



Ss Alban & Stephen Catholic Infant & Nursery School

Vanda Crescent, St. Albans, AL1 5EX

Tel: 01727 854643

Fax: 01727 893158

Website: www.ssasinfants.herts.sch.uk

Email: admin@ssasinfants.herts.sch.uk

Head teacher: Mrs. B Dempsey



8th December 2017

Dear Parents & Carers,

Fabulous Foundation Stage!

The Reception and Nursery children did a wonderful job of putting us in the Christmas mood with their Nativity plays this week. The children performed with such confidence and your pride and enjoyment was obvious. Thank you for your programme donations which have raised £250 for the Catholic Children's Society.

A Heartfelt Plea

Mrs. O'Regan & Mrs. Munro do an amazing job. They are at work from before 7:45 every morning to ensure that the office is manned for Breakfast Club and they manage all our ordering, procurement, accounts, admissions, calls and a mountain of other work. Their workload this term has been considerably increased by calls about after-school clubs and calendar items, all of which have been sent home in letters or are readily available on the website at www.ssasinfants.herts.sch.uk. Despite our reassurances, children become anxious when they are not collected from after-school clubs. We understand when you get stuck in traffic or have an emergency but persistent lateness/non-collection would force me to reconsider club places.

We regularly have to send texts and answer calls arising from WhatsApp misunderstandings. There are many examples in this school where one person's innocent error has led to confusion for a whole class. I'm grateful to those parents who tell me when a thread is 'going bonkers' so that I can clarify the situation. I know how valuable it is for those last minute pleas for 'brown tights for a camel' but please don't rely on it for school dates and times. Thank you for your cooperation.

School Closure Information

You will have received a letter about how to sign up for the Herts school closure system. It is a rare occurrence; however, we ask you to register so that you will receive a message in the event of a school closure.

Premises Updates

Thanks to Y1 parents for being so understanding when we had to 'divert' the pupils on Tuesday morning and to Y2 parents on Thursday afternoon. Work is progressing very well. Please do observe all safety measures and ensure that your children stay close to you before and after school. Please do not cross any barriers or tape erected for your own safety.

Health Information

We have a couple of cases of suspected chickenpox so please be aware and inform the school office if anyone in your family has a compromised immune system. This information will be treated in the strictest confidence. Information on common illnesses can be found at www.nhs.uk/tools/pages/childhoodillness.aspx. Any sickness or diarrhoea requires a 48-hour absence from school from the time of the last bout of illness. Please respect this to prevent the rapid spread of bugs and viruses.



Building God's Community of Love and Learning



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Christmas Post

The Christmas postboxes are filling up – do please observe the 10 card maximum. Post boxes are in the main entrance, for children in Year 1 and Year 2 and outside Nursery for Reception and Nursery children. It will close for all pupils on Friday 15th December at 9.10 am. Please address cards with name of child and class.

Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes

We have had a 'Thank you' message from the Samaritan's Purse charity to say that our shoe boxes were part of 6370 sent from London Colney to Liberia in time for Christmas. Thank you on behalf of all the children who will have a wonderful experience as a result of your generosity.

Christmas plays

KS1 plays take place on Thursday and Friday next week. Please return any unwanted tickets to the office as we have a number of requests from families who would be grateful for an additional ticket.

PTA News

The Easy Fundraising appeal has really paid dividends. Mrs. Hines checks it regularly and tells me that a further 44 adults have signed up since her recent appeal. Shopping so far has raised £230 for the PTA, which is fantastic! I'm signing up this weekend so why not join me www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ssaspta

Please note the following important dates for the rest of term:

Monday 11th December – NON UNIFORM for the PTA at both schools. Please bring a £1 donation

Tuesday 12th December – NON UNIFORM Infant Christmas Lunch. FS Christmas Crafts from 9:15 – 10:15 (see separate letter)

Wednesday 13th December – Nursery Purple party at 9:10

Thursday 14th December – KS1 performance (C6 & C4) at 2:00. Entry by ticket only

Friday 15th December – KS1 performance (C5 & C3) at 9:15. Entry by ticket only. No Assembly. Last day for Christmas Post. Nursery Purple party at 2:45

Monday 18th December – KS1 Crafts from 9:15 – 11:45. LAST DAY FOR NURSERY AND BADGERS AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Tuesday 19th December – 9:10 Assembly. Awards and birthdays to 31st December.

12:50 Carols around the Christmas Tree. School closes at 1:20 for the Christmas Holidays.

I hope that as many as possible of you will join us in the Church on Sunday for 9:30 Parish Mass for Advent. Children should wear school uniform and sit with their families. Only readers and dancers are required to sit at the front of the church this year.

See you on Sunday.

Kind regards

Bernadette Dempsey



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