



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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7th October 2016

Dear Parents

Parents' Evening – Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th October 2016 (Yr 6 Thursday 20th)

Parents' Evening will be on Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th October. The School uses an easy-to-use online appointment booking system. Appointments can be made from Wednesday 5th October from 7am and will close on Tuesday 18th October at 7am. Please visit <https://abbeyprimaryschool.parenteveningsystem.co.uk> to book your appointments. Everything you need can be found on the school website on the Parent Information tab, followed by Key Information and then Parent Consultation Evenings. Please login with the following information: Child's legal first name, Child's surname and date of birth.

These meetings are for parents only. There will be no supervision for school age or pre-school children on site. Appointments will run strictly on time to allow parents to organise childcare arrangements off-site, potentially with other parents. Parents will more than one class teacher will not be able to specify which teacher they see. All the job share teachers will read from jointly written notes. All parents will take home a paper copy of the notes the teacher is reading from to assist parents supporting their child at home.

If you are unable to attend the set evenings. A 10 minute consultation to meet with a class teacher can be arranged via the School Office after October half term. Please note, this appointment will be 10 minutes still.

We politely ask that children do not come into the hall as seven appointments will run simultaneously and children may affect the quality of the discussions taking place. We are confident that Parents' Evening will provide sufficient space with regard to confidentiality and privacy for the seven teachers and the respective parents in the School Hall. Mrs Yeldham (SENCO) will conduct her meetings just off the hall in the Practical Room.

How the evening will run

The evenings will take the same format as last previous years. Teachers' time keeping will be precise to assist parents with out of school child care arrangements. We ask that all parents enter and exit via the main entrance of school where the Grove Road pedestrian gate will be open. **There will be no orchestra on Wednesday 19th October.** After school Dance and Cheer club on Thursday 20th October will take place in the Year 6 classroom, although children will have to be collected from the external door by Year 5 and there will be no entrance via the hall.





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The consultation meetings will take place for all classes in the hall with the children's books available to browse in the KS1 classrooms:

Reception classroom: Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
Year 1 classroom: Year 3 and Year 4
Year 2 classroom: Year 5 and Year 6

We politely ask that all the children's books/trays are left in the classroom. Please ensure that you are waiting in the Library in advance of your appointment time by a few minutes. From here the Headteacher will collect you to allow all appointments to start not only promptly, but collectively in the hall to eliminate disruption. To keep to time, a bell will be rung to indicate the last minute of appointment time. (If at this point you feel further time is needed, please contact the School Office who will be happy to assist you in making an additional appointment straight after school in the following half term.) The next set of parents will then be escorted into the hall ready to start their meeting on time.

Curriculum information for all parents

The whole school topic overview for 2016/2017 is attached to this newsletter along with your child's relevant long term year group plan to give you a summary of the areas of study your child will be covering. These documents can all be found on our school website along with the curriculum letters and vocabulary lists previously shared with you. The curriculum page of the school website also contains long term subject plans that are being updated for this year. Further information on Age Related Expectations for each year group will follow.

The curriculum page of the website has copies of helpful guides for parents: 'Hearing your Child Read at Home' and 'Helpful Handwriting Tips'. Paper versions of these were sent home with children last autumn in Years 1-6 and are going home with current Year 1 parents and any new KS2 child this afternoon. These parents will also receive a paper copy of 'Vocabulary, grammar, and punctuation' booklet which was sent home last year. Paper copies are only available via the School Office.

External help and support for parents

Delivering Special Provision Locally

<http://www.dspl7.org.uk/> is the website for the DSPL7 (Delivering Special Provision Locally) website which aims to bring together information about support and services for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, as well as their families, and teaching professionals.

<http://www.vistastalbans.org.uk/> the website for the St Albans Plus website which details courses, training and support for parents, young people and families. Both of these websites are detailed on the SEN page of the school website.

Our Golden Rules

We believe in working together for excellence for all. We have six **Golden Rules** to help us do this.

<i>Do be kind and thoughtful</i>	<i>Do not hurt people's feelings</i>
<i>Do be gentle</i>	<i>Do not hurt anyone</i>
<i>Do look after property</i>	<i>Do not waste or damage things</i>
<i>Do listen to people and show respect</i>	<i>Do not interrupt or be rude</i>
<i>Do work hard</i>	<i>Do not waste your or other people's time</i>
<i>Do be honest</i>	<i>Do not cover up the truth</i>



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Rewards are consistently applied throughout the school. Rewards cover the broadest possible range of academic and non-academic achievement. They are managed so that **all** pupils are valued. There are many kinds of reward used in the Abbey School. They fall into three categories:

Social Rewards

- Praise from adults
- Praise from other children
- Smile
- Thumbs up
- Applause from peers
- Opportunity to sit in a chosen place
- Being first in the line
- Choosing a friend to work with
- A simple thank you

Activity rewards

- Responsibilities in the classroom (e.g. monitors, giving out books etc.)
- Golden time
- Showing good work to Headteacher
- Showing good work in school sharing assembly

Material rewards

- Smiley faces, stars, rubber stamps, stickers, positive comments on work
- Well done stickers from teachers/Headteacher
- Examples of good work shared with other teachers/classes
- House points (Key Stage 2)/Table Points (Key Stage 1)
- Good work labelled and displayed around the school
- Golden Time reward system
- Extra playtime

House Points

The Key Stage 2 House Points are shared and celebrated each Friday in assembly. The KS2 children are divided between Houses: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. New this year, the children are working towards having the highest number of House Points each week and then the House with the highest number of winning weeks will have a non-uniform day on a set date.

The children have agreed the following guidelines with me on this awarded non-uniform day:

- Long hair down? Tied up for PE/swimming
- Hair gel? Yes but not if swimming
- Fancy dress? –Yes
- Jewellery? –No
- Own shoes? –Outside only
- Nail varnish? –No
- Make up? - No
- Hair coloured? –No
- Tattoos? - No

A **Star of the Week** is awarded each Friday for exceptional work, kind deeds, evidence of working towards targets in each class. The Star of the Week badge is presented in Friday's Sharing Assembly and a certificate is emailed home explaining why it has been awarded. The badge is to be kept for one week and can be worn on the child's school uniform and then returned to the class teacher on Friday morning. Over the course of the academic year we aim to be able to award this



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at least once to each child to celebrate their successes, therefore roughly a third of the class will receive the Star during the summer term.

An **Abbey Shield** is awarded to two children each half term in each class for sustained exceptional work, kind deeds, evidence of working towards targets shown throughout the half term. The Abbey Shield enamelled badges are presented during the last day of each half terms Sharing Assembly. These badges are for the children to keep and wear on their uniform for their time at school. A laminated certificate is also presented to the child in the assembly detailing why the award has been presented. Each academic year twelve Abbey Shields are presented to each class and it is anticipated that as a child moves through seven years at Abbey School they have the opportunity to receive two or three.

Well done to our football team who have won their first match of the season 2-0 against Margaret Wix Primary School yesterday. Well done boys and girls!



Kind regards

Miss Emma Fenn
Headteacher