

Dear Parents and Carers,

Staffing arrangements for next year

I am sorry to say that 3 of our lovely teaching assistants are leaving us at the end of term. Miss Lumbier is moving to London to work as a teacher, Miss Chaudhry is going to do her teacher training and Mrs Smith is going to work for the NHS. We thank them for all their hard work and support for the children and staff team during their time with us, and wish them all the best for the future. Miss Ballard is expecting a baby in the summer holidays and we send her our best wishes for her maternity leave and the arrival of her new baby. We have appointed 2 new teaching assistants to join us in September, Mrs Sedef and Mr Le Roch. Miss Cromwell will be joining the wraparound care team.

The staffing arrangements in September are as follows:

Class	Teacher	PPA teacher	TA
Apple	Miss Reynolds	Mrs O'Sullivan	Ms Panta
Lime	Mrs Dumont	Mrs Wonnacott	Mrs Wonnacott
Sky	Miss Hanbury	Mr Clements and Mrs O'Sullivan	Mrs Scott Mrs Parikh Fri AM
Aqua	Mrs Jennings and Mrs O'Sullivan		Mrs Kohli
Crimson	Miss D'Souza	Mr Bushell and Mr Clements	Miss Moss Mrs Davies
Scarlet	Mrs Moore and Mrs Garcia		Mrs Middleton Mrs Parikh Mon-Thur AM
Vermillion	Mrs Hornblow	Mr Bushell and Mr Clements	Mr Le Roch Mrs Da Palma PM
Amber	Mrs Wood		Miss Kotrcova Miss Mawdsley
Saffron	Mrs Humbles	Mr Bushell and Mr Clements	Miss Felgueiras Mrs Choudhury AM
Gold	Mr Hartington		Mrs Sedef
Sage	Mrs Bland	Mr Bushell and Mr Clements	Mrs Yiu
Forest	Mrs Poole		Mrs Luena
Amethyst	Mrs Collins		Mrs Rimstad

Magenta	Mrs Aitbenmoussa	Mr Bushell and Mr Clements	Mrs Cheruvathur Mr Jackson
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Smartphone free childhood

Thank you to everyone who attended the parent meeting on Wednesday about smartphone free childhood. A reporter from The Guardian was also there to gather information for a magazine piece she is writing on the subject. I have uploaded the presentation to the school website and I strongly encourage you to take a look at the research and information. Here is the link, or you can go to the online safety section in the curriculum area on the website and click on the link to the Google drive. https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1rP9mCnXb8Bty7UGqQGIVTFnr-rS_uAc6/edit#slide=id.p1

As a group of head teachers in St Albans, we are not looking to ban smartphones, as has been incorrectly reported in the media, but to delay the age at which children are given one. The rationale and research to support this is all in the presentation. However, this decision is down to parental choice, so to make any sustainable difference requires parents to work together to agree collectively to delay the age at which they give their child a smartphone. If you are interested in joining a parent forum to discuss next steps as a school community, please join me on **12th July at 8.50am**.

Year 5 business sale

Thank you to everyone who supported Year 5's sale yesterday and congratulations to the children for their work on understanding business and finance. They made around £180 profit which they will use to buy games and activities for wet playtimes next year.

Donations for Open Door Night Shelter

Thank you very much for your kind donations for the Night Shelter. They are always so grateful for our support.

Places available in Little Robins

Little Robins has places available this September for children aged 3 or 4 years who will start school in September 2025. Please call in or email littlerobinspreschool@hotmail.co.uk for an application pack, and spread the word to your friends that there are places available.

Toy donations for Wraparound Care

If you are having a clear out over the summer, we would be very grateful to receive donations of any unwanted toys that the children can play with in breakfast and after school club. Lego, construction and Barbie dolls are always very popular in particular, but we would appreciate any toys or art and craft materials.

Attendance

Many children and staff have been struck down by a particularly nasty sick bug recently, so I hope everyone is now feeling well again. Our school attendance has been affected by this and is currently 95.5%. Hopefully there is still time to improve and get back above 96% before the end of term.

Message from the PTA: PTA Summer Newsletter - the playground edition

Please find attached the latest newsletter from the PTA detailing our support for the proposed playground redevelopment.

Check out the newsletter for more information on:-

- Our fundraising target of £40K over the next 2 years
- Non uniform day - Friday 12th July
- Bottle tombola and cake donations - Friday 12th July
- Recycling your party-bag sized toys
- And an opportunity to get crafty!

And remember we would love your help at the upcoming Summer Fair so please remember to sign up to help out on a stall here: <https://volunteersignup.org/DX8QT>

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Stray

Summer term 2024 diary dates

30 th June	Choir performing at STAHS
1st July	New Reception children stay and play 3.45pm
2 nd July	Orchestra concert to parents 9.00am in main hall
3rd July	Year 2 trip to Whipsnade Zoo
3 rd July	Year 3 Recorder concert 9.00am in the theatre
5 th July	Year 6 performance 9.15am in main hall
5 th July	End of year reports sent out
9 th July	Year 5 trip to Victorian Schools Museum
11 th July	Transition Day
11 th July	Open Evening 5-7pm
12 th July	Year 6 Leavers Disco 7pm
12 th July	Year 1 trip to Knebworth House
13 th July	PTA Summer Fair 12 – 2.30pm
17 th July	Year 6 trip to Wicked
19 th July	Leavers' assembly 9.15am in theatre
19 th July	End of term Reception - Year 5 1.15pm, Year 6 1.30pm