



Message from Mrs Stray

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has been our very exciting Digital Innovation Week. Every child has enjoyed taking part in an exciting workshop, including Lego Coding, Duplo Express and Intelino Smart Train. It has been lovely to see the children participating so enthusiastically and developing their coding skills in such fun ways. Thank you to Mr Bushell for organising all the workshops and to the PTA for their support with funding some of the costs.

Thank you for your kind and generous donations today for our Harvest collection in aid of the St Albans and District Food Bank. They are very grateful for everyone's support.

School Council and Eco Committee representatives

We recently held class elections to appoint the school council and eco committee class reps, and learn about democracy in the process. Congratulations to the following children, and thank you to all the children who put themselves forward for election:

School Council - Annika, Reeva, Louis, Skylar, Ines, Seb, Kai, Rashid, Freddie, Reuben

Eco Committee - Charlotte, Milo, Juliette, Oona, Emmett, Ruby, Emma, Evelyn, Sienna, Heidi



Upcoming Events

Oct 6th : Flu Vaccinations

Oct 7th : Individual Photographs

Oct 8th : Y2 trip to Mountfitchet Castle

<https://albancityschool.org.uk/Diary-Dates/>

Attendance and punctuality

Our current whole school attendance is an incredible 98.1%. This is fantastic! Let's keep it up!

You can find the latest guidance on illness in school from the Government on the noticeboard page of this newsletter.

Class Blogs

Don't forget you can catch up on what the children have been learning each week on our Class Blogs.

<https://albancityschool.org.uk/>



Sports results

Congratulations to our Y6 cross country runners on completing their first race of the season. They all did very well, but particularly well done to Nika and Nina who came 5th and 9th respectively out of at least 75 runners. What a great achievement! Our girls football team played their first match of the season on Wednesday against Garden Fields and won 5-2. Well done girls!

National Literacy Trust World Record Attempt

On Thursday 8 October we will be joining the National Literacy Trust and the British Council's attempt to set a new Guinness World Records title for the most people reading online in 12 hours. The record attempt is part of the Take 10 to Read campaign in the National Year of Reading 2026. The children will join a pre-recorded session with either Frank Cottrell-Boyce or Rashmi Sirdeshpande, which includes a dedicated ten-minute reading session, during which participants will read together. We hope the children will be excited to read and be part of hopefully setting a new world record.

Air purifiers

We have taken delivery of a free air purifier for every classroom that has been provided by Hertfordshire CC. Air purifiers are devices that help clean the air by removing germs, viruses, pollen, dust, pet dander, smoke and unpleasant smells. They work by pulling air from the room using a fan. The air passes through a filter that traps tiny particles, and then cleaner air is released back into the room. This will make the air in classrooms cleaner and healthier for pupils and teachers to breathe, and we hope that everyone will feel the benefit!

Toys in school

Another reminder to please not allow your children to bring toys from home into school (the latest craze seems to be squishies) because it creates a lot of additional difficulties and distraction.

Antisocial behaviour in St Peter's churchyard

I was very disappointed to receive some footage from Reverend Mark showing some of our pupils deliberately kicking over water containers and damaging property in the gardening area at the back of the churchyard. It was not possible to identify the children with any certainty because the image was low quality, but please can you supervise your children if they are playing in the churchyard after school and speak to them about treating the environment with respect.

Headlice

I'm afraid these unwelcome visitors are back in some classes. The parents in Year 1 have decided to mount a co-ordinated attack and treat all their children next Friday evening. If some children have headlice but remain untreated, the problem doesn't go away, so if you wanted to join the Year 1 parents and treat your child at the same time we may have more success!

Is my child too ill for school?



Does your child have a high temperature (38°C or more)?

YES Keep them off school until it goes away.

NO Follow the guidance below.

Your child can usually go to school with a mild cough or cold if they are otherwise well. If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school or nursery on the first day and give them the reason.

Should go in	Should go in (let the school know)	Seek treatment before returning to school	Keep them off (at first)
A cough, cold or sore throat Fine with slight cough or common cold symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat or headache, as long as they're otherwise well and do not have a high temperature.	Cold sores Encourage them not to touch the blister or kiss anyone while they have the cold sore, or to share things like cups and towels.	Impetigo They'll need treatment from a pharmacist or GP, often with antibiotics. Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment. Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and not to share things like towels and cups with other children at school.	Ear infection If your child has an ear infection and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.
Threadworms Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.	Conjunctivitis Fine unless they are feeling very unwell. Seek advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.	Ringworm See your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see a GP. It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment.	Measles They'll need to see a GP. Call the GP surgery before you go in, as measles can spread to others easily. Keep your child off school for at least 4 days from when the rash first appears. They should also avoid close contact with babies and anyone who is pregnant or has a weakened immune system.
	Head lice & nits You can treat head lice and nits without seeing a GP.	Scarlet fever They'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.	Vomiting & diarrhoea Stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea due to illness for at least 2 days (48 hours).
	Hand, foot & mouth disease If they seem well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.	Chickenpox Keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.	
	Slapped cheek syndrome Once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious. Let the school or teacher know if you think your child has slapped cheek syndrome.		

Feeling worried or anxious: It's normal for any of us to feel worried sometimes. We may get a tummy ache or headache, or have problems eating or sleeping. Avoiding school can sometimes make a child's worries about going to school worse. If your child is struggling, please speak to school as soon as possible to explore available help. If your child is still struggling and it's affecting their everyday life, you should contact GP or school nurse.

To find out more, search www.NHS.uk for the specific illness or infection, or 'Is my child too ill for school?'