



# The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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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 'Manger Mouse' was absolutely fantastic, both staff and children worked extremely hard to showcase the children's acting, dancing, reading and singing abilities. This week's Herts Advertiser has some wonderful pictures of our young actors in both the St Albans and Harpenden editions. Look out for Josie in Year 2 on the front of the Nativity section in the paper and then a full page spread of photographs on page 6.

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 retiring collection from the Carol Service raised a staggering £354.18

The Christmas lunch this week was a joyful occasion, followed directly by the renowned Talent Show! Singing, jokes, dance routines and hoola hooping 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.

The St Albans and Harpenden Herts Advertiser also feature a wonderful article on page 7 about our fabulous 2014 Level 5 and above SATs results and our recent ranking as third highest achieving primary school in the UK out of 21,444 schools. Page 21 of the paper has a





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lovely article about our very own Asha Banks from Year 6 and her charity Christmas single. What a wonderful week for news coverage of our unique and special school!

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, many of which begin in the first week back, such as Year 5 and 6 netball and football squad training. The Term Dates for 2016/2017 are also attached to help with your future holiday planning to enable 'Outstanding' attendance at Abbey School for all children. This follows the 2015/2016 Term Dates that were ParentMailed earlier this term and can be found on our school website.

### **Foundation International School Award Certificate**

The Abbey Primary School, St Albans has successfully addressed the criteria for the Foundation level of the British Council International School Award, under Mrs Clerc's direction as our Modern Foreign Language coordinator and as a French specialist herself.

The application follows the link our Year 6 children have made writing to children at Ecole Aimè Legall in Mouans-Sartoux in the South of France. Now that we have successfully reached the Foundation level the next stage of the ISA is for us to work towards is the Intermediate Award, which reflects critically on global themes. Well done Mrs Clerc and Year 6!

### **Future Friends' Events for Your 2015 Diary**

- **Quiz Night:** Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2015 in the School Hall 7.30pm onwards (tickets only)
- **School Ball:** Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at St Albans School (tickets only)

### **Healthy Snacks**

For the Spring Term I have included the School Rule regarding **Healthy Snacks** at school which can be found in the School Prospectus and in your Home School Agreement, sent home in the summer term: **Fruit, healthy cereal bars or prepared vegetables may be eaten during morning break.**

A Government initiative entitles all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to receive a free piece of fruit or vegetable each day, which they eat during their mid-morning break. Junior children may bring in prepared fruit or vegetables (carrot/celery etc) or a healthy cereal bar. Sweets, chewing gum, biscuits, crisps and nuts are not allowed.

### **Cool Milk for Key Stage 2 Children**

From January 2015, parents who wish to purchase milk for their Key Stage 2 child to drink at morning break, can register and pay with Coolmilk. They can be contacted by telephone on 0844 8542913 or online [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com). Parents need to register by a Tuesday in order for their child to start receiving milk the following week.



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### **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 £7.30. 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.

### **Giant African Snails**

The School Library is the proud owners of two giant African snails. We are looking for a rectangular glass tank (with a lid!) to give them a larger home. If you have a spare empty tank that you are happy to donate to school please speak to Mrs Johnston or the School Office.

### **Abbey Carol Service; Lost and Found**

A ladies black coat was found at the Abbey after the Carol Service yesterday. It has a salamol inhaler in the pocket. Should this be your coat, it can be collected from the Abbey where it is kept in 'lost and found.'

### **Supporting RNLI**

Mr Silver, one of our teachers, has asked me to remind you to save used stamps for the Royal National Lifeboats Institute this Christmas period. We have supported the RNLI for a number of years and there is a used stamp collection box in the entrance of school, below the School Office window.

### **Abbey School Pupil Band Performance Today**

"Magician's Nephew" will be performing at Relish Burgers (next to St Albans Arena) today after school, starting at 3pm. The band features students of Abbey School: Joshua and Euan from Year 6 and Noah from Year 4. The band will be performing songs written by Joshua and Noah. All our children and parents are invited to come along and support.

I wish you all a relaxing weekend and a Merry Christmas. I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year when the Spring term begins on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

Kind regards,

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

Miss Emma Fenn

Headteacher