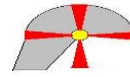


St. Alban's Catholic Primary School



Tel: 01709 862298: Email: admin@st-albans.doncaster.sch.uk

Visit our website, following the link add you views to **Parent View**

September Newsletter

Welcome back! We hope everyone has enjoyed the summer sunshine and returns to school refreshed and ready for an exciting year ahead. A warm welcome to our new children and their families and also to our new teachers Mrs Holmes (Rosedale) and Miss Redfearn (Selby), we hope you will soon all feel valued members of St. Alban's school community.

Following our school's successful application to the Department for Education (DfE) for a *Safeguarding Grant to improve school security*, over the summer holiday alterations have been made to our School Office to create a separate visitor reception area. The facility provides restricted access thus enhancing our safeguarding measures in school. Parents wishing to visit the school office in a morning before school or at the end of the school day can still use the entrance next to the school hall and exit via the playground as usual.

This first newsletter contains a range of information and some general reminders that we hope will help everyone to get off to a flying start. If you need information about classroom routines or school day please speak to your child's class teacher, if you have queries regarding school procedures, please speak to Mrs. Ayres, Mrs. Ebsworth, Mrs. Strawbridge or Mrs. Hays in our office, if they haven't got the information to hand, they'll get the answer for you as soon as possible.

At St. Alban's we recognise our privileged position that allows us to play an instrumental role in so much of your child's development. We relish every opportunity to celebrate children's achievements and talents. **Parents are always welcome to join us for Gold Awards, Assemblies & Liturgies and other celebrations and events.**

Gold Awards:

Friday 21st Sept, 5th & 19th Oct starting at 2.45

Coffee Morning & Open Class Event

Friday 28th September 9:00am – 10:30am

Sports Day Friday 14th September

School gates open at 1.15 ~ **Races begin at 1.30pm**

~ EVERYONE WELCOME ~

Parent Evening WEDNESDAY 17th October. Details and appointments will follow closer to the time. However, we appreciate October seems is a long way off... so we will be inviting parents to our 'Open Class' Event on 28th September, to enable you to visit your child's class and see their *mastery at work!*

The Governing Body has committed to maintain seven classes again this year. Our smaller classes offer many benefits, however they also have a financial implication in this climate of squeezed budgets. Please spread the word to family and friends about our improving school and committed staff team; we have places in most classes. Families don't have to be Catholic to attend our school; we'd love the opportunity of welcoming them to our school.

The Governing Body has vacancies for Foundation Governors please speak to Fr. Desmond, Mr J Cape or Mrs J Ayres

At St. Alban's we believe strong partnerships between home & school promote good attitudes to learning, encourages positivity and is a key driver in improving attendance. We work hard to build positive relationships with parents & carers and strive to ensure our home/school collaboration meets all children's needs.

Information will be conveyed through a range of sources including newsletters, class updates, texts and also through our website – *which is currently undergoing a re-launch*. However if you have any questions please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher or other members of staff in school.

You can contact your child's classteacher by email. Please find them from the list below. If you do not have an email account, don't worry just let your child's teacher know and they'll contact you by phone or letter.

EYFS Rosedale: (Foundation Stage 2):

Mrs Holmes & Miss Hinchliffe /Mrs Herrington

Year 1 - Roche: Mrs Needham & Miss Shipley

Year 2 - Selby: Miss Redfearn /Miss Sellars

Year 3 – Whitby: Mr McCormack /Mrs Noonan

Year 4 – Fountains: Miss Wilson /Mrs Noonan

Year 5 - Kirkstall: Miss Brennan /Mrs Carmody

Year 6 - Reivaulx: Mrs Dyson and Mrs Ebsworth /Mr Barnes

Mr Hale – KS2 Cover Supervisor & PPA

Miss Bateson - SEND Intervention & Support

classteachername@st-albans.doncaster.sch.uk
clare.brennan; michaela.dyson; lindsey.ebsworth;

leanne.holmes; mick.mccormack; hannah.needham;

lauren.redfearn; lindsey.shipley; charlotte.wilson;

New Year School Mass

Date and time to follow

Our Autumn Topic is 'Moments' and has a strong literacy link, including a specific class book, which will be central to the children's learning. We continue to teach through a Mastery Approach

Curriculum, which engages and challenges children to secure their knowledge and understanding by mastering their skills. As the term gets underway you will receive information from your child's teacher about projects and activities to support their home learning, together with ideas of how parents & carers can join in with our 'Moments Topic'.

