

Dear Parents and Carers,

Sports results

Congratulations to the recent winners of the Roberts Cup: Leo M in Amber and Thomas P in Vermillion classes. Our Boys football teams have been in action again this week. The A team won 6-3 against Bowmansgreen but lost 4-2 against Wheatfields, and the B team drew 1-1 against Bowmansgreen and won 1-0 against Wheatfields. Congratulations to the goal scorers: Sam, Thomas, Arlo, Oscar, Oliver and Cam, and to both teams for their positive performances. The girls have their first match next week, so good luck to them.

Attendance

Our current whole school attendance is 96.9%. I am still getting a lot of requests for term time absences which I cannot authorise. Please remember that unauthorised absence may lead to both parents receiving a breach warning letter and a subsequent fine, which is the local authority's policy that we follow. If you have any questions or need any support with your child's attendance please speak to Mrs Carter who is our attendance lead.

Soft start

Just a gentle reminder that soft start ends and the school day begins at 8.50am, so parents need to leave the school building by 8.50am please. If you arrive at school from 8.50am onwards please go to the main entrance because the pupil entrance will be closed.

Harvest Festival

At this time of year we hold a Harvest Festival celebration to show gratitude for what we have and to share a little with our local community if we can. We will have a donation point for the St Albans and District Food Bank on Tuesday 10th October during soft start, and Natalie Lilley from the charity will be speaking to the children in assembly that day about the Food Bank and how it helps families. More information about the items they particularly need is below. We can also provide referrals to the food bank, so please speak to me in confidence should you ever need this support.

Road Safety

There was a near miss this week when one of our pupils stepped off the pavement outside school into the path of a bus. Thankfully no one was hurt, but please remind your children to take care on the narrow pavements outside school, especially if they are riding scooters. We do not have room for bike storage, so please do not bring bikes to school. The Year 6 children were doing their cycle training this week, so this is a special event for this week only and not a regular thing.

Computing enrichment activities

Next week children in Years 3, 4 and 6 will be participating in Virtual Reality workshops, and Year 5 has a 3D printing workshop. Thank you to Mr Bushell for organising these exciting events. We'll share photos on Instagram and the class blogs of what the children get up to!

School tours

We still have availability for parents to book a school tour if they are looking for a Reception place for September 2024. Please continue to spread the word to your friends and neighbours, and share positive reviews on social media! It's really important to maintain our pupil numbers to continue to be a two form entry school in the future.

School meal feedback survey

The survey is still open until 13th October for parents to share their feedback with our catering company <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TKPPG7Y> Abm are also running a pumpkin competition for the children and more details are below.

School phone lines

Apologies that the phones have not worked this week. The storm on Monday affected them and the technicians are still trying to resolve the problem. Hopefully they will be back up and running again next week, but in the meantime please continue to email the school office and we will call you back on a mobile phone if necessary.

PTA Chair / Co-Chairs desperately sought!

Danielle and Lucy are stepping down at the end of this year so the PTA is looking for a new chair or co-chairs to start in January 2024. The PTA do a huge amount for the school in terms of fundraising to support enrichment activities and resources and also arranging fun and social activities for the children and adults! Unfortunately the PTA cannot continue if no one comes forward, which would be a huge loss for the school, so if you think you may be able to help or would like to find out a little more about the role, please email pta@albancityschool.herts.sch.uk

I hope you have a lovely weekend, and we hopefully get to enjoy some Autumn sunshine.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Stray

St Albans &
District
foodbank Harvest Festival 2023

DONATE FOOD

Please help by donating an item or two from our shopping list to ensure we can provide food to help people in crisis.



HOW OUR FOODBANK WORKS

Step 1 Food is Donated

Non-perishable food is donated by schools, churches, businesses and individuals.

Step 2 Food is sorted and stored

Volunteers sort food to check that it's in date and store it ready for distribution.

Step 3 Professionals identify people in need

We work with a wide range of care professionals such as health visitors, social workers, police and Citizens Advice Bureau to identify people in crisis and issue them with a foodbank voucher.

Step 4 Clients receive food and further support

Clients bring their voucher to a foodbank centre where it can be redeemed for three days' emergency food. Volunteers take the time to listen to clients and signpost them to agencies able to help with their longer-term problem.

Things we need

Baked Beans
Pasta
Rice
Tinned rice pudding
Tinned custard
Tinned peas
Tinned sweetcorn
Tinned vegetables
Tinned fruit
Tinned soups
Tinned meats
Tinned fish
Tinned tomatoes
Tinned chickpeas and pulses
Desserts
Biscuits and savoury snacks
Cereals (not oats - we have plenty!)
Longlife fruit juice
Longlife Milk
Cooking Sauces
Cooking Oil (1 litre max)
Noodles
Jam/Spreads
Toilet Rolls
Shower Gel/Shampoo/Conditioner
Laundry tablets/washing up liquid
Nappies sizes 4 and upwards
Tea

Things we don't need

Fresh food (we can't store it!)

St Albans & District Foodbank
stalbandsdistrict.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales (1158917)





**We want to see
your creative**



**Harvest
pumpkins!**



HARVEST PUMPKIN PATCH COMPETITION

To enter grab a pumpkin, carve your design and send us a picture! You could be in with a chance of winning a selection of fantastic puzzles and games.

Design it. Carve it. Snap it!

Entries should be sent to
competitions@abmcatering.co.uk
no later than Monday 6th November.

Please ensure you include your name and school name on your entry.



Grow
FULL FOR LEADS WITH

Diary dates Autumn term 2023

10th October	Harvest Festival collection for St Albans and District Food Bank
10th October	VR experience day (Y3, 4 and 6)
11th October	Girls Football match v Prae Wood
12th October	Sage Class 3D Printing Workshop
12th October	Year 6 Tag Rugby Festival
13th October	Boys B Football match v Prae Wood
19th October	Forest Class 3D Printing Workshop
19th October	Cross country at Fleetville
19th October	Halloween disco for Phase 3
20th October	PTA Crazy Hair day
23rd October	Half term week
30 th October	Year 4 Egyptian Day
3rd November	Magenta sharing assembly in the theatre at 9:00am
3rd November	Football tournament at Samuel Ryder
8th November	Netball match v Prae Wood
9th November	Cross country at Wheatfields
10th November	Amethyst sharing assembly in the theatre at 9:00am
14th November	Parents Evening 3:40-7:00pm
15th November	Flu vaccinations
16th November	Parents Evening 3:40-7:00pm
17 th November	Children in Need
17th November	Sage sharing assembly in the theatre at 9:00am
17th November	Boys A Football match v St John Fisher
21st November	Year 5 trip to Synagogue
22nd November	Year 6 National Child Measurement Programme
24th November	Forest sharing assembly in the theatre at 9:00am
29th November	Netball match v STAHS

1st December	Saffron sharing assembly in the theatre at 9:00am
6th December	Y1 Performance in the theatre at 9:15am
8th December	Gold sharing assembly in the theatre at 9:00am
12th December	Reception Performance in the theatre at 9:15am
13th December	Christmas Lunch
14th December	Pantomime at the Alban Arena 10:30am
18th December	Year 3 Christmas Concert in the theatre at 9:00am
19th December	Year 2 Christmas Concert in the theatre at 9:00am
20th December	End of term 1.30pm