



Ss Alban & Stephen Catholic Infant & Nursery School

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Headteacher: Mrs B Dempsey



Dear Parents & Carers,

28<sup>th</sup> April 2017

Welcome back and Easter blessings to you all! Well done to Year Two who received a certificate from the staff at Mountfitchet for excellent behaviour during their school trip on Wednesday. They did us all proud.

### Deputy Head

Congratulations to Miss Cannon on her appointment as Deputy Head. She made a great contribution to our successful RE Inspection and will be an asset to our school. She will continue in her role as a Year 2 teacher with excellent support during her transition from Mrs. Watters and Mrs. Smith, who have covered the Deputy Head role over the last two years. The school community has benefitted from their hard work, energy and commitment during this period and we're enormously grateful to them for all they have done.

### Good News

We have a shiny new flagpole close to Class 2 for our Eco Schools Green Flag. It's a fantastic achievement and the children are rightfully proud of it. Our new server has been installed and we have six new desktop computers in Reception thanks to a PTA donation. Thank you for all the cakes donated, tickets bought and events supported that have made this possible. All your donations directly benefit your children.

### Packed lunches for school trips

As you are aware, Infant pupils are entitled to a free school lunch. Cook has confirmed that she will provide lunches for future school trips. Your children order their choice of sandwich filling in class and have a selection of additional items in their school lunch. This routinely happens on Sports Day, Green Day, etc. so the children are used to it. Please send a backpack and a named bottle of water on trip days. We will take feedback from you and your children about this new arrangement later this term.

### Elections

Local elections on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May mean that Nursery is closed and Reception pupils are booked on a school trip to Woburn. Please bring your Reception children to the school hall for drop-off and collection on that day. Vanda Crescent will have cones to enable the coach to park safely so please leave room. Children booked into Badgers will be taken to the after-school club on their return from Woburn. Badgers club will run in the main school on that day so please collect your children from the main entrance. Thank you.

The announcement of a general election on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June came as something of a surprise and presents considerable challenges. Like other affected schools, I am looking at guidance issued this week by Herts County and will inform you about possible closure as soon as I can. It is not a decision taken lightly and I appreciate the impact it will have on families so please bear with me. Thank you for your patience.

### Use of the Internet & Social media

There have been warnings to schools this week about the impact of online activities like Blue Whale Challenge that bring adolescents and young teenagers into contact with danger from what first appears to be something harmless. We teach our children from the earliest age how to keep safe online, a message I'm sure you reinforce at home. I will share advice like this because many of you have older children but also because of what our pupils are telling us they



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access out of school. The internet is amazing, a fantastic door to the wonders of the world and a tool for positive change. However, like any door, it may need to be locked at times to protect our children until they have the maturity and skills to deal with what they may discover when we are not beside them.

### Important dates

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May – please remember to accept or reject offers on the online system for **Nursery September 2017**.

Friday 5 May - please return all Lenten collection boxes to school

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May – Foundation Stage Summer concerts. Please see diary dates for times.

14<sup>th</sup> July - KS1 concert at 9.15 am and 2.00pm. Ticketed event with information to follow.

### PTA News

**Ball by the Lake:** Due to the overwhelming demand for tickets for the ball, we will be holding a second one on Saturday September 16th. Information regarding tickets will be sent out next week. If you want to hear about what a good night it will be, please speak to anyone who attended the one in April.

Have a wonderful bank holiday weekend.

Kind regards



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