



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

Headteacher: Miss E. Fenn
 Telephone: 01727 851802
 Fax No: 01727 766991
 Email: head@abbey.herts.sch.uk
 Website: www.abbey.herts.sch.uk

Grove Road
 St Albans
 Herts
 AL1 1DQ

20 November, 2014

Dear parents

I am delighted to announce the new democratically elected School Council, Faith Council and Green Council for this academic year, which comprises of two representatives from each of the Years 1-6. The children are sporting their new enamelled School Council badges and I am sure they will bring many interesting and sensible suggestions from their classes.

The **School Council** will meet with the headteacher at least twice a term to discuss issues and ideas to improve Abbey School. Debbie Gupta, Chair of the Governing Body, is looking forward to meeting the children to listen to their thoughts and ideas.

The **Faith Council** will meet at least twice a term to help shape our Collective Worship both at school and in the Abbey. On Monday, Youth Chaplain Sally, will come to school for lunch and then lead Collective Worship. Sally will then meet with the Faith Council with the headteacher at 1.30pm for our first meeting. Father Richard will also attend some meetings as will our RE and Collective Worship Governor, Linda Marchment.

The **Green Council** will meet with me at least twice a term to discuss issues and ideas to improve the school grounds and garden, promote recycling, sustainability and environmental issues. The Green Council will meet with the Site Manager and the team of parent school gardeners to discuss ideas and potential projects.

	School Council 2014 2015	Green Council 2014 2015	Faith Council 2014 2015
Year 1	Sedona De Silva Jamie McVey	Molly Ling Rowan Ryan	Oscar Roe Gabby Read
Year 2	Georgina Hamilton Sophia Bennett-Velasco	Henry Ball Lotta Craze	Patrick Johnston Josie Lawrence
Year 3	Dominic Tanner Darcey Dembek	Oliver Ricks Evie Rosewell	Daisy Howes Alexander Crook
Year 4	Fraser Hauser Amandine Geurts	Katia Lewis Hugh Edwards	Ella Snailham Stephanie Lawrence
Year 5	Ollie Chow Bea Hardy	Alejandro Moreno Hannah Barker	Christy Shaw Claire Granier
Year 6	Harry Mason Eilidh Dunwoodie	Joe-Joe Colman Amelia Edwards	Aidan Tanner Allie Snailham





The Abbey CE VA Primary School

Key Stage 1 and 2 Disco tomorrow

Just a reminder that it is our School Disco tomorrow, Friday 21st November, 3.30-4.30pm for Key Stage 1 children and 5-6pm for Key Stage 2 children. Tickets are still available. Please ensure a prompt pick up at either 4.30pm or 6pm and wait in the Library area. I will then invite parents by year group to collect their child from the hall to ensure safety of the children. There is no supervision of children outside these allotted times.

Christmas Fundraising at the Christmas Fair Saturday 29th November 12-3pm

Our Christmas Fair promises to be a festive fun day for all the family! Please do come along and look out for our Year 6 Young Apprentices and of course Santa Claus is coming to town! To tempt your taste buds there will be a variety of tasty treats to buy such as mince pies and hog roast baps. All of the money raised at the Christmas Fair will go towards the Friend's Association fund raising target to upgrade our school facilities for the children.

So far this term the Friends' Association have funded a Soundfill system in the Year 2 classroom to improve the open plan learning environment. Reception's new outside classroom pencil shaped fencing was funded by Friends', in addition to our brand new maths scheme across the school to meet the demands of the new curriculum for all our children.

I look forward to seeing you at our Christmas Fair next Saturday. The entrance to the Fair will be via the Reception class and the pedestrian gate on Grove Road and Lady Spencer Walk will be open along with the Reception wooden gate for access. Please note that other gates to the school will be locked.

Non-Uniform Day - Friday 28th December

In preparation for the Fair, children can wear non-uniform to school next Friday in return for a donation of a bottle of wine or similar for the bottle tombola or a smart box of sweets/chocolates for tombola prizes.

