



St Alban's C of E Primary School

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS

NO 5

2 December 2011

Dear Parents

Our Christmas festivities have started well with the Christmas Fair yesterday and the Christmas dinner today.



As usual, the Fair was very well organised and hugely enjoyable for the children. Over £1,050 was raised and this will be used for the school pantomime and other exciting events for the children during the year. Many thanks to Elspeth Warren and her hardworking team of HSA volunteers who have made this such a wonderful experience.

CHRISTMAS TREE



Thank you to Mr and Mrs Triggs who organised the donation of our Christmas tree from Stansted House and Garden Centre this year.

INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS

The last week of instrumental teaching will be the week beginning 5 December and the last band practice was yesterday, Thursday 1 December. After Christmas, the first lessons will be during the week beginning 2 January for brass, woodwind and violin and during the week of 9 January for piano and guitar. The first band practice will be Thursday 5 January.



TISSUES



If your child is suffering from a cough or cold, please can you make sure that they bring their own tissues into school. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS CARDS



I know that many of the children are keen to start writing their Christmas cards, so class lists will be sent out later this week to help them. I always believe that if a card is worth sending it is worth spelling names correctly and writing neatly! The school post box will be out from Friday 2 December, but cards will not be given out until the week of Monday 12th. Please can you ensure that children put both names and the class on their envelopes as they will be sorted and delivered by Year 6 children. Cards are to be taken and opened at home.

SCHOOL CALENDARS/TEA TOWELS



The 2012 school calendar picturing each child in their birthday month is on sale at the school office. The calendars cost £5.00 each, but there are only a limited number available, so buy early to avoid disappointment.

The school tea towels featuring the children's self portraits are also on sale at the same time. These will cost £3.50 each.

APPLICATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2012

Applications for admission to Reception in September 2012 can be made on-line via www.hants.gov.uk/admissions or on a paper form from the school office. Parents applying under a Christian Commitment criteria must also complete a Supplementary Information Form.

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

KS2 Concert

Just a reminder that the evening performance of the KS2 concert is on Thursday 8 December at 7.00pm. Children need to arrive no earlier than 6.40pm and the evening will last approximately 1¼ hours. The HSA will be serving refreshments during the interval.



There will be an additional performance on the afternoon of Wednesday 7 December at 1.30pm to ease the pressure of space in the hall and we would ask that parents and grandparents attend one or the other, but not both performances. We would also urge parents with younger toddlers to attend in the afternoon as tired, noisy youngsters can distract the performers.

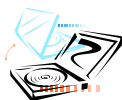
KS1 Nativity



The KS1 nativity will be on Tuesday 14 December, starting at 9.45am. This is a very popular event, so please ensure you arrive in good time so that all parents and grandparents are seated before the performance begins. As usual, a crèche will be available for younger siblings. There will be no room in the hall for buggies, so please leave these in the library and please take noisy babies and toddlers out of the room as this spoils the event for other parents.

DVDs

Separate DVDs of both the Nativity and the KS2 Concert will be available and a letter will be sent out with more details.



END OF TERM EUCHARIST



On the last day of term, Friday 16 December, our end of term Eucharist will be held at the school at 2.00pm. Parents are very welcome to attend this service.

E-SAFETY VIDEO



The Headteacher from St James' School in Emsworth hosted an e-safety talk earlier this year and has invited others to view the session. If you would like to learn more about this for your children, please watch the video on <http://www.viddler.com/explore/StJamesCECPSEms/videos/9/>

FREE SCHOOL MEALS FUNDS



All schools receive funding called Pupil Premium based on the number of pupils eligible for free school meals. However, we do not always know how many families may be entitled to free meals and appreciate that disclosing this information can be a very sensitive issue. However, in order to get maximum benefit, we need to ensure that all those eligible notify us. This does not mean that the children need to eat school dinners, but by registering, funds can be claimed. More information can be found on the website www.direct.gov.uk.



Application forms are available from the school office, so if you feel you meet the eligibility criteria, please complete and return to Mrs Mann as soon as possible.

DIARY DATES

Wed 7 Dec	KS2 Concert (1.30pm)
Thurs 8 Dec	KS2 Concert (7.00pm)
Mon 12 Dec	KS1 Nativity (9.45am)
	KS1 Party (afternoon)
Tues 13 Dec	Y3/4 Party (pm)
Wed 14 Dec	Y5/6 Party (pm)
Thurs 15 Dec	Pantomime (pm)
Fri 16 Dec	Last Day of Term/Eucharist
Tues 3 Jan	Children return to school

With best wishes

