

Dear Parents and Carers,

Football success

Many congratulations to our Girls football team who have been unbeaten all season and won their league. They have played 8 matches, winning all 8, scoring 30 goals and conceding only 7. They are also in the semi-finals of the cup. Congratulations also to Mr Clements who has won an award for his contribution to developing girls' football.

Money Management workshops

Years 5 and 6 took part in some interactive workshops this week led by the Citizens Advice Bureau. They learned about how you earn money, how banks work, credit and debit cards, interest, debt and risk. They were given £500 each (virtually!) and enjoyed seeing who ended up with the most money at the end of the session after they worked to earn more or made choices to invest their money, risk it to maybe get more, or spend it. Important life skills were acquired in the process!

ELSA Clinic

The diabetes screening clinic is now at maximum capacity so the registrations have been closed. If enough parents are still interested but didn't manage to sign up, they will return to hold a second clinic. Please let the school office know by January 31st if you haven't already signed up but would like your child's name to be added to the list and we will pass on the numbers to the team.

Attendance

Our current whole school attendance for this academic year is 96.4%. Thank you for your ongoing support to ensure your child has good attendance and punctuality. Please remember that soft start finishes and the school day begins at 8.50am, so parents are not allowed to enter the school building if they arrive at or after this time. The playground gate is only open to allow parents to leave the school site from 8.50am, not enter.

Nut-free school

We have several pupils with severe nut allergies, so please do not send any food items into school that contains nuts, including spreads in sandwiches or biscuits. This applies to after school snacks too. Thank you for your support in keeping all our children safe.

Birthday sweets

A reminder that we do not hand out sweets or cakes for children's birthdays due to many children not being able to be included due to allergies, dietary requirements or religious reasons, and because we encourage good oral health and healthy food choices as a school.

Smartphone Free Childhood

As you know, we are a smartphone free school and we support the Smartphone Free Childhood campaign. There are currently 359 schools in Hertfordshire signed up to the parent pact, and our school is 4th on the leaderboard, which is great news. We are delighted that so many parents have chosen to work together to delay the age they give their child a smartphone. If you would like more information or would like to sign up to the pact, please see <https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>

Support for mental health and wellbeing

Thank you to everyone who attended the parent information meeting this morning led by Sirpa Tunstall, our new Educational Mental Health Practitioner. We will upload the slides from the

meeting to the wellbeing area on our website. As well as supporting individual families and working with classes and groups of children in school, Sirpa is able to run parent groups. There are some suggested topics on the slides, so please let us know if there is a particular topic that you feel would be beneficial for a parent group discussion or workshop.

I hope you have a good weekend, and Happy New Year to everyone who is celebrating Lunar New Year next week.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Stray

Diary Dates Spring Term 2025

Wednesday 29th Jan	Lunar New Year themed lunch
Tuesday 4 th Feb	ELSA clinic (Diabetes screening)
Wednesday 5 th Feb	Class photographs
Friday 7 th Feb	Saffron class assembly 9.00am in the theatre
Friday 7th Feb	Orchestra Day at St Albans School for invited musicians Y4-6
Tuesday 11th Feb	Safer Internet Day
Thursday 13 th Feb	Year 2 visit to Clarence Park
Friday 14 th Feb	Gold class assembly 9.00am in the theatre
Monday 17th Feb	Half term break
Friday 28 th Feb	Amber class assembly 9.00am in the theatre
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day
Thursday 6th March	Year 6 trip to RAF Museum
Friday 7 th March	Vermillion class assembly 9.00am in the theatre
Tuesday 11 th March	Crimson class visit to Cathedral
Tuesday 11 th March	Parent consultation meetings
Thursday 13 th March	Parent consultation meetings
Friday 14 th March	Scarlet class visit to Cathedral
Friday 14 th March	Crimson class assembly 9.00am in the theatre
Friday 21 st March	Scarlet class assembly 9.00am in the theatre
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
Friday 4 th April	Year 5 Spring Concert 9.00am in the theatre NEW
Friday 4 th April	End of term 1.30pm

Sports fixtures

Tuesday 28 th Jan	Boys A vs Bowmansgreen - postponed
Wednesday 29 th Jan	Girls vs St Alban and St Stephen
Thursday 30th Jan	Year 6 Netball vs Camp
Monday 3 rd Feb	Year 5 Netball vs Bernards Heath
Tuesday 4 th Feb	Girls tournament at Watford Training Ground
Tuesday 4 th Feb	Year 5 Girls vs Bowmansgreen
Thursday 6 th Feb	Year 6 Netball vs Bernards Heath
Monday 10 th Feb	Boys A & B vs Prae Wood
Wednesday 12 th Feb	Year 4 Netball vs Prae Wood

Thursday 13 th Feb	Year 5 Netball vs Prae Wood (home)
Thursday 27 th Feb	Cross country @ Mandeville
Tuesday 4 th March	Girls A friendly vs Prae Wood
Thursday 6 th March	Year 5 Netball vs Wheatfields
Saturday 8 th March	Year 6 Netball tournament @ Samuel Ryder
Monday 10 th March	Year 5 Netball vs Killigrew
Thursday 13 th March	Year 6, Year 5A, Year 5/6 B and Year 4 Netball @ Samuel Ryder
Tuesday 18 th March	Year 5 Netball tournament @ Samuel Ryder
Thursday 27 th March	Cross country @ Garden Fields
Thursday 24 th April	Year 4 Netball tournament @ Samuel Ryder