



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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Dear Parents

We are at the end of the first week back and we have a lengthy newsletter for you as there is so much going on here at school! Please take time to read it as there is lots of information for you enclosed. For parents in Year 1-6 please dig into your child's school bag to find two booklets for parents, one on spelling and one on vocabulary, punctuation and grammar. These booklets are to assist parents with the new curriculum expectations as you support your child at home with their home learning. Copies of these booklets will shortly be on the school website for your reference and a booklet to support parents with hearing their child read will be sent home next week.

Mrs Price

Mrs Price (Music teacher), who has been unwell, will return next week as per normal and orchestra will take place on Wednesday, however she will not be in on Monday and these theory/instrumental lessons will be made up at another time.

Year 6 Cycling Proficiency Next Week

24 of our Year 6 children will be participating in Cycling Proficiency next week. Children will need to push their bike when on the school grounds and lock their bike to the pond fence or bike rack. Bikes cannot be ridden on the school grounds, unless under instruction. We do not have the capacity to bring 24 bikes in at the end of the day, so bikes locked up overnight will be left outside and are at the owner's risk. Participating children have a copy of the Highway Code in their bags to look at over the weekend.

Thursday Collective Worship Next Week

Collective Worship with Father Richard will be held in the School Hall next Thursday and parents are welcome to attend, we ask that hot drinks are not brought into the hall.

Volunteer Meetings Next Week

If you wish to help in school I invite you to attend a Volunteer Meeting with Miss Felstead and myself in the School Hall. We will discuss the Volunteer Policy, code of conduct, Child Protection and Miss Felstead will discuss strategies to use when hearing children read and supporting learning. The meetings will last no longer than one hour and there is no need to book:

- Wednesday 11th November at 9am
- Thursday 12th November at 10am (following Collective Worship in the School)
- Thursday 12th November at 2.30pm



Healthy Schools





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Day of Remembrance

We will observe a two-minute silence at 11am on Wednesday 11th November in the School Hall. Children are welcome to wear their poppies in remembrance. Year 6 children will be in classes on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning where poppies and other items will be available for a small donation. If you would like your child to make a donation their money must come to school in a named envelope please. The Poppy Appeal has provided the School with a limited amount of items (shown below) with a suggested donation price. Children may wear their Poppy Appeal band/bracelet for the day.



Children in Need - Friday 13th November

Children can support this children's charity wearing spots, stripes or coming to school dressed as a super hero for a donation of a suggested £1.

Sustainable St Albans Week

Sustainable St Albans Week will take place from Saturday 21st to Saturday 28th November. There will be over 100 events in the district run by the community for the community – all about environmental sustainability! From walks and outdoor activities, children and young people's events, films and art exhibitions, food and drink, to talks and tours.



Download the Programme of Events at <http://sustainablestalbans.org> or pick one up at their stall in St Albans Market on Saturday 7th and Sunday 15th November (in the Christmas Market). Attached you will find two hand-outs which gives more information about the Week. **The launch event for the week is 10.30-3.30pm on Saturday 21st November in St Albans Market by The Clocktower** with the Mayor opening the event at 10.30am. The Civic Society invite you to climb the Clocktower, Computer Friendly help you work out your carbon footprint whilst enjoying ukulele musical entertainment! There will be stalls on water-saving, GreenSpaces and allotments, recycling and an electric car display. **The Christmas Markets launch event is on Thursday 26th November in the Vintry Gardens 5pm – 7.45pm.**

Abbey School, along with other local schools, will be getting involved in Sustainable St Albans Week by participating in an activity called Postcards to Paris. In December, representatives from 190 countries will come together at the Paris Climate Conference to produce an agreement which will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, limiting the global temperature increase to 2 degrees Celsius. Here on Earth we are producing greenhouse gas emissions at a rate that scientists agree will cause the temperature to rise up to 4.8 degrees Celsius



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higher than in pre-industrial times, by the year 2100. This kind of climate change would affect plants and animals, making some extinct and would produce food shortages. It would increase the risks of storms, heavy rains, flooding, air pollution, droughts and rises in sea levels. Poverty, hunger and conflict would increase. Time is running out, which means that the Paris talks are crucial.

Postcards to Paris is the children's chance to show why this agreement really matters to them. As part of Sustainable St. Albans Week, pupils from all across the district to write and illustrate 2,000 postcards, telling Amber Rudd, MP, our Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, why climate change matters to them. We think the children's pictures and words will inspire her to act! In addition, on Thursday 26th November we will be having a '**Paper Free Day**' here at school and the Green Council will be involved in the week with Miss Dunn.

Congratulations to the democratically elected School Council representatives below who have now been awarded their enamelled Council badges and I am sure they will bring many interesting and sensible suggestions from their classes.

| | School Council Representatives 2015-2106 | Green Council Representatives 2015-2016 | Faith Council Representatives 2015-2016 |
|---------------|---|--|--|
| Year 1 | Sammy Roe Sophie Bunting | Melissa Jacobson Elliot Rees | Kaspar Van Rooijen-Din Eliza De Silva |
| Year 2 | Tamzin Collin Alex Matchett | George Massingham Gabby Read | Rowen Ryan Beck Winter |
| Year 3 | Josie Lawrence James Good | Matthew Seera Sophia Bennett-Velasco | Elodie Clerembaux-Hulley Alice Turner |
| Year 4 | Ellie Swann Henry Johnston | Johnny Walker Christian Dickinson | Charlie Granier Alice Ling |
| Year 5 | Ollie Arnold Ella Snailham | John-Ellis Wallace Ruby Fermor | Katia Lewis Emily Payne |
| Year 6 | Claire Granier Max Manning | Christy Shaw Scarlett Gardiner | Charlotte Johnson Lucas Manning |

Friends' Association Events for Your Diary

- **Popcorn Night** - Friday 20th November. Arthur Christmas U rated DVD will be shown in the School Hall from 3.20pm to 5pm. Price: £3.50/£2 sibling includes film, popcorn, biscuits and a drink. Places must be booked in advance.
- **Christmas Fair** –Saturday 5th December 12-3pm



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Friends' Association Fundraising

The fundraising that the Friends undertake has allowed us to recently replace the set of 16 laptops in the secure storage caddy for all children to use. Year 5 has benefitted from a new Soundfil system in line with the newly installed systems in Year 2, 3 and 4 which the Friends previously funded. We would like to install these systems throughout the school and this is a project for this year. The Year 6 School journey coach is annually funded by the Friends at £800 and all children will eventually benefit from this.

The School Ball raised a staggering £10,000 and this money will be used for additional wooden playground equipment which will be installed during the Christmas holidays. The Friends have agreed to pay £5,000 towards the cost of the safety surface for the equipment and the money raised at the two Friends' events above will go towards this amount. Thank you to all who support these events.

Strutt & Parker Christmas Card Competition

Each year Strutt & Parker organise a Charity Christmas Card Competition where for each entry they will donate £1 to UK Youth, a fantastic charity dedicated to enabling Britain's young to learn and succeed. The winner will win a £50 book token, a £500 donation for your school and a framed copy of your design. Strutt & Parker would use it as their corporate Christmas card this year.

All children have been given a Christmas Card entry form this week and we kindly ask that these forms will be returned to the School Office by **Wednesday 11th November** if your child would like to participate.

Kind regards

Miss E Fenn
Headteacher