



# The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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16<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Dear Parents

There have been so many wonderful events taking place at our school in these last few weeks of term that I just don't know where to start... The Key Stage 1 production of 'Sparkle' was absolutely fantastic, both staff and children worked extremely hard to showcase the children's acting, dancing, reading and singing abilities.

The Advent Eucharist and the Carol Service were 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 directly by the renowned Talent Show! Singing, jokes and dance routines featured and the event was hosted by our Year 6 children. The children really have had a super Christmas period here at school. 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.

This final newsletter of the autumn term comes with the Spring term Clubs List attached so that you can see what dates the clubs begin and end, many of which begin in the first week back, such as Year 5 and 6 netball and football squad training.

## What's On Next Week?

Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 Children in Luke House have a non-uniform day as a reward Travelling Crib arrives in school KS2 Maths Day
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Travelling Crib leaves Assembly at 1.10pm Class Christmas parties in the afternoon (children bring party clothes to change into) Last Lindees after school club
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Last Lindees breakfast club 1.10pm Assembly. <b>2pm End of Autumn Term</b> <b>No</b> Lindees after school club

## Spring Term 2017

Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>INSET DAY</b> – Children do not attend school
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>INSET DAY</b> – Children do not attend school
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Spring Term Begins 8.55am



Healthy Schools





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## **World Faiths**

This week Year 5 enjoyed a visit to St Albans Abbey to see the Jewish Living and Learning Experience, hosted by The Education Centre. In partnership with St Albans Masorti Synagogue (SAMS) and the Board of Deputies of British Jews, Year 5 participated in an exciting and interactive 90 minute led session to support their RE Judaism curriculum.

Also this week, Year 6 were lucky enough to have a talk in school to support their RE Buddhism studies. Nicolas Soames, granddad to Pascha in Year 3, spoke to the children and answered their prepared questions. The children enjoyed learning about the marks of a Buddha and meditation.

## **Football**

Well done to our football team who played valiantly in the final stage of the Wix Cup on Tuesday against St Columba's College. The squad enjoyed playing on Harvesters astro pitch even though they lost 1-0. Well done to Ollie Arnold, Finn Ball, Henry Ball, Bradley Clarke, Ollie Colman, Sai Fisher, Freddie Hicks, Henry Johnston Charlie Robinson and Freddie Roe!

## **Bishop's Harvest Appeal**

The Cathedral has just informed us that our Harvest Eucharist retiring collection raised £211 for the Bishop's Harvest Appeal this year, 'Life-Giving Water'.

## **St Albans Cathedral Stewardship Appeal**

Each year the Cathedral congregation donates £40,000 of small grants to a variety of charitable causes and last year Abbey Primary School received a small grant following our application. The Cathedral pew sheet on Sunday asked the congregation if associated with a good cause to be considered for a donation to contact Jon Whitehouse in writing via the pigeonholes.

As you are aware, Abbey Primary school has been undergoing a major refurbishment project to replace the pipes and radiators throughout the school, following a new boiler installation funded by the Diocese. This is essential work to ensure the school is operational and warm for many years to come. The total cost of the project over two financial years is £206,000; 90% paid for by Diocese funding with the school paying 10% (£20,600). Abbey School paid 10% (£10,300) at the end of last financial year and will need to pay the same again at the end of this financial year. This money will have to come from the school budget, diverting money away from the school's resources to provide exceptional education for all children. Abbey School will apply to the Cathedral, as we did last financial year, for a grant towards the 10% cost to Abbey School for this essential work.

Any parent who would be interested in nominating Abbey School in this way would be welcome to do so by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, in support of our formal application.

I wish you all a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emma Fenn', written in a cursive style.

Miss Emma Fenn  
Headteacher