



St. Alban's C of E Primary School

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS

NO 8

11 January 2011

Dear Parents

Welcome back! Before we start with the year ahead, I would like to say how well Christmas went at St Alban's. I would also like to thank the parents who worked so hard to make the Christmas Fair and the end of term such a success. The fair raised over £800 and traditionally this goes towards paying for the pantomime performance each year. We always use the Golden Egg theatre production as the pantomimes are of a very high standard and last year, Rapunzel was very well received by the children.



TIME KEEPING



At the beginning of term, our office staff was "stricken by the lurgy". I therefore came to work in the office for a few days, which was interesting as I realised how many children arrive late in the mornings. Please can I remind parents that school starts at 8.55am. It is annoying and distracting for teachers who have got the class settled and completed the registers for children to arrive late. Every class starts the day with a task such as handwriting or mental arithmetic and 5 minutes late each day becomes 25 minutes missed schooling per week. I do understand that every family will have the occasional incident or emergency which results in them being late but there is now a core of habitual offenders who are 'letting the side down'.

CHURCH SCHOOL AWARD

St Alban's has been shortlisted as a finalist for the Church School Award. This is a national award and is in recognition of our RE curriculum, our Ghana links and the spiritual dimension of the school. The overall winner will be announced later in the month.



HSA MEETING



The next HSA meeting will be next Wednesday 19 January at 9.00am in the library. All parents are very welcome to attend and the HSA would love to hear new ideas and welcome new members.

CONTACT DETAILS



Please remember to inform the school office if you have changed your home or mobile telephone numbers as well as any changes in emergency contact details.

DINNER MONEY

Please remember to pay your child's dinner money in advance on a Monday morning, even if they are not having dinner on that day. Cheques should be made payable to HCC and cash should be put in a named purse or envelope. This payment should be put into your child's bag and does not need to be paid directly to the office. Thank you.



SCHOOL CLOSURE - ROYAL WEDDING



As you are all aware, Prince William and Kate Middleton are getting married on 29 April and this day is to be a national holiday. The school will therefore be closed on that day.

SCHOOL CLOSURE - POLLING DAY



Once again, we have been compelled by Havant Borough Council to offer St Alban's as a polling station for the local elections on Thursday 5 May. The school will therefore be closed on that day, except to Year 6.

Year 6

Mrs Olive-Jones and I are particularly concerned about the impact these closures will have on Year 6 the weeks before their Statutory Assessment Tests and therefore Year 6 **will** come into school on Thursday 5 May - it will be possible to completely segregate the class from the public on that day. The class will be given Monday 16 May off in lieu; however, if this is inconvenient for parents, the children may come to school and spend the day with their buddies in Reception; something which I know they love to do.

FOR SALE



Mrs Welton has various items of cricket kit for sale. If anyone is interested, please contact her via the library or Year R.

LIBRARY NEWS



Your child will be bringing home Puffin Books and Scholastic brochures. Please send in your orders by 11 February. In this instance, we cannot accept cash, so please send in cheques or credit card details with the order form.

CAN YOU HELP ...?



Reception class are looking to add to their collection of classroom toys, so if you can donate any of the following, we would be very grateful:

- good quality scooters or trikes
- construction toys (ie lego, knex)
- toy cars and vehicles (for the car table)
- dinosaurs (for our small world)
- Barbies/Action Man dolls

In line with health and safety, please can any donations be in a good and clean condition!

PE KITS



Just a reminder that all children should have their PE kits in school from Monday to Friday. Tracksuits are compulsory for KS2 as the children will have PE lessons outside during the year.

APPLICATIONS FOR 2011

Another reminder that the closing date for Year R applications for September 2011 is midnight on Saturday 15 January.

TERM DATES

A separate list of term dates and assembly dates will be sent home later this week.

With best wishes