



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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Dear Parents

Welcome back to the summer term here at school. This term's clubs list was published to parents yesterday. We have a very busy term ahead and the diary dates for the entire term will be electronically sent to you early next week. This is an especially important term for our Year 2 and 6 children who will undertake end of Key Stage SATs assessments in May.

Absence Requests

I had a large number of requests for authorised absences handed in on the last two days of term not leaving the required time of two weeks to assess the individual cases. 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. Our policy states that **no absences will be authorised in the weeks leading up to SATs in May in the Summer Term for children in Years 2 and 6**.

Abbey School Sports Team Kits- Please return

This term the Key Stage 2 children look forward to the District Sports where the children will be assessed and the selected for field and track events to compete against local schools. Mr Morgan and the class teachers will select the children who sprint the fastest or throw the furthest for the events which have strict age and number of entrant guidelines. **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** to ensure we have enough kit for the children to wear.

St Albans Cathedral Communion Club

Communion Club is for children in Year 2 or above wishing to prepare for First Communion and this year there will be a parents' information meeting on Sunday 29th April after the 9.30am service at around 10.45am in the Chapter Room. Teaching will take place during the Sunday Club slot at 9.30am on Sundays 6th and 20th May, 17th and 24th June and 1st July. Admission to First Holy Communion will take place on Sunday 8th July. If you would like your child to take part, please contact Anthea Bickerstaff - anthea.bickerstaff@stalbanscathedral.org. The Cathedral would ask for a full commitment to the preparation classes once your child has signed up.





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St Albans Half Marathon School Challenge!

We are taking part in the 'St Albans Half Marathon School Challenge' and would love for you and your child to join us! Held on Sunday 10th June 2018, the school with the highest percentage of its pupils entered into the 1.5mile Fun Run will win a cash donation!

The St Albans Half Marathon Event offers something for everyone, catering to all ages and abilities, with the Half Marathon, Walking Half Marathon, 5k Race and 1.5 Mile Children's Fun Run. The event is community focused, donating all profits to local charities and organisations. It is also hosting a Runners Village full of free activities to keep the whole family entertained! So why not plan a lovely family day out and help us to win the prize! Register online at www.stalbanshalfmarathon.co.uk

You will be asked for our school name in the registration form. Entries close on Tuesday 5th June at 11:59pm but please note the event sold out before the closing date last year so we recommend you to register early! Entries will NOT be taken on the day.

St Albans Young Musician Free Concert

St Albans Cathedral is hosting a free concert showcasing the talented winners and runners up from the St Albans Young Musicians Competition 2018. As a winner, Abbey School's Sedona De Silva in Year 4 will be performing once again on Saturday 28th February at 1pm.

St Albans Young Musician is supported by the St Albans Cathedral Music Trust, the aim of the competition is to provide a unique platform for young musicians and extend the musical outreach of the Cathedral as well as to bring the work of the Music Trust to a wider audience.

Entry is free and all are welcome to enjoy the beautiful performances of these talented young people.

Sustainable St Albans Week

Sustainable St Albans Week 2018 takes place from 21st -29th April with hundreds of events. All events are run by local community groups, businesses, faith groups and schools – all about living more sustainably and supporting the environment. The Week is supported by St Albans District Council.

The aim is to encourage and energise more local people to make steps towards environmental sustainability – in their homes, their work-places, their community groups, schools, businesses or places of faith. By holding the week, they hope to shine a light on environmental issues and to show that ordinary people want to make a difference – and can make a difference.

Abbey School is taking part in St Albans Sustainability Week. Miss Dunn, Year 3 teacher, would like to arrange a volunteer afternoon where parents can come into school and help maintain our pond and garden area. This will involve clearing out weeds and general tidying of the areas to prepare them for the children to use.

If you are free on either Tuesday 24th or Wednesday 25th (1.45-3pm). Please let Mrs Upton know via admin@abbey.herts.sch.uk. All equipment will be provided but please come in old clothes and gloves.

Kind regards

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

Miss Emma Fenn
Headteacher