



Alban City School
7 Hatfield Road
St Albans
AL1 3RR

www.albancityschool.org.uk

01727 860304

Office email: admin@albancityschool.herts.sch.uk

12th February 2019

Dear Parents,

Another busy half term has flown by. Highlights have included workshops at the Abbey about the history of St Albans for Year 6, a visiting Planetarium for Year 5, Animal Man for Year 2, Year 1's Winter concert, a Fire Engine on the playground for Reception, and the PTA's fabulous Comedy Night last Friday for parents! Amongst all this, the children have been working very hard and I hope you enjoy seeing their work at the parent consultation meetings this week and find the discussions with the class teachers useful and informative.

Year 5 Maths Challenge

Last week four children from Year 5 represented our school at the District Maths Challenge. It is the first time we have entered, and we are very proud of Jeevan, Louie, Lucas and William for how brilliantly they represented us. Well done boys!

Problem Solving Days

On Tuesday and Wednesday this week we have arranged workshops with the Problem Solving Company. The children will work on puzzles and challenges to develop their maths skills in this area, and will also have a focus on problem solving in their maths lessons this week.

Dogs

Thank you to everyone who has kindly responded to my request not to bring dogs onto the playground, or to tie them up outside the school. This is not because we don't love dogs but for health and safety reasons and because some parents have reported that their children are frightened to walk past them. Thank you for your co-operation and understanding.

Contact Information

If you have attended parents evening already, you will be aware that we are asking everyone to review the contact information on the Data Collection sheets that we hold at school. We will do this on a yearly basis but would like to stress the importance of ensuring the office are always provided with the most up to date contact information should we need to get hold of someone in an emergency.

Website

We are currently having our website redesigned, and we would like to update the photographs. If you have any photographic expertise and would be willing to come to school one day soon to take some photos of the children at work and at play, we would be very happy to hear from you.

Behaviour Policy

We have recently revised our behaviour policy, and this is published in full on our website. We have very high expectations for behaviour, and we promote desirable behaviour in a number of ways which are described in the policy. This term we have introduced Positive Praise postcards that may be sent home by phase leaders to acknowledge exemplary behaviour, and we will be collaborating with our newly formed school council to discuss other ways in which good behaviour could be celebrated. Where possible, positive behaviour choices will always be reinforced, and inappropriate behaviour prevented, by praise and encouragement. However, where positive strategies do not succeed, we have identified a number of strategies to prevent inappropriate behaviour and staff will, as appropriate, take the following action:

1. Warning
2. Time out in class
3. Sent to the year group below
4. Sent to their Phase Leader and issued with a behaviour slip. The behaviour slip will outline the inappropriate behaviour and be sent home with the child for the parents to see.
5. Deputy Head / Headteacher interview and behaviour recorded in the behaviour log
6. Parents involved

I thought it might be helpful for you to know that we have also reorganised the playground into separate phase zones at lunchtime in order to give all children more space to play safely and happily with children closer to their own age.

I hope you find this information useful. Please do read the policy in full on the website, or speak to your child's class teacher if you have any questions about how behaviour is managed in school.

Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who supported the Book Fair, and to the staff who helped to run it. We raised a total of £850 which is a fantastic amount. We have recently reorganised our library, so we will be able to add even more books using the money that has been raised. If you haven't been up to the library lately, please do come and have a look during soft start.

World Book Day

This year World Book Day is on Thursday 7th March. We will be celebrating stories and books in a number of ways on this day, and children are invited to dress up for the day as a character from a Roald Dahl book. More information will be sent out nearer the time, but you could get your thinking caps on over half term about costume ideas!

Finally, I would like to thank you for your continued support and wish you a very happy half term break. School finishes on Friday this week at the usual time, and reopens to children on Monday 25th February.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs G Stray

Headteacher