



Ss Alban & Stephen Catholic Infant & Nursery School

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Headteacher: Mrs B Dempsey



Dear Parents & Carers,

5th May 2017

We went animal crazy this week with trips to Whipsnade and Woburn. Year 1 and Reception had great fun and were a credit to the school. Classes 3 and 4 were writing when I visited their classrooms and had so much to say about what they had seen. Thank you for all your cooperation regarding parking in Vanda Crescent. It made it so easy to get the children on and off of the coach safely.

### Road and pavement safety

Safety is always a concern. I have written about speeding cars along Vanda Crescent and surrounding roads and this is improving. However I have received complaints about school parents narrowly missing young children when they mount the pavement to park or reverse cars without looking. **Do not park on the pavement** – it makes it unsafe for pedestrians and causes congestion. Don't rely on parking cameras – be aware of pedestrians, especially children, if you drive an SUV type vehicle because they may be below your window level. As adults, it's our responsibility to keep every child safe, not just our own.

The children feel safe in school so we need to help them take more care beyond the school fences. Recently, a driver on Camp Road stopped his car and asked a member of staff arriving at school if the nursery children standing alone by the car park entrance were hers. He was concerned that they were about to cross the road. Like many children they had run or scooted ahead and were out of sight of parents. I know you all reinforce the need to 'wait at the kerb' but even the most sensible children can behave impulsively. Please keep your children close as you walk to school or when waiting at the start/end of the school day. Thank you.

### National Clean Air Day – 15 June 2017

Increasing numbers of pupils suffer from asthma and there is mounting evidence on the effects of exhaust fumes and pollution on our children's developing lungs. Please support us by leaving the car at home on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June. We'll park at Morrison's and walk along the Alban Way to arrive at school by 8:50 – please join us!

### STEM Careers

Our Year 2 STEM club run by Mr. Brown, is inspiring the engineers and scientists of the future. Doubtless there are other parents who have careers or training that could inspire children too. SETPOINT Hertfordshire is a non-profit charity, promoting STEM careers, that would like to hear from you. They have provided excellent training and workshops for teachers and pupils in the past. More information on the attached flyer.

### Awards and certificates for Assembly

It's lovely to be able to celebrate all the wonderful things your children do out of school and they are proud of their achievements. Late arrivals of awards make it difficult to manage assembly time, especially when I receive large numbers at the last minute. I will no longer be able to accept awards or certificates that arrive on Friday morning. Anything for assembly needs to be given to the class teacher by Thursday. If we have a lot of certificates, I may ask if we can hold things over to the following week. The exception is certain sporting trophies that are awarded for one week only and must be returned to the team manager. Please let the class teacher know if your child has such an award. Thank you.



*Building God's Community of Love and Learning*



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### Nursery Admissions

We are currently working on allocating sessions for Nursery 2017. As soon as this process is completed, we will write to parents. I appreciate that you need to know as soon as possible and we are giving it our full attention.

### PTA news

The PTA will be holding a second-hand uniform sale in a few weeks so please sort out any good quality, clean uniform. It can be dropped off at the main reception from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May.

### School Lottery

There were two draws in assembly this morning. Draw One: 1<sup>st</sup> 53 – Easton family; 2<sup>nd</sup> 69 – Shenton family; 3<sup>rd</sup> 56 – McMahon family. Draw Two: 1<sup>st</sup> 37 – Golding family; 2<sup>nd</sup> 46 – Herron family; 3<sup>rd</sup> 168 – Bristow family. Congratulations to all our winners.

### Ball by the Lake

Due to the overwhelming demand for tickets for the ball, we will be holding a second one on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September. 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.

### Crowning of Mary

Year 1 will lead us in the Crowning of Mary next Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May. We ask the children to bring a flower for Our Lady which we gather into bunches to deliver to sick, elderly or housebound neighbours. If you would like us to keep a small bouquet for a neighbor or family member, please fill out the slip at the bottom of the newsletter and return to the office. We always have lots to share so we appreciate any deliveries you can make.

**Please join us if you can this afternoon from 3:10 – 5:10 for a Get Your Grown-ups Gardening ‘Spring Clean’.**

Kind regards

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### Crowning of Mary flowers

Please keep a bunch of flowers for me to deliver.

Name of child: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Flowers can be collected from the school Hall after Nursery or at 3:10 on Friday.

