



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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8 June, 2018

Dear Parents

Welcome back to the start of the final half term of this academic year. We have lots in store, including:

Friday 8 th June	Year 6 Class Assembly 9-9.30am. Year 6 parents welcome – School Hall
Sunday 10 th June	St Albans Half Marathon
Week of 11 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check (some Year 2 children)
Monday 11 th June	Class Photographs plus Orchestra, Recorders, Football and Netball teams (am)
Tuesday 12 th June	Year 4 Trip to Hatfield House Tudor Experience
Wednesday 13 th June	Year 2 Class Assembly 9-9.30am. Year 2 parents welcome – School Hall
Wednesday 13 th June	Year 3 Roman Mosaic Workshop / Alban and the Romans Trail at St Albans Cathedral Education Centre
Wednesday 13 th June	Year 5 Animation Workshop (professional animators visiting school)
Tuesday 19 th June	District Sports Field Events (selected KS2 children) 11.30-1.15pm (new time)
Wednesday 20 th June	New Reception Children First Visit to the School 1.30-2.30pm (2.30-3pm coffee/tea)
Wednesday 20 th June	Friends' Second-hand Uniform and Cake Sale in the School Hall 3pm (Years 3 and 4 parents to bake cakes)
Thursday 21 st June	National Clean Air Day
Thursday 21 st June	Year 1 Trip to Whipsnade Zoo
Thursday 21 st June	District Sports Track Events (selected KS2 children) 2.15– 3.45pm (new time)
Saturday 23 rd June	The Alban Pilgrimage at St Albans Cathedral (Passio)
Monday 25 th June	Whole school walk to St Saviour's church to attend a service with Father Richard, have a tour of the church and see the art exhibition
Tuesday 26 th June	Year 3 Class visit to Verulamium Museum
Wednesday 27 th June	Reserve District Sports
Friday 29 th June	Year 6 Sex Education Parent Talk 9.05-9.45am
Monday 2 nd July	KS2 Production of 'Wind in the Willows' Dress Rehearsal to KS1 and local residents 1.30pm





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Tuesday 3 rd July	KS2 Production 6.30pm (6pm all KS2 children arrive/doors open). Filmed for DVD
Wednesday 4 th July	Reception class visit to Shepreth Wildlife Park
Wednesday 4 th July	KS2 Production 6.30pm (6pm all KS2 children arrive/doors open)
Friday 6 th July	Non School Uniform morning (Bring a bottle/sweets for the tombola) for the Summer Fair
Friday 6 th July	Sports Day KS1 12.30-1.45pm / KS2 1.45–3.20pm (Parents Welcome)
Friday 6 th July	End of Year Reports sent home to parents Reception–Year 6
Saturday 7 th July	Friends' Association Summer Fair 12 – 3pm
Monday 9 th July	Year 6 Professor Pango Mango workshop for Open Evening
Wednesday 11 th July	Full Governing Body Meeting 7-9.30pm
Wednesday 11 th July	Year 6 SATS results sent home (new date due to later release date)
Thursday 12 th July	Year 6 Secondary Transfer Day. Reception to Year 5 meet their new teachers 11-12pm
Thursday 12 th July	New Reception Children Second Visit to the School 11am-12.45pm
Thursday 12 th July	Open Evening for All Parents and Children 6-7.30pm (Year 6 perform 6.15-6.45pm)
Friday 13 th July	Reserve Sports Day KS1 12.30-1.45pm / KS2 1.45–3.20pm (Parents Welcome)
Week of 16 th July	Year 6 Sex Ed Sessions
Monday 16 th July	Year 5 Class Assembly 2.30-3pm. Year 5 parents welcome - School Hall
Monday 16 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Disco 7-9pm (Year 6 Parents Welcome/Non-sibling event)
Tuesday 17 th July	Year 1 Class Assembly 9-9.30am. Year 1 parents welcome – School Hall
Wednesday 18 th July	KS2 Summer Music Concert 7-8pm (orchestra, choir, recorders, soloists and all Year 3 performing) Parents welcome – School Hall
Thursday 19 th July	Summer Eucharist 9.15am in the Crossing, Cathedral (Parents Welcome)
Thursday 19 th July	Helpers' Tea in the School Hall 2-3pm (Invitations to follow)
Monday 23 rd July	KS2 Half Termly House Points Winners Non Uniform Day
Tuesday 24 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly 12.30–2pm (Year 6 Parents welcome to attend)
Tuesday 24 th July	End of Summer Term 2pm

Key Stage 2 District Sports –Tuesday 19th and Thursday 21st June

Later this month roughly 25 Key Stage 2 children will compete in the District Sports field and track events against St Albans medium sized schools at West Minster Lodge athletics track. The selected children will compete over the two day event. Mr Morgan and I have begun the selection process which will be finalised next week when letters to participating parents will be sent home via email. The track and field event competitors will be decided through several rounds of heats, with the fastest sprinters in Years 3-6 being selected along with the Year 5 or 6 children that throw or jumps the highest in each event.



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Abbey Sports Team Kits- Please return

Can we ask that all running vests, football kits, netball kits, Abbey sports jackets and any 40A or 40B blue t-shirts be returned to school on Monday 11th June to ensure we have enough kit for the children to wear it for Monday's sports team photographs and at District Sports.

