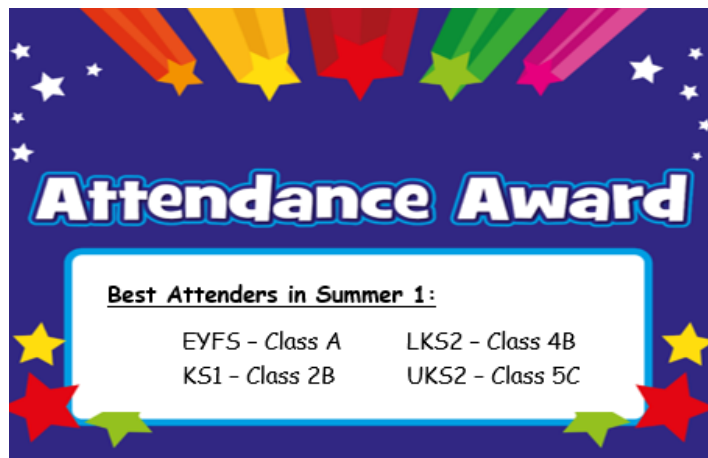
Studies have shown a strong link between good school attendance and improved academic outcomes. Children who attend school regularly are more likely to achieve higher grades and have better prospects for future education and employment.

✓ Tips to Encourage Regular Attendance

- **Establish a Consistent Routine:** Ensure your child has a regular bedtime and morning routine to prepare them for school.
- **Address Health Concerns Promptly:** If your child is feeling unwell, consult with a healthcare professional to determine whether they should attend school.
- **Communicate with the School:** If your child is experiencing difficulties that

may affect their attendance, reach out to the school for support and guidance.

By prioritising regular school attendance during the summer term, we can help our children achieve their full potential and set them on a path to lifelong success.



PTA

Your views matter!

At James Cambell, we very strongly believe that children are happiest and make the most progress when the school and parents/carers work closely together. We therefore want to find out what you think.

Please let us know what you think the school is doing well and any ideas for improvement

by completing our annual parent survey. It will only take a few minutes.

You can complete the survey any time before Monday 9th June.

[Please click here to access the parent survey.](#)

Barking Dagenham and Havering Community Anti-Racist Competition 2025

Year 6 Go Ape

On Friday 16th 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 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 5 Social Enterprise Project

The Year 5 Social Enterprise Group has achieved an impressive milestone by winning the Social Community Award with their fantastic Dragon's Den pitch. Their preparation and delivery were amazing; they should be incredibly proud of their efforts. The team focused on the pressing issue of homelessness, identifying it as a significant social problem. They devised an innovative product, customised friendship bracelets, aimed at children, to raise funds for care packages benefiting the homeless. This initiative has not only highlighted their dedication to social causes but also helped them gain invaluable skills in problem-solving and social entrepreneurship.



Sports Competitions/Events

It's been a fantastic term in PE! Our Key Stage 2 pupils have had the opportunity to take part in a range of exciting enrichment activities, including fencing, archery, and tennis. The children thoroughly enjoyed trying out new sports and showed great enthusiasm and teamwork throughout. It was brilliant to see them applying a wide range of physical skills in fun and challenging ways.

We were also proud to take part in a Gymnastics Festival, where our pupils showcased their flexibility, balance, and creativity. Another highlight was our participation in a Basketball Tournament, where the team performed brilliantly and secured an amazing 2nd place out of 19 schools – a huge congratulations to everyone involved!

Looking ahead, the final term promises to be just as exciting. Pupils will be focusing on cricket, continuing to develop their coordination, communication, and tactical thinking.

Well done to everyone for a fantastic term – let's keep the energy going!



Science Fair

We are excited to announce that the Science Fair theme this year is 'Creating a Sustainable Future!'

The children have been learning about different sustainability topics in Science



throughout the year and the fair is a great opportunity for them to share how we can make a positive impact on the world around us.

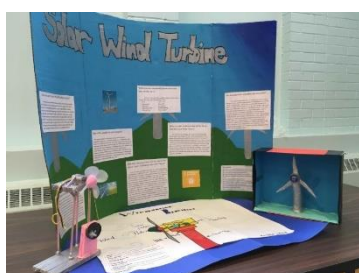
Children are tasked with creating a presentation around their year groups' topic. Their teachers will explain this further. Two presentations from each class will be selected to present at the fair. Parents will be invited to attend and there will be prizes! The children have until the **6th of June** to submit an engaging and insightful presentation about their topic. See below for some examples.

We look forward to seeing all the lovely presentations!



Key dates for next term

Monday 2 June	First day of term
Monday 2 June	Year 4 Multiplication Check
Tuesday 10 June	Cambell Music Festival (A Classes)
Wednesday 11 June	Cambell Music Festival (C Classes)
Thursday 12 June	Cambell Music Festival (B Classes)
Monday 16 June	New Reception Stay & Play session (Class B) 2pm-3pm
Wednesday 18 June	New Reception Stay & Play session (Class A) 2pm-3pm
Thursday 19 June	Culture Day
Friday 20 June	New Reception Stay & Play session (Class C) 2pm-3pm
Monday 23 June	Science Fair
Tuesday 24 June	Year 1 trip to Chalkwell Beach
Wednesday 25 June	Year 2 trip to Chalkwell Beach
Wednesday 25 June	Jo Richardson new intake evening
Thursday 26 June	Year 5 trip to Chalkwell Beach
Friday 27 June	Year 6 trip to Chalkwell Beach
Monday 30 June	Year 4 trip to Chalkwell Beach
Monday 30 June – Friday 4 July	Year 6 Careers Week
Tuesday 1 July	Year 3 trip to Chalkwell Beach
Friday 4 July	Jo Richardson Year 6 transition day
Tuesday 15 July	Summer Fair
Wednesday 16 July	Year 6 Black & White Ball
Thursday 17 July	Nursery last day of term (Nursery closed on Friday 18 July)
Friday 18 July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Friday 18 July	Last day of term



Sports day dates will be confirmed via ParentMail after we return from the half term holidays.