



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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Dear Parents

Thank you for those of you who supported the most recent Abbey School Fundraising event, last Saturday's Late Summer Soiree. We estimate that we have raised approximately £4,000 when all the monies bid is paid. This money will be used to improve the school facilities for the benefit of all the children.

Letters to those parents who made donations and to those who had winning bids have come home with your child in their school bag today. We have asked that parents settle any outstanding money via SchoolComms Gateway by Friday 7th October.

There are still several outstanding ticket sales to be paid. Please do so by Friday 7th October if you committed to tickets as food and drinks costs were incurred and all tickets requested must be paid for. Once parents have paid for items that were on display during the evening, these can be collected from the School Library. Donated equipment for the night is in the library awaiting collection. Unnamed glass jars are also in the library should anyone wish to use them to decorate their garden.

Thank you to the Soiree Committee and the set-up and clean-up crew for all their hard work across the weekend and in advance of the event.

Individual School Photographs – Monday 3rd October

Individual and family photos will be taken on Monday 3rd October. Family photos are scheduled to start at 8.30am; this is where pre-school children can have a picture taken on their own or with their sibling. Children with a sibling at the school will have a sibling picture taken in addition to an individual one during school hours. **Please note, school aged pupils must be in class by 8.55am to ensure lessons can start promptly.**

Please make sure the children have clean and suitable socks/tights which comply with our school uniform regulations, as they will remove their shoes for the pictures. Clean white socks for the girls and grey or black socks for the boys. Please also make sure your child has a clean school sweatshirt or cardigan, with the Abbey School logo, not the school fleece which is an additional item. Long hair must be tied back.

Waterproof Coats

As the weather is changing, please ensure your child has a waterproof coat in school particularly on a Thursday when we have the service in the Abbey.



Healthy Schools





The Abbey CE VA Primary School

Parents' Evening – Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th October 2016 (Yr 6 Thursday 20th)

Parents' Evening will be on Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th October. The School uses an easy-to-use online appointment booking system. Mrs Yeldham, our SENCO, is available on Wednesday 19th October and appointments can be made to see both your child's teacher and Mrs Yeldham if your child has Special Educational Needs.

These meetings are for parents only. There will be no supervision for school age or pre-school children on site. Appointments will run strictly on time to allow parents to organise childcare arrangements off-site, potentially with other parents. Parents will more than one class teacher will not be able to specify which teacher they see. All the job share teachers will read from jointly written notes. All parents will take home a paper copy of the notes the teacher is reading from to assist parents supporting their child at home.

Appointments can be made from Wednesday 5th October from 7am and will close on Tuesday 18th October at 7am. Should you wish to make any changes after 7am on Tuesday 18th October, please contact the School Office. Please do not swap appointments between parents. Please visit <https://abbeyprimaryschool.parenteveningsystem.co.uk> to book your appointments. Everything you need can be found on the school website on the Parent Information tab, followed by Key Information and then Parent Consultation Evenings. Please login with the following information: Child's legal first name, Child's surname and date of birth.

If you are unable to attend the set evenings. A 10 minute consultation to meet with the class teacher can be arranged via the School Office after October half term. Please note, this appointment will be 10 minutes still.

Harvest Service

Our Harvest Service is on Thursday 6th October. The Service is held in the crossing at St. Albans Abbey at 9.15am, to which parents, friends and families of pupils are warmly invited. Once again we are supporting the Bishop's Harvest Appeal this year 'Life-Giving Water'.

As with last year, we will be delivering our Harvest offerings to St Albans and District Foodbank (based in Harpenden) where charities such as 'Open Door' shop for their supplies.

Children are asked to bring to the Abbey harvest offerings that are particularly useful to the shelter, which are as follows:-

Things St Albans and District Foodbank needs:

Tinned meats, fish, carrots, sweetcorn, peas, tomatoes, potatoes, soup and fruit

Desserts

Pasta sauces

Tinned rice pudding

Tinned custard

Rice (max size 1kg)

Sugar (pref 500g)

Cereals (not large box sizes)

Longlife fruit juice and milk

Instant coffee (max 200g size)

Teabags (max size 80 bags)

Jam



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Things St Albans and District Foodbank doesn't need:

Fresh food (we can't store it!)
Large tins of biscuits
Large boxes of teabags (80+ bags)
Flour & Baking ingredients
Cooking oils, vinegar

I would be grateful if any parents with a car are able to deliver the boxes of items we have collected to St Albans and District Foodbank, The Russell Building, Rothamsted Research, Harpenden, Herts, AL5 2JQ from 12pm that day. Please let the School Office know if you are able to do so. We are also looking for two volunteers to receive the items at the Abbey at 9.10am as the children arrive at the Abbey.

Parents who wish to donate to this year's Bishop's Harvest Appeal may do so by sending cash or cheque in a clearly marked envelope "BISHOPS HARVEST APPEAL". We will then pass the donations on to Bishop Alan. There will be a retiring collection at the end of the service for adults only.

Harvest Festival seating

The seating will run as it has done for the last few services in the crossing. The children in Years 4, 5 and 6 will sit in the choir stalls. Parents are invited to sit by the High Altar. Reception and Year 1 will sit in the crossing by the pulpit. Year 3 will sit opposite the pulpit and Year 2 will be spilt on both sides of the crossing. Parents with prams may find it difficult to sit by the altar and may prefer to sit closer to the Rose Window, behind the children, where steps will not cause an issue. We thank you in your advance for being sensitive of the school children's needs whilst they are singing, performing and praying. We understand that seating is tight, but we thank you in advance for your patience with allowing the school children to be seated before any spare seats behind the children are filled by parents with prams.

Second hand uniform and cake sale Friday 7th October

There will be a second hand uniform and cake sale on Friday at 3.20pm and it is the Reception and Year 1 parents turn to donate home-made cakes.

We have had an unusually high amount of staff ill health over the last two weeks and I am delighted to say that we will be fully staffed on Monday as all staff have recovered and will be back to school. Thank you with your understanding with this and normal routine will resume from Monday.

Kind regards

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

Miss Emma Fenn
Headteacher