



St. Alban's Catholic Primary School

Following in the footsteps of Jesus we love, live and learn together'



Headteacher: Mrs R McKinney
Week ending: Friday 1st December



Dear Parents,

Advent is the season in which Christians must rekindle in their hearts the hope that they will be able to, with God's help, renew the world.

Pope Benedict XVI

These words from Pope Benedict XVI remind us of the importance of the Advent season. Looking forward to the coming of Christ reminds us how he transforms the world. And we hope to renew the world to reflect God's kingdom here on earth. We pray especially for all God's children who are seeking refuge. Although Advent 2017 begins on 3rd December, your Christmas planning may have begun already. I am sure the children have already opened some advent calendars and found 'Elf on the Shelf' in funny places. We ask that you prepare to celebrate the joy and hope of Christmas time and that you spend time reflecting on the true meaning of Christmas and praying as a family.

Congratulations Assembly Parents are welcome to join us at 9.05am for assembly in the school hall.

Reception Lolah-Mai Reidy	Y4 Michael McDonnell
Y1 Summer Barker	Y5 Siobhan Colley
Y2 Cian Burke	Y6 Evangeline Hewitt
Y3 Abdeali Attarwala	

Spotlight on Attendance We are unable to authorise any requests for holidays during term time.

Rec – 98.7%	Y4 – 98.6%
Y1 – 100% Brilliant	Y5 – 98.2%
Y2 – 99.2%	Y6 – 98.3%
Y3 – 96.4%	Overall 98.5%

Unavoidable Emergency Building Works



We have been awarded some additional funding from the Diocese to complete some emergency works to the school building. This will improve the learning environments in Y3 and Y6 and the school hall! The Y3 and Y6 classes will be disrupted for three weeks as the classrooms are renovated. **In order for the works to start promptly we will be breaking up for the Christmas holidays on Thursday 21st December at 12.00pm. We will also be closed to pupils on Monday 8th January.** This will allow time for staff to pack the classrooms, move all the furniture and the work to commence! The children will be taught in the school hall and our additional learning spaces during the building works.

BOOK Fair Please support our school book fair that will be taking place on Thursday 7th December, Friday 8th December and Monday 11th December after school. Many thanks.



Mass On Sunday 3rd December pupils in Y6 will be required to attend a commitment Mass at St. Dunstan's at 10.00am as part of their Confirmation preparation. Please join us for Mass at 10.00am on Thursday 7th December led by Year 2, Thursday 14th December led by House Captains, Thursday 21st December led by staff.



PTA Breakfast with Santa We are looking forward to having a festive Breakfast with Santa on Saturday the 9th December, in the school hall. There are still places available if you have not had chance to book your slot yet. Tickets are £5.50 per child and include breakfast, tea or coffee for the adults and a lovely gift from Santa. We would also welcome donations of chocolate for the chocolate tombola and raffle prizes, please send prizes and ticket money into school.

Homework Showcase The next homework showcase is on Friday 15th December. Thank you to all the children for the super homework they shared with their teachers and peers today! After Christmas the children will be asked to complete homework in which they make a musical instrument so please keep any 'junk' for junk modelling over the festive period!

School Council Our dedicated team of councillors have been working hard arranging some exciting events to raise money for their chosen charities this year. They have decided that they would like to hold a '**Sponsored Santa Jog**' on **Monday 18th December** after assembly. Please can all children come to school wearing suitable jogging bottoms or leggings, trainers and a Christmas jumper and Santa Hat (if available). The children from Y1 upwards will be running a lap of Jasmyn fields (Reception –School grounds).



Earrings Please make sure that children remove earrings before attending school each day. They are not allowed in school. If children do wear earrings to school they will be asked to remove them. Many thanks.



After School Club Snacks If children are attending one of our after school activities please can you ensure they bring a healthy snack. No crisps, chocolate bars and sweets are allowed and will be sent home.

Dates for your diary	TERM DATES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday 3rd December – Y6 Commitment Mass for Confirmation • Wednesday 6th December – Reception Trip to see Santa • Wednesday 6th December – Theatre trip - Y6 Group A • Friday 8th December – Shakespeare Tour – Y4 and Y5 • Saturday 9th December – PTA Breakfast with Santa • Tuesday 12th December – Theatre trip- Y6 Group B • Thursday 14th December- Y4 trip to the Synagogue • Thursday 14th December – Y1 and Y2 Movie -Polar Express • Friday 15th December – Reception Nativity- 9.15am • Friday 15th December – Y1 Theatre Trip • Monday 18th December – Santa Sponsored Jog • Monday 18th December – Carol Service– 2:00pm • Tuesday 19th December – Christmas Dinner Day • Wednesday 20th December – Christmas Card Competition • Wednesday 20th December – Christmas Panto in school 9.30am • Wednesday 20th December – Y1/Y2 Christmas Production 2.00pm • Thursday 21st December – Attendance Assembly • Thursday 21st December – Christmas Jumper Day – bring a £1 donation. • Thursday 21st December – Break up for Christmas at 12.00pm 	<p><u>Closed: Thursday 21st December at 12.00pm to allow for building works to start</u></p> <p><u>Closed: Monday 8th January 2018 – Due to unavoidable building works.</u></p> <p>SPRING TERM 2018 Open: Tuesday 9th January Close: Friday 16th February Open: Monday 26th February Close: Thursday 29th March</p> <p>SUMMER TERM 2018 Open: Monday 16th April Close: Friday 25th May Open: Monday 4th June Close: Friday 20th July</p> <p><u>Teacher Training Days</u> Friday 22nd December 2017 Monday 23rd July 2018 Tuesday 24th July 2018</p>
<p>Enjoy the weekend, Mrs R McKinney</p>	

