



1<sup>st</sup> April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well we have made it to the end of term – with both sunshine and snow!

Our outside assembly yesterday morning was a little chilly but we wanted to get together to say a huge thank you to Taz Kadodia, who is stepping back from her lunchtime duties after 15 years at school. Taz also makes the toast for the children each day and we calculated that in her time at the school she has probably made in excess of 290,000 pieces of toast! We are pleased she is staying on to support at breakfast club each morning.

At the end of this term I also wanted to say a huge thank you to the whole Camp School staff team having just navigated our way through a very tricky few weeks staffing wise. I am sure you will agree they have been amazing and I know you will have been welcomed on the classroom doors with a big smile from whoever has been asked to lead in that room that day. Their flexibility, positivity and wealth of experience has meant we could keep delivering the learning for the children each day.

The staff deserve a rest but so do all the children. They have worked hard and shown great resilience and determination in their learning. It has been lovely to hear from the teachers about how well children are doing across the school. I am also starting to read all the progress reports that have been written for children in Years 1 – 6 in the last weeks. These will be coming home to you right at the start of the Summer Term.

Thank you for your support over this term too. It has been lovely to start welcoming you back into school for class assembly and for the year 4 performance. We have lots of plans for further events next term and will let you have dates early in the summer term. We also thank you for your support of PA events this term and for our fundraising activities. The children have all planted their sunflowers as part of our Reach out for Refugees activities. They also enjoyed wearing red accessories, buying red noses and guessing how many sweets were in the jar for Red Nose Day. Congratulations to William in Year 6 who won the sweets and the School Council for organising the day. We raised a total of £291.20.

### School Lunches

I need to advise that the cost of school dinners for the Summer Term has increased to £2.80. This is due to an increase from Herts Catering. We would also like to remind parents that packed lunches cannot include any items that contain nuts and should provide a healthy balanced lunch and no sweets.

So much has happened in school over the last few weeks and we wanted to share some of the highlights with you before we finish for Easter.



**Nursery** loved celebrating World Book Day. The staff dressed up as characters from the book they had been learning from, Jack and the Beanstalk. The children loved coming in their costumes from favourite books and shared their stories throughout the day.



**Reception** have loved their Forest School sessions this half-term. They did get rather muddy but have been so enthusiastic when talking about their experiences and how much fun they have had. Lily said, 'We made fairy houses and they gave us little notes!' This week the children have been making Easter bonnets and learning about the Christian story of Easter.



The children have been super busy in **Year 1** learning about the seasons and creating their own Spring checklist - unfortunately they didn't find the lambs in school that they thought they might! They have also been learning about measurement in maths very practically – estimating and measuring the distance from year 1 to the end of the field. They loved their first try out of the new sandpit too.

Year 2 have been on 3 local RE visits this term to help them make comparisons between religions and their places of worship. For World Book Day the children took part in the BBC live lesson where they watched author interviews and were taught the importance of story planning. They of course loved dressing up as their favourite book characters too.



Year 3 impressed us all – and their parents and carers – with an amazing class assembly recently. They shared their recorder playing, African dancing, English learning and beautiful singing. They have also been to visit St Luke's Church and had a visitor in to support their RE learning. Last week they went to Chiltern Open Air Museum as part of their History topic on Stone Age to Iron Age. What a busy few weeks!

As well as a fantastic Viking & Anglo-Saxon play, **Year 4** have enjoyed fun and engaging netball sessions this half-term. These have been delivered by Year 12 & 13 students from the netball academy at Samuel Ryder. Kyla, Noah, Rowan and Samah were awarded certificates in recognition of the outstanding achievement, progress and effort that they had put into the netball sessions.



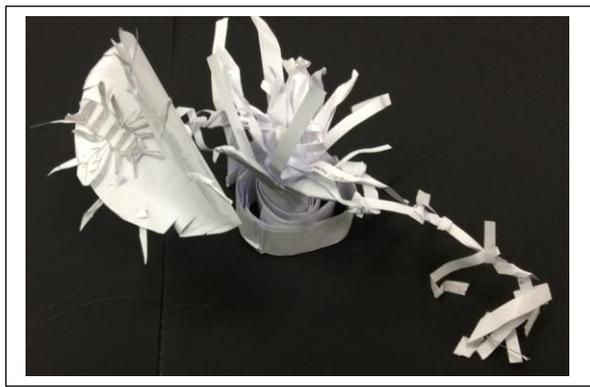
On Wednesday 23rd March, Year 5 spent a wonderful day exploring Kew Gardens in the glorious sunshine. During the day the children got to use a range of different scientific instruments to investigate the rainforest habitat located in one of Kew's famous glasshouses. In one of the glasshouses the children learnt about the world's smelliest flower called the Titan arum, which is dubbed the 'corpse flower' because it stinks of rotting flesh. Fortunately for us, the flower was not yet in bloom! They also experienced some great views of the gardens and London after climbing up the Treetop Walkway.



On world book day Year 6 focused their work on The Lost Words Book – a beautiful text that inspired the staff outfits that day too. They started with a page full of text and looked for a theme within the writing, then selected key words linked to their theme and blacked out the rest of the text. Their focused work led to some very poignant poems which they then illustrated. The children have also been enjoying their History learning related to World War II this term. We are proud of how hard they have been working across the curriculum.

## Science Week

British science week took place between the 11<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> March with a theme of 'Growth'. As part of the week the children were set a challenge by our science lead Mrs Holliday to create a plant using paper from our recycling bins. They were allowed to use scissors and their engineering skills but no glue or sellotape which was very tricky. Our school's winning entries were sent to SETPOINT Hertfordshire to be judged against other schools. Well done to everyone for having a go. Entries below from Phoebe L and Grace D Year 1, Martha and Liriel in Year 6 and Harry and Daniel VL in Year 5.



During the week we also created a new willow dome in the main playground with the help of Fred and Joy – two of our amazing volunteers – and the Year 5 children. Children from Year 2 and 3 then helped to create a wild flower river just in front of our Forest area at the bottom of the field. We look forward to seeing this bloom in the months ahead and provide a haven for bees and butterflies.

## Sporting updates

The Spring term has been a very busy and sporty one with matches coming thick and fast in cross-country, football and netball. It has been great to involve more children from Years 4, 5 and 6 in these matches and to experience first-hand some fantastic sportsmanship and fair play regardless of the result. Well done to everyone who has taken part and supported these teams whatever the weather and conditions.



Back in February, Elodie from Year 5 competed in the Hertfordshire Schools Cross-Country Championships, which took place at Verulamium Park. She finished a fantastic 5<sup>th</sup> place, which meant that Elodie qualified to compete at the National Cross-Country Championships. This event took place on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March in Market Harborough where Elodie ran against 143 other Year 5 girls from different schools and clubs across the country. She finished in an excellent 31<sup>st</sup> place and Hertfordshire won the team event overall.



## Girls' football friendly



A team consisting of Year 5 and 6 girls played their first friendly football match in March against a girls' team from Skyswood Primary School. It was a great experience for both teams and especially because Camp won the match 6-0. What a start!

## Dates

School return after Easter on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April.

We have an additional day off for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May.

Half-term is from Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

We have an INSET day on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June and then school finishes for the summer holidays on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July at 1.30pm. Other key dates for the term will be circulated as soon as we are back after Easter.

I hope you all have a lovely Easter break  
With best wishes

Sharon Barton  
Head Teacher