*Our first whole school project is our **Scarecrow Festival** from the end of September followed by our **Harvest Festival in October***

UNIFORM: Please ensure you support our school tradition and adhere to the school's **uniform policy**, including black or dark school shoes or plain dark trainers. Please ensure your **child's name is clearly visible** on all items of clothing. All children require a PE KIT, comprising a plain white t-shirt and dark shorts, children also need a change of footwear (*plimsolls or trainers*). As the cooler weather approaches jogging bottoms and sweatshirt are advisable for outdoor games sessions.

Children with pierced ears may wear one pair or a single SMALL GOLD OR SILVER STUD. All earrings **MUST** be REMOVED for ALL PE and Games lessons, (*including active After School Clubs*). Children should not wear nail varnish, gels or acrylic nail extensions for school. Thank you.

Collecting children at the end of the school day. During the last academic year there was on occasion some confusion regarding the home time arrangements for a small number of children. This included a minority of parents arriving late to collect children from school, without reasonable explanation. Also young children expected to walk home alone, or be collected by older siblings or friends. Consequently we have reviewed our 'Collection Policy' to include written procedures to enable parents & carers to give formal consent to the home time arrangements for their child. *Please note if you wish your child to travel to and /or from school alone or with older siblings (of secondary age) SCHOOL must receive a signed confirmation reply slip.*

Thank you for your support in this safeguarding matter.

HOMEWORK: Comes in all sorts of forms covering a host of subjects and in a range of activities. However all learning is underpinned by basic skills, we therefore urge you to read with your child as much as possible. Although children will bring home reading books from school, try to encourage and support your child to read widely including when you're out and about. Don't be afraid to read beyond the books from school, our aim is to broaden children's vocabulary and language. Visit the library and use computer based programs to develop your child's interest in reading.

BREAKFAST CLUB is available every day from 8am with last entrance 8.30am. Children attending BREAKFAST CLUB should enter school by the playground gate from 8am onwards; children should be escorted to the hall entrance by parents & carers. Please see a member of staff to register your child for Breakfast Club, COST £1.00 per day -

IMPROVING ATTENDANCE

School Attendance Target 2018 /19 **96%**

Outstanding 97% or above

Good 96%

Requires Improvement 90.5 - 95.9%

Inadequate 90% or below

Pedestrian Walkway: please use the walkway to access the school playground at the beginning and end of the school day. Please do not climb over the walkway fence. We aim to keep the area at the front of school a **PEDESTRIAN ONLY ZONE**, we request that parents & carers **DO NOT drive into the area at the front of school at the beginning and end of the school day.**

We remind all pedestrians to be mindful of the vehicles driven into this area and recommend all children are kept under close supervision. We ask all parents & carers to park responsibly around the vicinity and keep within the lower speed limits, as we endeavor to avoid any tragic accidents at the front of school.

Dogs on the playground: thank you for keeping all dogs on a lead and under the control of an adult when on the playground. Children **MUST** ask permission of their parents & carers and the dog's owner before approaching and /or stroking dogs within the school's site.

Outdoor play equipment: we understand the outdoor equipment is very inviting for our pre-school children. We are happy for **pre-school** children to use the equipment **at the end of the day** while waiting for older children. However, **children must be supervised at all times** by an adult and this is at your **own risk**. School cannot accept responsibility for accident or injury.

School age children must not play on the equipment before or after school. Thank you

Healthy eating if your child brings a packed lunch to school, please include healthy choices. Large chocolate bars, sweets and fizzy drinks **should not be included in lunch boxes**. If you have any concerns about your child's packed lunch, initially speak to or contact your child's class teacher.

Drinking water is available in school; however it is helpful **if children bring a fresh bottle of water each day**. Bottles should have the child's name clearly written on them.

After school and Extra-curricular Clubs

... watch out for details coming soon...