



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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Dear Parents

What a wonderful week we have had here at school. The **Christmas Fair** was a huge success and a very enjoyable afternoon was had by all. Many thanks to all who volunteered, donated and attended. **We have raised over £4,000** which is our highest amount to date. All of the money raised will go towards the Friend's Association fund raising target to upgrade our school facilities for the children. So far this term the Friends' Association have funded a Soundfield system in the Year 5 and a new set of 16 Toshiba laptops for the entire school. During the Christmas holidays additional wooden playground equipment will be installed due the fund raising from the May School Ball and the Christmas Fair.

The Carol Service in St Albans Abbey was absolutely wonderful yesterday and showcased all of our children's musical ability under the direction of our very own talented Mrs Price. It was a truly stunning occasion. Our Cathedral choristers entered to Once in Royal David's City and then sang Come Thou Redeemer of the Earth. Our infant children sang a Caribbean carol Thank You for the Christmas with gusto. The juniors wowed us with Gaudete and the service was accompanied with recorders, hand bells, sticks, glockenspiels and a brass ensemble.

Key Stage 1 Nativity

Our 90 Key Stage 1 children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 performed 'The Little Fir Tree' this week in an evening and a matinee performance to a packed audience of 160. Our Year 2 children led the speaking, dancing and acting roles as we welcomed Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus as we head towards Christmas. The retiring collection raised £295 for The Children's Society. Photographs can be found: <http://www.abbey.herts.sch.uk/key-stage-1-nativity-play-december-2015/>

Christmas Post Box

Our school Christmas post box is now out in the Library. Children are invited to post their Christmas cards at convenient times when in school (not during lesson time!) and our Year 6 children will act as postmen and postwomen each lunchtime.

Please ensure Christmas cards identify:

- child's full name on the envelope
- child's year group on the envelope
- name of the child who wrote the card on the inside!



Healthy Schools





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Football Team Penalty Prize

After the Christmas Fair, the Football Team and I enjoyed an afternoon at St Albans City Football Ground. The 10 strong squad from Years 6, 5 and 4 enjoyed watching St Albans City play at home to Margate. At half time the boys took part in a penalty shootout against Aboyne Lodge School. It was a close call and we lost 4-3 but the boys had a wonderful time and enjoyed playing on the professional pitch and welcoming on the teams at the start of the match. Well done to all the boys who played: Ollie Arnold, Finn Ball, Bradley Clarke, Ollie Colman, Freddie Hicks, Henry Johnston, Daniel Lambley, Alistair Lechartier-Rutter, Peter Moore and Freddie Roe. Photographs can be found: <http://www.abbey.herts.sch.uk/penalty-shoot-out-2/>

St Albans Schools Carol Service

Last week, Year 4 joined twenty St Albans Schools to participate in a joint schools carol service in the Abbey with Father Richard. Alice and Harry were thrilled to be Mary and Joseph. Christian, who was dressed as Balthazar, and Ellie brought baby Jesus the gift of myrrh. Photos can be found: <http://www.abbey.herts.sch.uk/year-4-carol-service/>

Fire Engine Visit

White Watch from St Albans Fire Station visited Abbey School on Monday. The children loved being able to use the hose, especially those in Reception who have a whole topic on Water! The children in Reception, Years 1, 3 and 4 enjoyed sitting in the fire engine and listening to firemen and women explaining how to stay safe and about the special protective clothing they wear. Photos will shortly be on our school website. Attached to this newsletter is a leaflet from the fire service who are happy to carry out home safety checks and fit free smoke detectors. Photographs: <http://www.abbey.herts.sch.uk/firestation-visit/>

The Giving Machine

The giving machine, provides a free way to contribute to our fundraising whilst shopping online. You join for free and choose up to four causes to support. You generate commissions by shopping online (they work with over 1,500 retailers including Amazon, Play.com, John Lewis, eBay, Sainsbury's and Next). They convert your commissions into donations for your chosen causes. You're raising funds for free! <https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk>

Sibling Application Reception 2016-2017

The online application system for a Reception place from September 2016 opened on Monday 9th November. If you already have a child here at school and you would like to make an application for a Reception 2016-2017 place for a sibling, please submit a Supplementary Information Form, and hand this to the School Office as well as making an online application by 15th January 2016. A sibling application would fall under Category 3.

A Supplementary Information Form (SIF) can be downloaded from the school website where it can be found under the tab 'Admissions' or alternatively, one can be obtained from the School Office. With sibling applications, there is no requirement for a Cathedral Form for Applications 2016-2017 to be signed by Father Richard Watson. Allocation day will be 18th April 2016.

Middy Supervisory Assistant Job Opportunity

Abbey Primary School is looking for an additional midday supervisor to help with the supervision of children during the lunch break. The hours are 11.50 am to 1.05 pm at an hourly rate of around £7.30. We would be delighted to hear from applicants who would be interested in working Tuesday and or Wednesday. You would be joining a supportive team and working with well-behaved and friendly children. Please contact the School Office on 01727 851802 for further details.



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	Last week of term events in school	Classroom Alterations
Monday 14 th December	The Snow Queen theatre production to whole school	Year 5 in IT suite Year 5 enter/exit via IT suite door by field
Tuesday 15 th December	Last PE sessions with Mr Morgan	Year 5 in IT suite Year 5 enter/exit via IT suite door by field
Wednesday 16 th December	Christmas Lunch 11.30-1pm Talent Show to whole school No orchestra	Year 5 in IT suite Year 5 enter/exit via IT suite door by field
Thursday 17 th December	Class parties in the afternoon (children bring party clothes to school in a carrier bag, party food provided by the school)	Year 6 in IT suite Year 6 enter/exit via IT suite door by field
Friday 18 th December	Christmas Jumper Day for The Children's Society Abbey Shield Assembly 1.10-1.30pm 2pm finish	Year 6 in IT suite Year 6 enter/exit via IT suite door by field
Monday 4 th January 2016	Inset Day	
Tuesday 5 th January 2016	Term begins at 8.55am	

The autumn term ends at **2pm on Friday 18th December** and for those children who wish to join the staff in wearing a **Christmas jumper for the day**, with their normal uniform, are welcome to do so for a £1 donation to Save the Children. **The Spring term begins on Tuesday 5th January 2016.**

Merry Christmas!

Miss Emma Fenn
Headteacher