



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 12th January 2018

Dear Parents,





We hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas and we wish you a Happy New Year. The children have come back to school with renewed enthusiasm for their work and we look forward to a fantastic year ahead.

We thank God for this New Year and as we begin this new journey we are reminded to think about our true values and desires. Help us to live in the goodness that comes from doing what you want us to do. Help us to put aside anxiety about the future and the past, so that we might live in peace with you now, one day at a time. May everyone in our school family be willing to give their lives to you. We know that you are always ready to forgive us. Help us to be willing to forgive ourselves and to forgive one another. Amen

Congratulations Assembly - As the hall is currently being used as the Y3 classroom we are unable to hold a whole school assembly. We will still be choosing children for weekly certificates and they will receive them on Monday 12th February at 9.05am.

Reception Francis Casey	Y4 Grace Bott
Y1 Oliver Martin	Y5 Freya Woodward
Y2 Luke Downing	Y6 Marcella Phillips
Y3 Romeo Markman	

New Curriculum Topics

Year Group	Topic	Novel- English Focus	WOW day 19 th January
Reception		Granpa – John Burningham Memory Box – Mary Bahr	Dress up as a child from the past! Children will be spending the day back in time.
Y1			
Y2		Thesus and the Minotaur The Selfish Giant – Oscar Wilde	Dress up as a mythical creature, god or goddesses, or a person from Ancient Greece. A day in ancient greece including food tasting and creating their own mythical creatures.
Y3		Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief – Rick Riordan A variety of short myths and legends	
Y4		James and the Giant Peach – Roald Dahl	Dress up as a famous american, cowboy/girl, native american. Children will be taking part in a skyscraper challenge, creating the New York Skyline and food tasting.
Y5		Wonder – R J Palacio	
Y6		Carrie's War – Nina Bauden	The children should come dressed as an evacuee from the 1940s. They will discover the different experiences of evacuation during World War 2.

Unavoidable Emergency Building Works

Thank you to all pupils across the school, but especially in Y3 and Y6, for being so sensible during the building works. As you know we have been awarded some additional funding from the Diocese to complete some emergency works to the school building. However, clauses in the funding mean that the money has to be spent by the end of March 2018. This has resulted in the works having to take place during term time. If we could have avoided this at all, we certainly would have. The additional funding will improve the learning environments in Y3 and Y6 and the school hall. Thank you to all parents for your understanding and patience as this work takes place. We are trying to make sure there is minimal disruption to the children's learning. Any parents with a concern please come and talk to Mrs McKinney. Thank you to Mrs Stewart, one of our governors, who came to do a Health and Safety check of the site on Wednesday. She was very impressed at the children's behaviour and attitude.

Faith Friends Children across the school met today to pray, learn and build their faith together. It was wonderful to see older pupils explaining important messages to our younger pupils.

Text Messaging on Parent Pay – Mobile Numbers – Please can parents go into their parent pay profile and register your mobile number. You will receive a pin in order to activate this. At present we only have 165 mobiles registered which means that you will be unable to receive texts from school.

Changes between dinners and sandwiches Please can parents inform us at the beginning of a half term if their child wishes to change between dinners and sandwiches. This cannot be done weekly.

Mass During January due to the building works we will be unable to have Mass in the school hall. Therefore we are providing a number of opportunities for the children to go to Mass at St. Dunstan's and St. Jude's. Please see the dates section for more details.

Y4 trip to the Synagogue Apologies that the trip was cancelled last term. Children will go on the trip on Tuesday 23rd January.

Brass concert We have decided that the next Brass Concert will be before we break up for Easter at 2.15pm on Monday 26th March.



School Uniform Competition

We have had a number of concerns raised over the cost and quality of current uniform from parents. We have also found that there is inconsistency in some pupil's uniform. Therefore following discussions with governors we have decided to review our current school uniform. Next week we will be inviting the children to design a new school uniform, keeping the colour and school badge the same. The winning design will be launched from the summer term and will be available to buy from the school office. We will be expecting a period of transition in the school year 2018- 2019. Clive Mark will no longer stock our uniform. We will ensure that costs are kept to a minimum for parents and hope to generate some income for the school.

