



# 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 17<sup>th</sup> November

Dear Parents,

During this week we have celebrated 'Anti-bullying week' and this has shown us that we **can** and **should** celebrate our differences. It has also highlighted how important it is to work together and appreciate how those differences help us all to be a better community. A community that works together to prevent bullying. Over the weekend can you encourage your child to think of one thing they are going to do next week to make someone they know in school feel valued, respected and part of the school community. It doesn't have to be very big – it is the small acts that often mean the most. Next week we will be asking children to share some of the ways others made them feel valued and unique, remembering that we are all different, but all equal.



All Different

All Equal

#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK

<b>Congratulations Assembly</b> Parents are welcome to join us at 9.05am for assembly in the school hall. Miss Ingram and Mrs Darbinson will be leading assembly on Monday as Mrs McKinney is at an assessment update meeting.	
Reception Isla McGlynn	Y4 Tom Donnan
Y1 Maggie Challinor	Y5 Kate Gulson
Y2 Milan Markman	Y6 Tobias Wilks
Y3 Ola Bogusz	

<b>Spotlight on Attendance</b> We are unable to authorise any requests for holidays during term time.	
Rec – 99.5% Well done	Y4- 98.6%
Y1 – 96.7%	Y5 –93.8% Concern
Y2 – 97.2%	Y6 – 96.9%
Y3 – 96.9%	Overall 96.9%

**Emergency Building Works** We have been awarded some additional funding from the Diocese to remove some asbestos from the school building and also improve the learning environments in Y3 and Y6 and the school hall! We were delighted with the news, following many conversations between the Diocese and Mrs McKinney pleading for more support! However there is a catch...the money we have been awarded has to be spent by the end of February 2018. This will mean that Y3 and Y6 classes will be disrupted for two 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 21<sup>st</sup> December at 12.00pm.** This will allow time for staff to pack the classrooms, move all the furniture and the work to commence! We will provide parents with more details as soon as we have a firm plan in place with the contractors. The children will be taught in the school hall and our additional learning spaces during the building works.



**Gate** Please can all children stay outside the school gates until they are open at 8.45am. **Some parents have been dropping their child and leaving them between 8.35am and 8.45am unsupervised.** Staff do not supervise children until 8.45am and we request that you stay with your child to ensure they are safe.

**One Way System** In order to keep your child safe we are urging parents to try to stick to a one-way system. Entering Bayston Road, driving past school and following the road around or turning right onto Kinsey Grove and then back onto Broad Lane.

**Anti-Bullying Week** We have had a super week exploring the theme “All different, All Equal” Thank you to all the children who have come forward to be Anti-Bullying Ambassadors! We enjoyed an interesting showcase of work this afternoon. Mr Emery will be announcing the new ambassadors next week. Back to normal socks next week!



**Mass** Next week Father Philip and Father Simon are unable to come and celebrate Mass at St. Alban's. Deacon David and Y4 will lead us in a Prayer Service at 10.00am on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November. Our next school Mass will be on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November at 10.00am.

**Sad news** Please can you keep Mrs Smyth in your prayers as her father sadly passed away last weekend. Eternal rest grant to him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon him. May his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



**PE Kits** Children must have their PE kits in school. We aim for the children to have at least 30 minutes of physical activity per day in school daily and two hours of quality PE. Please make sure your child has their PE kit in school including jogging bottoms for outdoor sessions.

**Online Safety** Keeping up to date with what your children are doing online can seem daunting. Technology is constantly advancing and sometimes parents feel that their children know more about the internet than they do. We can help you to find out more about what your child might be doing online and give you some simple, practical and easy advice on the steps you can take as a parent to keep them as safe as possible. Children use the internet in different ways depending on their age and so we've developed checklists for parents that give you top tips on how to help them stay safe. The age ratings that come with games, apps, films and social networks are a good guide to whether they're suitable for your child. For example, the minimum age limit is 13 for several social networking sites, including Facebook and Instagram. Although sites aimed at under-10s like Moshi Monsters and Club Penguin also have social networking elements. There are risks of social networking for children and the more you know about the kind of social networking sites your child belongs to and what information they like to share, the more likely you'll be able to keep them safe.



- The lower age limit for most social networking sites is 13
- The most popular social networks are Facebook, Instagram, youtube, Twitter, Tumblr, ASK.FM and Snapchat
- Sites aimed at younger children, like Club Penguin and Moshi Monsters, also have a social networking element
- Many sites include an instant message function which allows private conversations between site members
- You can set privacy settings on most social networking sites so that only close friends can search for your child, tag them in a photograph or share what they've posted
- Most social networking sites have an app version available, meaning your child will have access to the social network from their smartphone or tablet. Some app versions of social networks use the location of the phone.
- Information shared between friends can be easily copied and may spread widely.
- It isn't easy to take back information that has been posted – and can be impossible if it's already been shared.
- Not everyone your child meets online will be who they say they are. Chatrooms and forums can connect people who are complete strangers and can be unmoderated.
- Chatrooms and forums are one of the places online groomers go to connect with children. They can also be places where people use a lot of sexual language and engage in online flirting. This is sometimes done through video chat programs such as Skype.

At present there are a number of pupils in Y5 and Y6 who are using social networking sites even though the age restrictions are 13. Negative behaviour and relationships due to social networking can spill into the school day and affect children's learning. Any type of online bullying that takes place between students will be taken very seriously by the school and may result in exclusion.

**PTA Breakfast with Santa** Please be aware that the date for this event is on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December** not Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December as stated on the letter that was sent out this week.

<b>Dates for your diary</b>	<b>TERM DATES</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November – Prayer Service Y4</li> <li>• Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December – Christmas Decorations</li> <li>• Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December – Reception Trip to see Santa</li> <li>• Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December – Theatre trip - Y6 Group A</li> <li>• Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December – Shakespeare Tour – Y4 and Y5</li> <li>• <b>Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December – PTA Breakfast with Santa</b></li> <li>• Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Theatre trip- Y6 Group B</li> <li>• Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Reception Nativity- 9.15am</li> <li>• Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Y1 Theatre Trip</li> <li>• Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Carol Service– 2:00pm</li> <li>• Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Dinner Day</li> <li>• Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Card Competition</li> <li>• Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Panto in school 9.30am</li> <li>• Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Y1/Y2 Christmas Production 2.00pm</li> <li>• Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December – Attendance Assembly</li> <li>• Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December – Christmas Jumper Day – bring a £1 donation.</li> <li>• Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December – Break up for Christmas at 12.00pm</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Close: Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 12.00pm to allow for building works to start!</u></b></p> <p><b>SPRING TERM 2018</b>            Open: Monday 8th January            Close: Friday 16th February            Open: Monday 26th February            Close: Thursday 29th March</p> <p><b>SUMMER TERM 2018</b>            Open: Monday 16th April            Close: Friday 25th May            Open: Monday 4th June            Close: Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July</p> <p><b>May Day</b>            Monday 7th May 2017</p> <p><b><u>Teacher Training Days</u></b>  <b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2017</b>  <b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018</b>  <b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018</b></p>

Best wishes

Mrs R McKinney