



# St. Alban's C of E Primary School

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS

NO 6

29 November 2010

Dear Parents



I would like to thank you for your support recently. The HSA have organised and hosted numerous events which have been good fun for the children and parents as well as exceptional fundraisers. The Pamper Evening was particularly enjoyable and successful, raising £181 as well as bringing parents together.

In addition, we seem to have many parent helpers in the classrooms who are easing the load for teachers and teaching assistants. As I show prospective parents around the school they have commented on the number of parents and grandparents helping in the classrooms, so thank you once again for your support.

## VISIT BY NEW BISHOP



I would like to remind parents that on Sunday 5 December, our new Bishop, Christopher Foster, will be attending the service at St Alban's Church. Please can as many children as possible attend the 10.00am Eucharist on that day wearing their school uniform. Children from Year 6 will be reading prayers and I will be there as well to represent our school.

## ADVENT



This week, your child will be bringing home a booklet to celebrate the Advent season.

They have had a special assembly with Mrs Phillips, so they should be able to tell you all about it!

## WHAT TO DO IF IT SNOWS ...



St Alban's will only close as an absolute last resort. In the event of heavy snow or extreme weather, please visit our school website [www.st-albans.hants.sch.uk](http://www.st-albans.hants.sch.uk) where there will be information regarding any imminent school closure.

If it does snow, we are very keen to take the children outside for snowman building competitions and snowball fights (**with rules!**). Please send children to school with warm vests, school colour hats and gloves and a change of footwear, preferably wellies, with thick/thermal socks.

## CHILDCARE PROVISION



Thank you to the parents who returned the yellow forms regarding their requirements for before and after school care. These have been passed to Scott Hickman.

We have now received information from Glenhurst regarding the services they will offer as well as their prices. They are holding an Open Afternoon on Saturday 4 December from 2.00-3.00pm and would welcome both parents and children to come along and view the facilities and meet the staff. Registration and information packs will also be available.

If you would like a copy of the information we have received, please collect it from the school office or send a note via your child and we can send it home.

## CHRISTMAS FAIR



Thank you to all the parents who have already sent in contributions for the Christmas Fair. We are, however, still in need of more small gifts, so please continue to support this event by sending in your items as soon as possible.

## JOLLY JAM JAR NON UNIFORM DAY - MONDAY 6 DECEMBER



Just a reminder that on Monday 6 December we are holding a non-uniform day for jam jars for the Christmas Fair.

## SANTA AND THE NSPCC



Santa Claus and the NSPCC have joined together to send letters to children this Christmas. For a suggested donation of £5, Santa will write a beautifully illustrated personalised letter to a child. For more information, visit [www.nspccwishes.org.uk](http://www.nspccwishes.org.uk). All monies raised will go towards running the ChildLine service.

## INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS



The last week of instrumental teaching will be the week beginning 6 December and the last band practice will be on Friday 10 December. After Christmas, the first lessons will be during the week beginning 3 January for brass and piano and week beginning 10 January for woodwind and violin. The date for the first band practice will be notified shortly.



On 13 January, there will be a Parent Information Meeting in the Music Room for anyone in Years 2-6 who would like their child to start learning the violin. The meeting will be at 3.35am and will last approximately 20 minutes.

## NATIVITY ON BBC1



Four episodes of a new production by Tony Jordan are to be broadcast in the week leading up to Christmas. More information can be found on the BBC website [www.bbc.co.uk/pressoffice/pressreleases/stories/2010/04\\_april/30/nativity.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/pressoffice/pressreleases/stories/2010/04_april/30/nativity.shtml)

## 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 Monday 13 December. Please can you ensure that your children put both names and the class on their envelopes as they will be sorted and delivered by Year 6 children. Christmas cards are to be taken and opened at home.

## SCHOOL CALENDARS AND TEA TOWELS



The 2011 school calendar picturing each child in their birthday month has arrived and will be on sale at the school office from 8.30am each day. 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 will also be on sale at the same time as the calendars. These will cost £3.50 each.

## TISSUES



Many children are suffering from coughs and colds at the moment, so please can you make sure that your child brings their own tissues into school. Thank you.

## CHRISTMAS DINNER



As you know, our school Christmas Dinner is on Tuesday 7 December. There will be crackers and plenty of seasonal goodwill and children may bring in a festive Christmas hat to wear!

## MOTHERS' UNION BYE BUY CHILDHOOD



The Mothers' Union are currently running a campaign to lobby parliament about the increasing commercialisation of childhood and the use of explicitly sexual forms of advertising aimed at children. They believe that these commercial pressures encourage materialism which negatively affects children's wellbeing, family life and peer relationships. These issues have long been a personal concern of mine as I think that many children in Great Britain become "teenagers" before they are developmentally ready and their childhood is not enjoyed to the full. If you would like to support this campaign, the website is :

[www.byebuychildhood.org](http://www.byebuychildhood.org)

## DIARY DATES

Mon 6 Dec	Non-Uniform Day (Jam Jars)
Tues 7 Dec	Christmas Dinner
Wed 8 Dec	KS2 Concert (afternoon)
Thurs 9 Dec	KS2 Concert (eve)
Mon 13 Dec	Y5/6 Party (pm)
Tues 14 Dec	KS1 Nativity (am) KS1 Party (pm)
Wed 15 Dec	Christmas Fair
Thurs 16 Dec	Y3/4 Party (am) Pantomime (pm)
Fri 17 Dec	Last Day of Term End of Term Eucharist
Tues 4 Jan	Children return to school

With best wishes