



St. Alban's C of E Primary School

HEADTEACHERS NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS

NO 1

5 September 2007

Dear Parents

Welcome back - I hope you all had a good summer break! I was very pleased to see the children again and they all look very smart in their uniforms - long may it continue!



SCHOOL UNIFORM



As the weather is still warm, girls are welcome to wear their summer dresses until the end of September.

Knight and Lee will be coming to school on Tuesday 12 September from 3.00pm for parents to order any winter uniform, including blue blazers. Badges with the school crest are available from the school office for blazer pockets.

Coats are also available to order from the school and cost £11.95. A sample is available in the office for you to view.

Girls with long hair should also make sure that their hair is tied back; not only does this look smart but it can help to prevent any headlice problems. Our uniform policy states "*Hair decorations should be purely functional, ie flat hair clips and plain hairbands or scrunchies in school colours (blue or red)*". The school office stocks red and blue gingham scrunchies at 65p each.



Some secondhand uniform is available at school, including girls' winter tunics and coats.

PE KIT

Children require their PE kit every Monday to Friday. Their PE lessons may have to change according to the weather. Please ensure that children have plain white cotton shorts (available from the school office) and not the Nike/Adidas nylon shorts. Years R to 5 must wear plimsolls. Year 6 may wear trainers.

MRS HARDYMAN - LEADING MATHS TEACHER

Congratulations to Mrs Hardyman for having been accredited as a leading maths teacher in our local area. This means that teachers from other schools can draw on Mrs Hardyman's expertise in the teaching of mathematics.

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

I am delighted to have a huge pile of completed Summer Reading Challenges on my desk and children are eagerly asking me when the extra playtime will be. This will take place next week, so please ensure all outstanding forms are at school by Friday 7 September.



LOLLIPOP LADY

Please remember to use the lollipop lady when crossing St Alban's Road or Littlegreen Avenue as it is often very busy at the start and end of the day.

CONTACT DETAILS



If you have moved house or changed telephone numbers during the summer break, please remember to inform the school office of any changes to emergency contact details, particularly mobile telephone numbers. Thank you.

DINNER MONEY

Just a reminder that school dinners cost £1.80 per day (£9.00 per week). Please refer to the table below when working out how much to send in each week.



	1 child	2 children
1 day	£1.80	£3.60
2 days	£3.60	£7.20
3 days	£5.40	£10.80
4 days	£7.20	£14.40
5 days	£9.00	£18.00

At the end of last term a great deal of administration time was spent dealing with late and incorrect payments. This time costs the school money, which could be spent on other things to benefit the children.

Therefore, exact money **must** be sent on a **Monday morning**, even if your child only intends to have dinners on other days during that week. Cheques should be made payable to HCC and **do not** need to be in an envelope. Please write your child's name and class on the reverse.

With effect from next week, any children who have not brought their week's dinner money into school on Monday morning will not be given a lunch. Mrs Mann will be telephoning parents to ask them to either bring in the dinner money or provide a packed lunch.

TEACHER AND PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

These sessions provide an opportunity for parents to come and meet their child's new teacher and discuss classroom routines, homework and areas of study. It is also a chance for you to ask questions. An information sheet will be sent home for parents who cannot attend. Sessions will be in the classrooms and start at 3.00pm. Please enter the school via the office.

Tuesday 11 September	Year 3
Wednesday 12 September	Year 4
Thursday 13 September	Year 1
Tuesday 18 September	Year 2
Tuesday 18 September	Year 5 **

(**followed by a meeting for parents and children at 3.30pm regarding the Stubbington trip).

An information evening for Year 6 parents will be held on Wednesday 26 September at 6.00pm. This will last approximately 45 minutes and include information about secondary school applications. Children are not required to attend, but are welcome to come if they would like to.

APPOINTMENTS WITH TEACHERS

If you would like to see a teacher or TASK before or after school, please come to the school office in the first instance. Please do not enter the school by any other door in the interests of child protection as we need to know who has entered the school. Thank you.

MUSIC TUITION FEES

A reminder that all music tuition fees are due by Friday 14 September. Thank you.



HARVEST FESTIVAL

This year, our Harvest celebrations are on Tuesday 2 October at 9.10am and parents are very welcome to attend. Donations of flowers, fruit and food are traditionally brought into school the day before. Parents are also invited to help decorate the school on Monday 1st at 1.00pm. After the service, food is taken to the Two Saints Centre in Portsmouth, where meals are provided for homeless people.



Once again, children will be growing a beanstalk to raise money for Dr Barnado's and a representative will be coming into school on Friday 7 September to talk to the children and give out the beans.



ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL

I would like to remind parents that children are supervised on the Key Stage 2 playground from 8.45am. Any children arriving before this time are unsupervised and are still the parent's legal responsibility should any accidents happen. A breakfast club is run by TASK for children who need to be dropped off early and further details are available via the school office.

PARENTS' COFFEE MORNING

This year, I am again planning to hold a coffee morning for parents every half term. This will give you the opportunity to meet other parents in the school and ask me any questions. I will also give short talks on a variety of subjects. The first coffee morning will be on Wednesday 26 September at 9.00am in the library and will be finished by 10.00am and I will be giving a short overview of the renowned book 'Toxic Childhood' by Sue Palmer. I look forward to seeing you there - toddlers, babies and grandparents welcome!



CLUBS

Key Stage 2 Clubs will run from mid-October and you will receive more information soon. In the past, many clubs for small groups of children have been run by parents. These have included sewing, crafts, Christmas card making, art etc. The children thoroughly enjoy these activities, so please let the school office know if you would like to run a club for one hour a week.

NEW LANE BRIDGE

Just to inform you that work to strengthen the bridge in New Lane is scheduled to start on 15 October and continue for approximately eight weeks. During this time a diversion will be put in place along Crossland Drive, Petersfield Road and Bartons Road. Pedestrians may still use the route during the work.



CHILD AND FAMILY THERAPY

Caroline Howard, from the Child and Family Therapy Team will be visiting on Wednesday 3 October from 1.00-3.00pm. Caroline can offer advice and support on a variety of childhood behaviours such as bed wetting, anger management, low self-esteem, aggressive or defiant behaviour and anxiety. Parents can request an appointment in advance via the school office. All meetings will be conducted with strict confidentiality.

DIARY DATES

A list of all class assemblies and other important dates throughout the year will be sent home later this week.

With best wishes