



Alban City School
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23rd November 2018

Dear Parents

There are a number of events and activities coming up to draw to your attention so we hope that you find the information below helpful.

Children in Need

Thank you for your donations to Children in Need. It really was a very spotty day and £510 was raised to be donated to the charity.

School Visit to Cinderella Pantomime

Once again we have made a block booking to take the children to see the pantomime Cinderella at the Alban Arena on Thursday 13th December.

The PTA have very generously agreed to subsidise the visit from their funds, making the ticket price **£7.20 per child**. If you would prefer to pay the non-subsidised cost of £9.20 as some parents have indicated that they would like to, and for the £2 to be used as a donation towards other school fund raising initiatives we have this option available also.

If you would like your child to participate in the visit, please log into our online payment system where you will be able to give consent and also pay. If you are a new parent and would like to access the online payment system you will need to activate your School Gateway account by registering at: www.schoolgateway.com and entering your email address and mobile telephone number (this should match the details given to school on your child's data sheet), then click on the Send PIN button. The PIN will be sent to your mobile phone and this can then be used to log into the School Gateway to view/make payments. If you need any help please speak to Mrs Brown or Miss Cockerton in the office.

If you are unable access the online system to give consent and pay, please collect a paper consent form from the office. If paying by cash, please enclose the exact amount in an envelope with your slip. Classroom staff should not be asked to take loose money at morning drop off.

Please note that as all staff will be participating in the visit, we will be unable to provide supervision at school if your child chooses not to attend. You will need to arrange offsite childcare during the visit time.

Please make sure that we have received payment and consent by **Friday 3rd December**.

Year Six Puppet Project

Over the next two terms Year Six will be working with the Young People's Puppet Theatre. The project will involve the children working on play scripts linked to the history of St Albans, designing puppets that will then be made by members of the local community, designing lighting and sets and learning how to be puppeteers. The project will culminate in a performance in St Albans Abbey on 24th June 2019 to celebrate the opening of the new visitor centre. We are very excited to be asked to participate in such a prestigious event, and the children have already begun their work on the scripts and puppet designs. Nearer the time we will send out further information, but please keep the date free in your diaries!

Carol Concert - 12th December 2pm

Each year the children in Year 2 and above have participated in a carol concert at St Peter's church. Those of you who attended last year will be aware that we filled the church to capacity with children and parents. Unfortunately we are unable to accommodate all children and parents this year so have taken the decision that, to enable all the children in Years 2-6 to attend, we will only be able to accommodate parents of Year 2 and Year 6 children. We appreciate that this may be disappointing for parents of children in Years 3, 4 and 5 who will not be able to attend, but we hope you understand our decision to prioritise the space for the children and that you will look forward to attending again when your child is in Year 6.

Performance results

We are delighted to let you know that 100% of our Year 1 children passed the phonics screening test at the end of last year. This is a remarkable achievement and places our school in the top 3% of schools nationally. Thank you to our staff for all their hard work and well done to the children.

More baby news!

Congratulations to Mr Wanless on the birth of his son on Wednesday. We don't know his name (yet!) but mum and baby are both well and we look forward to hearing more when Mr Wanless returns from his paternity leave.

Dinner armbands

We are discontinuing the coloured armband system for Year 3 upwards. The children still need to choose their lunch in the morning and let their class teacher know what they are having as they currently do. At lunchtime staff will then tick the children off against the list of what they have chosen to ensure that every child gets the lunch option they have ordered.

Christmas Fair tomorrow 2.00pm - 4.30pm

Thank you for all the contributions for the Bottle tombola. The PTA are working hard to transform the school into Santa's Grotto and the Christmas Tree is up, so we look forward to seeing everyone at the Christmas Fair tomorrow to kick start the festive season!

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Goddard and Mrs G Stray

Co-Headteachers