



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

Headteacher: Miss E. Fenn
Telephone: 01727 851802
Website: www.abbey.herts.sch.uk
Email: admin@abbey.herts.sch.uk

Grove Road
St Albans
Herts
AL1 1DQ

15th December 2017

Dear Parents

Another packed week at Abbey School, despite the snow! The Carol Service in the Cathedral was wonderfully attended and I have been inundated with praise and admiration for the children's singing, exemplary behaviour, confidence and enthusiasm from parents, governors and invited guests. Mrs Price surpassed herself once again!

The Christmas lunch this week was a joyful occasion, followed by the renowned Talent Show! Singing, jokes and dance routines featured and the event was compèred by our Year 6 children. The children really have had a super Christmas period here at school and enjoyed the Christmas theatre production of 'Santa's Shoes' this morning which was postponed from Monday. We have enjoyed wearing our Christmas jumpers to school today to support Save the Children and then of course we have had our Christmas parties this afternoon. The theatre production and Christmas parties are funded by the generous parent contributions made to Abbey School.

Abbey School Site

Our complex school site has 73 steps around the outside of the building alone and 65 trees on our grounds as we are situated in an old orchard. The school was built in 1970 into the side of the hill so that the school did not block the view of the Cathedral. At this time of year with extreme weather conditions, such a site is very hard to manage. I am very grateful to Mr Hollick, our Site Manager, who has worked hard from Monday to make sure Abbey School was open and as safe as possible from Tuesday. Thank you to the parents for your understanding and flexibility regarding the start and end of day arrangements. We are hopeful that the Abbey Orchard will be defrosted by Monday for normal arrangements to be reinstated.

A Count Down to Christmas

Monday 18 th December	Show Racism the Red Card assembly to Year 4, 5 and 6
Monday 18 th December	Year 1-6 parents invited, with their child, to see their child's English and Maths books in their classroom 3.40-4.30pm . Parents enter/exit via classroom door. Teachers will not be present on this occasion.
Tuesday 19 th December	Key Stage 2 Mark House Point winners non uniform day
Tuesday 19 th December	Final assembly of the term 1.10 -2pm
Tuesday 19th December	2pm End of Autumn Term
Wednesday 3 rd January 2018	Inset Day (Children do not attend school)
Thursday 4th January 2018	Spring Term starts 8.55am
Tuesday 16 th January 2018	NSPCC parent session from 2.30-3.15pm in the School Hall





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Abbey School Governing Board

The annual Parent Governor Forum will be on Thursday 15th March from 7.30-9pm, which will now, going forward, combine with the Friends' Association AGM.

Year 1-6 parent 'Book Look' opportunity- Monday 18th December 3.40-4.30pm

You may have noticed from the diary dates above that Year 1-6 parents are invited, with their child, to see their child's English and Maths books in their classroom between 3.40-4.30pm. Year 1-6 parents must enter/exit via their classroom door. Teachers will not be present on this occasion.

Another opportunity will be offered at the end of the spring term to compliment the October and February Parent Consultations. Reception Building Books will be sent home for parents to look at and enjoy with their child at the end of every half term.

Key stage 2 House Points

The children in Key Stage 2 are divided into Houses: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. The Key Stage 2 House points are celebrated each Friday in assembly with Miss Felstead. The children have worked all half term towards having the highest number of House Points each week.

This half term the winning House is **Mark** and all the children in this House have earned a non-uniform day on **Tuesday 19th December**, the last day of term.

Request for Unwanted Toys for Wet Playtimes at Abbey School:

- Lego/KNex/Geomag
- Connect 4 /Shut the Box/Mousetrap
- Cards and UNO card games
- Frustration Games
- Dominos/Jacks

Please hand any unwanted games to the School Office to distribute. The Friends will then purchase any games that are not donated.

Abbey School Councils and Roles of Responsibility

Congratulations to the democratically elected School Council representatives from Year 1-6 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.

Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council, Green Council and Faith Council and regular pupil questionnaires. The elections of these Councils each year are based solely on pupil votes. Children are not allowed to stand for the same Council two years in a row.

The **School Council** will meet with the Headteacher at least twice a term to discuss issues and ideas to improve Abbey School. Debbie Gupta, Chair of the Governing Body, is looking forward to meeting the children to listen to their thoughts and ideas.

The **Faith Council** will meet at least twice a term with Mrs Yates, our RE Coordinator, to help shape our RE lessons and Collective Worship both at school and in the Abbey. Father Berkeley and the new sub Dean will also attend some meetings as will our RE and Collective Worship Governor, Linda Marchment.

The **Green Council** will meet with Miss Dunn, our DT and Garden Coordinator, at least twice a term to discuss issues and ideas to improve the school grounds and garden, promote recycling, sustainability and environmental issues. The Green Council will meet with the Site Manager, Mr Hollick, to discuss ideas and potential projects.



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	School Council	Green Council	Faith Council
Year 1	Kitty Baird James Stewart	Charlotte Cairns Georgia Waller	Phoebe Crudgington James Waller
Year 2	Bella Claudius Zachary Jones	Oliver Bennett-Velasco Margot Rees	Ben Gillin Daisy Oaten
Year 3	Jae Fellowes Lexi Kynaston	Eliza De Silva Alex Macdonald	Sammy Roe Sophia Van Rooijen-Din
Year 4	Felix Beckley Gabby Read	Tamzin Collin Ben Gardner	Imogen Lawrenson Beck Winter
Year 5	Poppy Goodier Josie Lawrence	Alexander Elliott Mackenzie McGowan	Henry Ball Georgina Hamilton
Year 6	Sam Prestianni Kristian Tunstall	Aimee Benson Daisy Howes	Ellie Swann Joseph Tanner

Year 6 Responsibilities

All Year 6 children are enjoying the responsibility of being a Special Friend to a Reception child. In addition, Year 6 children enjoy taking turns reading the Bible passage in the Lady Chapel on a Thursday in our Collective Worship.

Year 6 children can also apply for additional positions of responsibility such as Librarians, Music Captains and Playground Buddies to help initiate play for those who would like to get involved in both Key stages. Congratulations to the children below who are proudly wearing their new badges and excited about their role of responsibility within the school, as well as being a role model to others.

Year 6 Music Captains	Year 6 Librarians	Year 6 Playground Buddy
Poppy Hewitt	Ellie Hinkins	Aimee Benson
Pippa Samols	Alice Ling	Evie Rosewell
Johnny Walker	Pippa Samols	Larissa Subakaran
	Theertha Senthilkumar Gandhimathi	Johnny Walker
	Johnny Walker	

Supporting RNLI – Bring in your used stamps

Year 6 Booster teacher Mr Silver has asked me to remind you to save your used stamps for the Royal National Lifeboats Institute this Christmas period. We have supported the RNLI for a number of years and there is a used stamp collection box in the entrance of school, below the School Office window.

The staff and I wish to convey our thanks for Christmas cards, presents and good wishes as this term comes to a close. Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Emma Fenn
Headteacher