

Dear Parents and Carers,

OPAL Parent Information Meeting TODAY!

We are holding a meeting in the theatre at 3pm today to share information with parents about our new Outdoor Play and Learning programme (OPAL) that is launching straight after Easter. We are very excited to get started with the new play zones, resources and activities that will be introduced. We still need milk / food delivery crates and large chalks for phase 1 of the programme if you are able to help us with sourcing any of these items.

Playground donation link

Thank you so much to everyone who has donated to our playground project. The donation page will close at the end of this term and the sponsorship board will then be made, so there is still time if you or your company would like to support this project. <https://www.goodhub.com/go/alban-city-school-11527>

Parent information meeting about ADHD

Are you curious about ADHD? Perhaps your child has been recently diagnosed or you are wondering whether an assessment might be necessary? You may have concerns about your child but have not considered whether ADHD could explain your child's difficulties? You may be the parent of a child who isn't hyperactive but is having other difficulties and you can't put your finger on why?

Miss Lord (our SENCo) is holding a parent information meeting on Friday 28th March at 9.00am where you can learn more about ADHD. She will look at the kinds of traits you might see and explain how these can look very different in girls and boys. Some of the common difficulties children with ADHD have will be explored and you will learn about what is really going on and come away with some tips to support them. Finally, the diagnostic process will be explained. To help us know how many parents to expect, please use this form to book one or more seats: <https://forms.gle/BqJhETwDvCBMnbXP6>

Computing success

In the Autumn term some children in Years 4 and 5 took part in the Bebras computational thinking competition. We are very proud of them all, and a special congratulations to Everett in Y4 and William in Y5 who scored 100%. Only 299 out of 26,000 children who participated achieved a perfect score, so this is an incredible achievement. 14 of our pupils ranked in the top 10% nationally, and they are now invited to take part in a national coding competition run by the Raspberry Pi Foundation. This will be completed in school later this month.

Also on the subject of computing, we have been extremely fortunate to have received a very large donation of Duplo STEAM kits and 5 Lego Spike Prime coding kits. The Duplo kits are being used in Reception to develop the children's creative, critical thinking and computational skills. The impressive Lego Spike Prime kits will initially be used this summer in Year 6 as part of their programming and computing lessons while adding to our STEAM offer. Mr Bushell has been very dedicated to thoroughly testing them! Keep an eye on our social media for some very engaging and inspiring lessons soon.

Sports update

There has been a huge amount of football and netball action as ever! 20 of our girls were lucky enough to take part in #letgirlspaly football festival and had a coaching session from the Arsenal

Ladies first team coach. All the teachers and coaches agreed that the standard of football has improved loads even in the past year!

Our Year 6 B team lost 3-1 to Wheatfields and our Year 5 team lost 2-1.

Our Year 6 netball team played very well in a tournament on Saturday, finishing 3rd in their group with 2 wins, 1 draw and a loss. Yesterday, 28 children played across 4 different courts against Samuel Ryder with Year 4, 5 & 6 netball teams in action. Overall, there was 1 win, 1 draw and 2 losses. It was great to see so many children involved. Year 5 won their netball friendly 8-1 against Wheatfields.

Attendance

Our current attendance for this academic year is 96.6%. We are inching closer to 97% which would be a great achievement, so thank you for your ongoing support with attendance.

Have a lovely weekend, and Happy Holi to everyone who is celebrating this festival.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Stray

Diary Dates Spring Term 2025

Thursday 20 th March	Year 5 trip to Tate Modern
Friday 21 st March	Scarlet class assembly 9.00am in the theatre
Friday 21 st March	Reception trip to Hertfordshire Zoo
Friday 28 th March	Parent information meeting about ADHD 9.00am
Wednesday 2 nd April	Choir and orchestra performing in concert at Alban Arena 7.00pm
Thursday 3 rd April	PTA Phase 1 Disco 3.30-4.30pm
Friday 4 th April	Year 5 Spring Concert 9.00am in the theatre
Friday 4 th April	End of term 1.30pm

Sports fixtures

Tuesday 18th March	Year 5 Netball tournament @ Samuel Ryder
Thursday 27th March	Cross country @ Garden Fields
Thursday 24th April	Year 4 Netball tournament @ Samuel Ryder