

April 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,



Welcome back to the Summer Term! I hope you all had a wonderful Easter break. I am very much looking forward to another successful term with your children and I am sure they will continue to impress me with their curiosity, determination and kindness. The Summer Term is always a great one as the sun (hopefully) shines and the children show such perseverance to reach their potential.

Summer Term Learning

In **English**, we will start by looking at the stunning book, 'The Lost Book of Adventure: from the notebooks of the Unknown Adventurer'. A facsimile edition of the tattered notebooks of the Unknown Adventurer, this love letter to the wild details everything you need to know about how to live and thrive in nature, from the principles of treehouse building to wilderness first aid. We will then use this to write an explanation text. Following that, we will write to persuade by making and performing an advertising campaign, Dragon's Den style.

In **maths**, we will start with learning about translation and reflection. We will master moving shapes through different quadrants. The children will work with coordinates, including negative, to locate shapes too! We will then move on to identifying and naming angles before moving on to problem solving with missing angles in shapes. Into Summer 2, we will be tackling interpreting data, distance time graphs, all four operations and Roman Numerals.

In **science**, this term, we are learning about animals including humans. During the unit, we will learn about the changes humans go through as they grow and develop from birth to old age. This will include learning about the changes that we go through during puberty. As well as focusing on physical health, we will ensure that the children develop their knowledge of mental health and strategies for looking after themselves and others.

For our **history**, this term, we will be exploring significant people in St Albans history. We will look at the blue plaques around St Albans and decide on the criteria that we feel should be used to obtain a blue plaque. We will use a selection of sources to explore the impact of these significant people and how they have shaped the city in which we live. We will look at some local figures include Lady Margaret Wix and Steven Hawking.

Moving into Summer 2, in **geography**, we will be completing a study on local rivers. We will begin our study about the different features of rivers and practise using vocabulary to describe them. This vocabulary will include: **estuary, tributary, mouth, source**. We will also recap our understanding of the water cycle and how rivers are crucial in this process. For our fieldwork, we will be travelling down to Verulamium to study its features. We will learn all about how rivers can support the community in which they are found.

In **computing** this term, the children will be looking at programming using a software called Crumble. We will experience drawing designs and testing algorithms. We will also build on our understanding of programming by making selection quizzes.

PE session will be taught on **Thursday** – the children will be focussing on athletics and golf 2. Children will need to wear their PE kit to school on this day and will remain in them all day so will not need uniform to change into. Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit so they can participate successfully.

We will be following the Jigsaw scheme of work for Personal, Social and Health Education (**PSHE**). This begins by looking at 'Relationships'. We explore what relationships we have in our lives and how we can ensure these are positive and successful. In Summer 2, we will move on to the topic of 'Changing Me.' This is part of the RSE curriculum and more information will be sent out regarding this. The children will receive weekly awards in assembly related to the skills taught in these lessons.

PPA

Weekly planning time will be covered by Mr Stevenson-Leigh, who will be teaching the children PE. Mrs Campbell-Pugh will also be delivering art. This term, we will be looking at painting and mixed media and cooking and nutrition.

Trip opportunities

This term sees three trips for us, which is really exciting! You will receive the necessary information before the time for these. We will be going to Abbott's Hill school to be immersed in a day full of the arts, we will take part in a river trip to the chalk stream in St Albans and, of course, we will have fun at the camp out on the school grounds!

Key dates

Friday 8 th May	Camp out
Wednesday 20 th May	River trip
Tuesday 2 nd June	Abbott's Hill trip
Friday 10 th July (Reserve date Friday 17 th July)	Sports Day from 1 pm
Thursday 16 th July	End of year production – year 5 choir

Home Learning

Homework is an essential part of school, as it helps children to continue learning and make progress. Please continue to read with your child every day and sign their reading records. We hope many children become Reading champions at the end of each term. In Years Five and Six, children may choose to read independently at home. This should be for at least ten minutes and should be recorded in their reading record daily. It is important that you talk to your child about what they have read; you will find some question stems that could be used to support such conversations on our class page. On our class page, you will find a list of recommended texts for Year 5 that are suitably challenging. Please ensure your child hands in their reading record each day so that these can be checked and books changed.

Maths Magicians

There are a number of key mathematical facts that children should know and remember. These are, of course, taught in school but it is essential that children practise them at home too. Children will be quizzed on their maths facts every Friday. As they progress through the different stages of facts, children have the opportunity to earn rewards and work towards becoming Maths Magicians!

Maths, Arithmetic and English Workbooks

Each week, your child will be set a new exercise from their workbooks that will help consolidate their understanding of key facts and methods. It is crucial your children practise these skills each week to aid their fluency and support them with the transition into learning in Year 6.

It is going to be a great term with lots of exciting learning opportunities. Please see the school's website for key dates and any extra useful resources to help your child at home.

With kind regards,

Mrs Smith