Christmas Fair reminders from Steve Samols, Chair of the Friends':

- Raffle tickets have been sent home and a purple tin is in the school library to deposit any monies in a sealed envelope OR preferably post into the Friends post box in the school entrance. CHEQUE payments are welcome - cheques made out to "Friends of Abbey JMI School".
- Hamper contributions - money donations by Friday 28th November in an envelope in Friends post box or luxury Christmas food item or new toy.
- Donations of books and pre owned toys especially dressing up/dolls and accessories/action men/transformers.
- Christmas Fair Bake Off - Mince Pies - 6 per entrant - 1 to be judged, 5 sold at fair. Prizes for taste, decoration, originality.
- **Class reps signing up volunteers - please help!! We need you!**



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

Key Stage 1 Nativity - 'Manger Mouse'

Performances of 'Manger Mouse' will take place on Wednesday 10th December at 6.30pm and Thursday 11th December at 1.30pm. Tickets (free) will be available from the School Office on Wednesday 26th November from 8.45am with an initial allocation of two tickets per Key Stage 1 child. An additional two tickets per Key Stage 1 child will be available from Monday 1st December, following the initial allocation. With 90 children performing, we anticipate that each Key Stage 1 child will be able to have four tickets, if they wish, across the two performances allocated on a first come first served basis. From Wednesday 3rd December any remaining tickets will be allocated and parents can give their requests for these extra tickets on Monday 1st December.

There is a limit of 180 seats per performance and every person watching must have a ticket which will be collected by the headteacher on arrival. There will not be parking for buggies inside the school (hall or library) due to ensuring that fire exits are clear. No parents will be allowed to stand at the back without a ticket. As always, a polite request that if you choose to bring a toddler they must have a seat (restricted view likely) and a ticket and we ask that our youngest actors are able to have our full attention.

All Key Stage 1 children will perform in both performances and Key Stage 2 children will watch the performance at the dress rehearsal. Children in Years R-2 will need to be at school at 6pm on Wednesday 10th December when the doors open for the 6.30pm performance. On the matinee performance the children will return to class at the end of the performance and be collected at 3.20pm as per normal. Both performances will hold a retiring collection, split between the school and the Children's Society. **If anyone has a Danger Mouse costume at home that the school could borrow for a child, please speak to Miss Felstead.**

Key Stage 1 Nativity DVD

Following parental request, the evening performance will be professionally recorded onto DVD so that the performance can be enjoyed for years to come and will be on sale as a non-profit making memento for family and friends. This also allows parents to enjoy the performance without worry about filming as large numbers of audience filming with iPads and cameras can affect the viewing enjoyment of other parents and distract our young actors. The DVD costs have been kept as low and simple as possible: One DVD for £10 or buy two and get one free (Three for £20). An order form will be sent to all Key Stage 1 families. A letter will follow.

Christmas Post Box

Our school Christmas post box, made by Mr Davey for Christmas 2013, will be found in the library area from Monday 1st December. Children are invited to post their Christmas cards at convenient times when in school (not during lesson time!) and our Year 6 children will act as postmen and postwomen each lunchtime.

Please ensure Christmas cards identify:

- **child's full name on the envelope**
- **child's year group on the envelope**
- **name of the child who wrote the card on the inside!**



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

School Carol Service

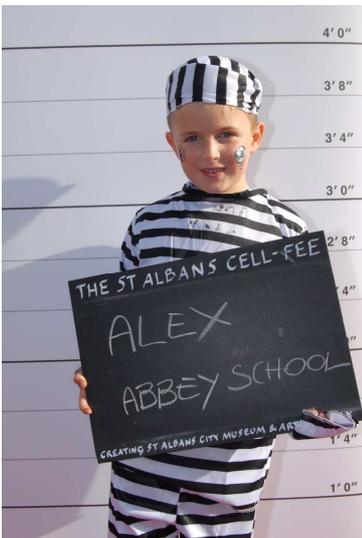
Our whole school Carol Service will be held in the Nave of the Cathedral on Thursday 18th December from 1.30-2.30pm. This is a non-ticket event and parents and friends and family are warmly welcome. The children will return to school as normal and be collected at 3.20pm.

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.

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.



During the Food Festival, Alex in Year 1 was stopped by the Major of St. Albans who asked what was the thing he like the most about the town. Alex's mum told me his answer was "The Abbey School" (as you can see from the blackboard he is holding).

Good answer Alex!

Kind regards

Emma Fenn
Headteacher