



Ss Alban & Stephen Catholic Infant & Nursery School

Vanda Crescent, St. Albans, AL1 5EX

Tel: 01727 854643

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Website: www.ssasinfants.herts.sch.uk

Email: admin@ssasinfants.herts.sch.uk

Acting Headteacher: Miss A Cannon



26 October 2018

Dear Parents & Carers,

Thank you all for your support in helping us to start the school year in a positive way. I am so proud of all the children and how they have settled into their routines with ease. In our school, we encourage your children to become independent learners and they have definitely shown us that they are ready for that by the way in which they settle to their work, verbalise their needs and challenge themselves daily.

Federation Update

Following on from the federation consultation process, which took place last term, the governing bodies from both the Infant and Junior schools have now ratified the proposal to federate. The two schools will formally federate on 1st January 2019. The consultation process enabled staff and parents opportunities to ask questions of the governors and find out more about the proposal. The feedback received was positive from both staff and parents who attended the the consultation meetings.

We strongly believe that whilst both schools will retain their existing identities, federation will increase collaboration, enable the sharing of best practice, ensure one clear line of governance for the future Executive Headteacher and strengthen the educational experience for the children and staff.

Recruitment update

In April a recruitment consultant specialising in educational appointment was engaged and an advert for the Executive Head position was placed online in the TES. Unfortunately, no completed applications were received in the first round of advertising for this position. Governors have now conducted a thorough review of the recruitment process and the post will be re-advertised again at the end of the Autumn term.

In the interim, Acting Head teachers Mrs Porter and Miss Cannon are doing an excellent job, ably supported by senior leadership teams, Governors, Staff and Parents in both schools.

There will be two further meetings to give an opportunity to parents to ask questions regarding both federation and the executive headteacher recruitment process. The dates are:

Monday 5th November at 9.30am after the Junior School assembly, and

Wednesday 7th November at 7pm at the Infant School

Certificate of Catholic Practice- new applications.

Parents wishing to apply to our Nursery/Reception classes for September 2019 will need to provide a Certificate of Catholic Practice (CCP) signed by our parish priest. The following dates are available for signing; Tuesday 20th November from 6pm to 8pm and Wednesday 21st November from 4pm to 6pm in the parish centre. Information, application forms and tour dates are available on our website.



Building God's Community of Love and Learning



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Flu Vaccinations: School Health had to cancel vaccinations due this week. They will now take place on the afternoon of 13 November.

Mountfitchet- Year 2

Reminder that children in Year 2 will be going to Mountfitchet Castle on Wednesday 7th November. Please refer to the letter which was sent out earlier this term for further information.

ICT Learning: the children in Years 1 & 2 have been learning about keeping safe on the internet. They have seen the CEOP KS1 Film 'Lee & Kim' which is on Youtube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-nMUbHuffO8>

Coffee with Miss Cannon- Year 2 parents

Thank you to all Year 1 parents who came to the coffee afternoon this week. It's a nice opportunity to have a cuppa and chat, please do pop along on Friday 9th November at 2.30 if you have a child in Year 2.

Poppies

The very talented mum of Jan in Year 2 has made some beautiful crochet poppies which will be available to buy from Monday 5th November. Keep an eye out at drop off and before assembly on Friday 9th. All monies raised will go to support the British Legion.

Poppy Rocks- Half term fun

Please see the attached flyer on Poppy Rocks, a crafty opportunity for young and old alike on Wednesday 31st October.

What made you smile today?

Often when parents ask their children what they learned in school that day, they are met with 'nothing' or 'I can't remember'. Try asking your child 'What made you smile today?' It's a simple way to gauge their emotional wellbeing and start a conversation. Their responses will inevitably make you smile too!

PTA News

Lottery

October Winners 1st – 21 Alicia Peris Manuel Gracia; 2nd – 78 William Venturini; 3rd – Sparrow family. Congratulations!

The Kid Gloves Live at Trestle! The Kid Gloves are a talented, local band who play covers from the 80s, 90s and 00s. Their line up includes two parents from our schools - Laura Robertson and Ben Sparrow. Enjoy a great night of music and dancing and support our schools by buying tickets to see The Kid Gloves play at Trestle Theatre on Saturday November 10th. Return slip attached. It will be a great night out, and it's not just for school parents. Friends are welcome. E-mail ssaspta@gmail.com for tickets, at £15 each. Proceeds from the night will go to the schools' PTA fund.





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Christmas Cards

Christmas card samples and order forms went home in book bags on Thursday and Friday (Flex 1 Nursery children will receive theirs when they return to school on 5 November). Do promote the cards and other items to family over half term. The more cards and gifts purchased, the more money we raise for our PTA! Cheques can be made out to 'Ss Alban & Stephen Schools PTA'. Please e-mail ssaspta@gmail.com if your child submitted a design but you did not receive a sample and order form. Order forms should be handed in by Monday November 19th.

God bless each and every one of you over the half-term break.

Kind regards

Aisling Cannon



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