Clean Air Day - 21st June 2018

Following May's successful Walk to School Week, with over 200 schools across the County taking part it making it the most successful year ever. Clean Air Day is on Thursday 21st June 2018. We are keen for children to continue walking, cycling or scooting to school all the way through to Clean Air Day.

You will find attached a PDF leaflet to support Clean Air Day. The Clean Air Day campaign is about reminding drivers to switch off their engines when outside, schools to reduce CO2 omissions and improve air quality. Studies show that air pollution can slow the development of children's lungs leading to lifelong consequences. It has been estimated that air pollution causes the equivalent of 40,000 premature deaths each year in the UK.

Alban Pilgrimage - Saturday 23rd June

Children are invited to be part of the colourful Alban Pilgrimage on Saturday 23rd June. The Alban Pilgrimage takes place annually and is held in honour of the city's namesake, St Alban, who died on 22nd June over 1,700 years ago. He was executed for giving shelter to a Christian priest later named Amphibalus who was fleeing persecution by the Romans. Moved by the priest's faith, Alban became a Christian and the two men swapped cloaks, enabling the priest to escape. Alban was arrested instead, brought to trial and executed on the hill where St Albans Cathedral now stands.

Stunning 12-ft tall carnival puppets and a procession of around 300 children, teenagers and adults from the local community dramatize the tale of Alban's martyrdom, with the final scene taking place at the West End of St Albans Cathedral, the oldest site of continuous Christian worship in Britain. Festival Eucharist takes place immediately after the procession. Guest preacher will be The Very Reverend Andrew Nunn, Dean of Southwark. Festival Evensong takes place at 4pm.

Roman chariots, centurions, lions and roses all take their place in the dramatic procession from St Peter's Church, through the historic streets to St Albans. There are lots of costumes to fill and flags to hold. All are welcome! To help with planning the day groups are encouraged to register in advance. Please fill in the Registration Form <https://www.stalbanscathedral.org/whatson/the-alban-pilgrimage/> and return to – Cathedral Office, The Deanery, St Albans Cathedral, Sumpter Yard, St Albans, AL1 1BY, or by email to pilgrimage@stalbanscathedral.org. Registration closes on **Wednesday 20th June 2018**.

Whole school visit to St Saviour's Church –Monday 25th June

Since Father Richard's departure the children have been desperate to visit his new church on Sandpit Lane. We have arranged for all 210 children and staff to walk the one mile to his church on Monday 18th June. Father Richard will give us a tour of his church and a short service will be held. There is also an art exhibition taking place which will be an added bonus.

If you have any concerns why your child can not walk the one mile each way please email the School Office by Friday 22nd June. Children must come to school in school uniform on that day but may wear trainers if they are more comfortable than their school shoes. The children will be back in school in time for lunch. Please assess the weather in the morning and ensure your child comes to school wearing sun screen, sun hat and a jumper/coat if appropriate. We will walk regardless of weather. Each child should have a named water bottle on the day.

Please ensure prompt arrival to school as we aim to leave straight after registration. Children who are late will remain in the school library supervised by School Office staff. Please do not drive children to St Saviour's without communicating with Miss Fenn in advance. Appointments on the morning effecting your child's attendance on the walk can be discussed with Miss Fenn in advance.



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Volunteers wanted for St Saviour's visit

If parents would like to volunteer to walk with us to St Saviour's church on Monday 25th June then please email the School Office by Monday 18th June. Parents are welcome to walk with us and stay for the experience before we walk back. We plan to be back at school by 12pm.

St Saviour's Quiz- 16th June 2018

For those of you who like a quiz, Father Richard is holding a quiz on Saturday 16th June with a 7.30pm start. Teams of 8, £5 per person and one can bring their own drinks and glasses. Nibbles are provided. Tickets are available on [ticket source.co.uk/ssaviours](http://ticket.source.co.uk/ssaviours)

Summer Fair- Saturday 7th July

Just a reminder that the Summer Fair is on Saturday 7th July from 12-3pm. Thank you to all in advance for your support in the run up to this substantial fundraising event for Abbey School. Friday 6th July will be the non-uniform day in support of the Summer Fair. Year 6 will be invited to be involved in the annual Junior Apprentice enterprise which has proved very successful.

Absence Requests

Just a reminder that authorisation can only be given if there are exceptional and unavoidable circumstances which warrant it. When making a request **our policy asks for requests to be made at least two weeks in advance, where possible, to allow the Headteacher time to assess the request.** If making a request, please add as much information as to why the request is exceptional and include all relevant details on the official pro forma which can be found on the school website under the tab 'Parent Information' and then 'Key information' and then 'A School Day'. Our policy states that no absences will be authorised in September, the start of the new academic year.

Wednesday 16th July – Key Stage 2 Summer Music Evening

Our annual Summer Music Concert will be held on Wednesday 16th June, from 7- 8pm approximately in the School Hall.

This is a non-ticket event and I am looking forward to watching the **entire Year 3 class perform**, showing us what they have been learning during their Wider Opportunity recorder lessons, as well as performances by the school orchestra, choir and solo performances.



Safety reminders from Mr Hollick, Site Manager:

- Bicycles/scooters must not be ridden in the school grounds and stored in the bike racks provided.
- Children are not allowed to play on the grassy banks outside Year 4 or run down the bank outside Year 6.
- **Children are not allowed to play on the play equipment in the school grounds before and after school. Please ensure that pre-school children also follow this rule, especially outside Reception.**

Kind regards

Emma Fenn
Headteacher