



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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Dear Parents

Staffing

I am delighted to announce that we have appointed for the summer term in Year 5 following Mrs Cole's departure at the end of next week, on Friday 31st March. Mrs Cole has worked at Abbey School for ten years teaching children across Key Stage 2. Mrs Cole will be greatly missed and we wish her and her son Tyler, Year 1, all the very best as they join their new school closer to home.

Mrs Kynaston and Mr Ramsey will become the new teachers for the Year 5 class for the entire summer term. We are now fully staffed for both the summer term and onwards into the next academic year, although these teaching arrangements are confidential until the announcement in the summer term.

Both new teachers will be in school next week to get to know the children. I am sure that children and parents alike will make these new members of Abbey School teaching staff welcome, although they are only with us for one term and will not be the children's Year 6 teachers.

Summer Term 2017

The spring term ends at 2pm on Friday 31st March for the Easter holiday and school resumes on Tuesday 18th April because of the bank holiday. There will be no Lindees after school care on Friday 31st March.

On the first day back we welcome not only new teachers, but several new children resulting in our school being full with 210 children on roll and 30 children in every class. Recently we have welcomed Enzo Ellis-Bland into Year 2 and sibling Eirian Weaver in Year 4.

On the first day of next term the Reception class will welcome Emily Keelson and her sisters Joelle will join Year 3 and Micah will join Year 4. Year 1 will be completed with sibling Morgan Weaver and Year 2 will be completed with the arrival of Alexa Kynaston.

Friends Treasurer

Richard Gillin has agreed to take over as the new treasurer for the Friends' Association. He will take over from Rachael Massingham, who we thank for all her hard work and support. In Rachel's final duties as treasurer she has informed us that the most recent fund raising for Abbey School raised:

- £207.75 from the Year 2 and 3 Cake Sale
- £45 from the second hand uniform sale
- £722.92 from Sponsored Bounce to date

Well done and thank you to all of the families that have supported us in this way.





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Book Week 2017

Last week the whole school enjoyed a fabulous Book Week. Thank you to all the staff, parents and children for making the week such a memorable occasion. One of the highlights was a two day visit by a performance poet, Professor Pango Mango, who joined us to perform and write with all classes in the school with an animal theme.

The decision on the Best Costume was very hard as the children all looked fabulous. The winning costumes are below. The Friends' Association awarded each winning child a £5 book voucher. Andy Collin took some wonderful photographs of the children which will be put on the school website. The staff came dressed as animals or as rats as I dressed as The Pied Piper.

Book Week 2017 Competition Winners

	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Best Costume	Evie Bartlett	Margot Rees	Jack Matthews	Molly Ling	Lotta Craze and Nancy Perse	Finn Ball	Etienne Carpenter
	As Black Beauty	As Handa's Surprise	As The Tin Man	As Brave	As Tweedle Dum and Tweedle Dee	As The Ugly Duckling	As Alien Loves Underpants





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St Albans School Partnership

As in previous years we are fortunate to have the opportunity of a partnership scheme with St Albans School. As part of their community cohesion, the school offer us free specialist teaching in a number of areas on a Friday afternoon. Our Key Stage 2 classes benefit from this partnership and I know that the children enjoy this enrichment to the curriculum.

In addition, our Friday afternoon PE sessions with Mr Morgan will continue to be supported by Sixth Form students from St Albans School who are keen sportsmen and women and enjoy supporting the children in their skills and have proved to be excellent role models. Some St Albans School Sixth Form students also support children in the classroom which has proved incredibly helpful.

This half term, Year 3 enjoyed weekly French sessions here at school delivered by a specialist French teacher from St Albans School. In the summer term, Year 4 will enjoy weekly art lessons at Abbey School. Year 5 will participate in weekly Science sessions at St Albans School and Year 6 will enjoy weekly DT sessions for half a term and weekly drama sessions for half a term at St Albans School.

We continue to use St Albans School's swimming pool for weekly Key Stage 2 swimming lessons. Year 4 swim in the autumn term. Year 5 swim in the spring term and Year 3 will begin their swimming lessons in the summer term. We are very grateful to St Albans School for providing us with this range of opportunities.

Red Nose Day

The children enjoyed wearing red today and raised £150.57 for the charity. The money raised can support children in various ways:

- £4 could fully vaccinate a child in Africa against five deadly childhood diseases.
- £3 could pay for a counselling session for a child who has lost their parents to Ebola in Sierra Leone.
- In the UK, £10 could provide three days of nutritious hot meals for a homeless young person.

Kind regards

Miss Emma Fenn
Headteacher