



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

Headteacher: Miss E. Fenn

Grove Road

Telephone: 01727 851802

St Albans

Fax No: 01727 766991

Herts

Email: head@abbey.herts.sch.uk

AL1 1DQ

Website: www.abbey.herts.sch.uk

10 October 2014

Dear Parents,

Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening this term will be on Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd October. This is an opportunity for parents to have a ten minute appointment with their child's class teacher and if you wish our SENCO Mrs Tully in the School Hall. These meetings are for parents only. There will be no supervision for school age or pre-school children on site. Appointment slots have been displayed in the School Hall from Wednesday 8th October for parents to sign up for.

Appointments will run strictly to time to allow parents to organise child care arrangements off-site, potentially with other parents. We politely ask that children do not come into the hall as seven appointments will run simultaneously and children may affect the quality of the discussions taking place. We are confident that Parents' Evening will provide sufficient space with regard to confidentiality and privacy for the seven teachers and the respective parents in the School Hall. Mrs Tully will conduct her meetings just off the hall in the Practical Room.

How the evening will run

The evenings will take the same format as last previous years. Teacher's time keeping will be precise to assist parents with out of school child care arrangements. We ask that all parents enter and exit via the main entrance of school where the Grove Road pedestrian gate will be open. After school football, netball and dance club will take place as normal, although children will have to be collected from the external door by Year 5 and there will be no entrance via the hall. Dance club will take place in the Year 6 classroom. Key Stage 1 Photo Club will have finished by this time.





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The consultation meetings will take place for all classes in the hall with the children's books available to browse in the KS1 classrooms:

Reception classroom: Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

Year 1 classroom: Year 3 and Year 4

Year 2 classroom: Year 5 and Year 6

We politely ask that all the children's books/trays are left in the classroom. Please ensure that you are waiting in the Library in advance of your appointment time by a few minutes. From here the Headteacher will collect you to allow all appointments to start not only promptly, but collectively in the hall to eliminate disruption. To keep to time, a bell will be rung to indicate the last minute of appointment time. (If at this point you feel further time is needed, please contact the School Office who will be happy to assist you in making an additional appointment straight after school in the following half term.) The next set of parents will then be escorted into the hall ready to start their meeting on time.

Harvest Service

This is a reminder about our Harvest Service on Thursday 16th 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. Each year we also support "Open Door", which provides a night shelter and a day centre for the homeless in St Albans. Children are asked to bring to the Abbey harvest offerings that are particularly useful to the shelter, which are as follows:-

- Rice, breakfast cereals
- Tinned meals e.g. curries, stews, soups, fish, meat
- Tea, coffee, sugar, fruit squash
- Jams, honey, marmalade etc
- Biscuits, crisps
- Toiletries - toilet rolls, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, shaving foam, towels, flannels.

I would be grateful if any parents with a car are able to deliver the boxes of items we have collected to Open Door's offices in St Albans after the service. Please let the School Office know if you are able to do so. We are also looking for a volunteer to assist school governor, Linda Marchment, receive the items at the Abbey at 9.10am as the children arrive at the Abbey.

In addition, any 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". This year's Harvest Appeal is focusing on 'Learning for Life' transforming women's' lives in Egypt through education. 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.



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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 font. Year 3 will sit opposite the font 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.

School uniform reminder

I thought it would be helpful now a month into term to remind parents of our uniform policy. All clothing, shoes and bags must be clearly and permanently labelled with child's name.

Boys

Light blue polo shirt

Navy blue embroidered sweatshirt (Obtainable through Stevensons)

Grey trousers or grey tailored shorts

Grey or black socks

Sensible closed toe black shoes

Black indoor plimsolls

Winter: a warm waterproof coat is necessary

All year: A waterproof coat/cagoule to be kept in school

Girls

Light blue polo shirt

Navy embroidered sweatshirt or cardigan (Obtainable through Stevensons)

Navy blue skirt or navy blue pinafore dress or navy blue smart trousers or navy blue tailored shorts



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Summer: A blue and white checked dress (Optional)

Grey, white or navy blue socks

Grey or navy-blue tights

Black indoor plimsolls

Sensible closed toe black shoes - non heel or slip on

Winter: a warm waterproof coat is necessary

All year: A lightweight waterproof coat/cagoule to be kept in school

Navy blue or white hair ties for long hair and all hair accessories to be navy blue or white

PE (Both boys and girls)

White plain T-shirt (polo or round neck)

Embroidered school sports hooded jumper (Obtainable through Stevensons)

Navy blue shorts

Trainers

Navy blue or white hair ties for long hair and all hair accessories to be navy blue or white

Please note:

- Trousers, skirts and dresses can be purchased from the uniform departments of chain stores or Stevensons. Trousers reflecting 'high street' fashion or jeans style are not acceptable.
- Children need three pairs of shoes in school for indoor and outdoor wear. These should include one pair of black plimsolls, one pair of black leather school shoes and a pair of trainers for outdoor P.E.
- No jewellery, however, one pair of stud earrings and a watch are allowed.
- Long hair must to be tied back at all times. No makeup or nail varnish to be worn.
- No hair gel/ hair colouring or stencil designs.
- In the summer, sunscreen should be applied before school and a fabric sun hat can be worn. Sunglasses are not allowed.
- If the weather is wet or the ground is muddy children may walk to or from school in a pair of wellington boots.
- An embroidered navy school fleece and an embroidered fleece lined waterproof coat for outdoor wear are available through Stevensons. These are optional garments as is a navy blue basketball cap, also obtainable through Stevensons.



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School uniform can be purchased from:-

Stevensons

131-139 Victoria Street

St.Albans

Hertfordshire

AL1 3XS

Tel: 01727 853262

Online at <http://www.stevensons.co.uk>

Mr Davey Site Manager Update

Mr Davey should come out of hospital tomorrow. He will then be resting at home for two weeks until his next cycle of treatment begins. Mr Davey is missing us all. He is enjoying watching the DVDs the parents have sent him on his laptop that the school has lent him. The staff clubbed together and bought him an acoustic guitar which he can learn whilst he is at home. We are looking forward to him accompanying us with Kum Ba Yah on his return!

Midday Supervisory Assistant Job Opportunity

Abbey Primary School is looking for an additional midday supervisor to help with the supervision of children during the lunch break. The hours are 11.55 am to 1.10 pm at an hourly rate of £6.50. We would be delighted to hear from applicants who would be interested in working any day of the week. You would be joining a supportive team and working with well-behaved and friendly children. Please contact the School Office on 01727 851802 for further details.

Kind regards

Miss Fenn

Headteacher