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8<sup>th</sup> February 2017

Dear Parents,

Another busy half term has flown by with many activities taking place. We do seem to have had some very busy weeks. I do hope that you found the Parent Teacher consultations useful and enjoyed looking at your child's work.

### **Book Fair**

Thank you to everyone who supported the Book Fair. We received £567.79 in commission for the books sold so we have ordered lots of lovely books for the class libraries.

### **Assemblies**

Assemblies over the past two weeks have focussed on using good manners: saying please and thank you, allowing adults to go through doors first, and generally being respectful. We would appreciate it if you could please emphasise these at home also.

### **School History**

We are currently working with some members of the local Archaeological Society to put together a history of the school site and local area so that we can use the information with the children as part of their History projects. If you know anyone who attended Pemberton School here at any time and has artefacts, photographs etc. of their time at the school we would be pleased to hear from them.

### **Staffing**

We said goodbye to Ms Harley last week as she left to start her maternity leave. She has a few weeks to go before her baby is due so we hope that she is getting some well-deserved rest. We welcome Ms Rayside to our team. Ms Rayside is supporting in Crimson and Amber classes.

### **Music Lessons**

Here is a message from Karen Dore of St Albans Music Academy. Karen currently provides the clarinet tuition at our school:

*We are pleased to let you know that from September 2017, piano lessons will be available within school hours for pupils in Year 2 and above. Lessons will be provided by Ms Karen Dore of St Albans Music Academy, who currently also provides clarinet lessons.*

*Lessons will be 30 minutes long, will take place during school hours (on a rotational timetable) and will cost £18.50 per lesson. Keyboard hire is available if needed.*

*If you would like more information or to request a space for your child, then please contact Karen at*

[info@stalbanmusicacademy.co.uk](mailto:info@stalbanmusicacademy.co.uk) or visit the SAMA website on

<http://stalbanmusicacademy.co.uk/index.php?p=albancity>

### **Newsletters and information**

The majority of correspondence and newsletters are emailed out to families, however any letter that needs a paper reply will come home as a paper copy. For the younger children in our school the adults put the letters into the children's book bags, however for the children in Year Two and above the children are given the letter to put in their own book bag to encourage them to take responsibility for their actions. If you think that you have not received a communication from us please look on the school website rather than phoning the office as every newsletter, club letter, trip letter etc. is added to the website. If your child is absent from school when after school club letters are given out and then subsequently miss the closing date, it is unfortunate but we cannot hold open club places.

### **Dogs**

As a reminder, please remember that dogs must not be brought onto school premises. This includes any area to the front of the school within the school boundary. Some children and adults are frightened of or do not like dogs and therefore should not have to walk past them on their way into or out of school.

### **Art Exhibition**

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February we will be holding an art exhibition in the Year 6 classrooms in our school. We have been taking part in a project with the National Gallery called "Take One Picture". All classes have been studying the painting 'A Roman Triumph' by Peter Paul Rubens and have completed some art work in response to the painting.

There will be a selection of work (some has already been sent home) on display in these classrooms on Friday if you would like to come and have a look. The exhibition will be open from 8.30 am to 9.15am and from 2.45pm to 3.30pm.

### **Book Swap**

After the success of the last book swap the Eco Committee will be organising another swap on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February. Perhaps the children could sort out a book to swap over the half term holiday? Further details will follow after half term.

### **Half Term**

Please remember that it is half term next week which is then followed by an Inset Day. The children will therefore be expected back at school on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February at the usual time. I hope that you have an enjoyable half term break.

Yours sincerely

*Mrs J Goddard*

Headteacher