Magical Maths Magical Maths club will be starting on a Wednesday straight after school starting on 7th February and continuing on 14th February, 28th February, 31st January, 7th March and 14th March and costs a total of £39 for the six weeks. There are limited places which are likely to go quickly, so book as soon as you can to avoid disappointment. Book online <https://magicalmathsclub.com/club/listing/tiverton-academy/>

Or call 0121 314 1236

Rocksteady Music We still have a few spaces in our Rocksteady music groups that take place on Friday mornings. These sessions are thoroughly enjoyed by the children. They learn to play their favourite songs as a band and it is a great way of getting into the electric guitar, drums, keyboard and vocals under the leadership of a real rock musician – Becca. Lessons are booked through Rock Steady- 0845 094 1259 or www.rocksteadymusicschool.com.

Times Tables Competition

Please help your child to learn their times tables. Ks1 – x 5 and KS2 x3, x6, x9. www.timestables.co.uk , www.topmarks.co.uk.

Dates for your diary

Monday 15th January: Y3 at St. Dunstan's
 Tuesday 16th January: Mass at St Jude's for Y6, Y5 and Y4 at 10am
 Tuesday 16th January: Y3/Y4 at Sports Hall Athletics at Billesley Sports Centre (18 children from Y3 or Y4 will have received a letter if they are attending this event)
 Wednesday 17th January: Y5 at Sports Hall Athletics at Billesley Sports Centre
Wednesday 17th January: Y3 shared lunch at 12pm CANCELLED
 Thursday 18th January: Y3 trip to Birmingham Museum
 Friday 19th January: Wow day
 Monday 22nd January: Y6 at St Chad's Cathedral
 Tuesday 23rd January: Y6 at Oscott College
 Thursday 25th January: Y3 trip to the Council House
 Friday 26th January: Justice and Peace Assembly – 9.05am All parents welcome
 Friday 26th January: Y4 Holocaust Memorial Assembly- 2.30pm
 Friday 26th January: PTA Quiz night - 8pm
 Tuesday 30th January: Mass at St Jude's for Y6, Y5, and Y4 at 10am (Y6 Confession after Mass)
 Wednesday 31st January: Chaplaincy team retreat at Bishop Challoner
 Tuesday 6th February: Y4/5 Trip to Stratford
 Tuesday 6th February: Safer Internet Day Assembly 9.05am
 Wednesday 7th February: Magical Maths after school club to begin 3:30pm - 4:30pm
 Wednesday 7th February: Y6 confirmation at St Dunstan's at 7pm (Children to arrive at 6.40pm)
 Friday 9th February: Y2 Lent Assembly 2.30pm
 Sunday 11th February: Y3 FHC Commitment Mass at St Dunstan's - 10am
 Tuesday 13th February: 'We love school' day – School Council Event
 Wednesday 14th February: Ash Wednesday - season of Lent begins
 Friday 16th February: School closes for Half-term
 Monday 26th February: School reopens at 8:45pm
 Thursday 1st March: St David's day - children to wear yellow
 Friday 2nd March: World Book Day - dress up as your favourite character from a book
 Saturday 3rd March: First Confessions Y3 after Mass at St. Dunstan's
 Tuesday 6th March: Y5 confessions after Mass at St. Jude's
 Wednesday 7th March: Y4 Shared Lunch - 12pm
 Friday 9th March: Reception Mothers' Day Assembly 2.30pm-
 Monday 12th March: Science week
 Friday 16th March: Y1 St. Patrick's Day Assembly 2.30pm
 Friday 16th March: PTA St. Patrick's Disco
 Friday 23rd March: Y3 Palm Sunday Assembly 2.30pm
 Monday 26th March: Brass Concert 2.00pm
 Wednesday 28th March: Parents' Evening
 Thursday 29th March: Egg Diorama Competition
 Thursday 29th March: Rec and KS1 Easter Bonnet Parade – 9.10am

Thursday 29th March: Attendance Assembly– 9.20am

Thursday 29th March: Y5 to lead Stations of the Cross for KS2 - 2pm

Thursday 29th March: School closes for Easter break

Have a super weekend

R McKinney