



St Alban's Newsletter



29th November 2019, First Sunday of Advent

WEDNESDAY WORD - ADVENT

Advent

The school is now getting ready for Christmas by preparing in the season of Advent. We are looking forward to: the Advent Fair next Friday and the Carol concert afterwards, the Advent wreaths which have been presented to each class (our thanks to Flower, Helena's mum, and, Jaden's and Leon's mum for making them for the children), our Advent display in the school hall is up (thanks to Sarah in Yr6 for doing this), confessions for Yr4, Yr5 and Yr6 in the coming weeks, the RE programme for Advent which is being taught in class and of course the Christmas tree is shining brightly in the corner. By the time the children get to the end of term they will be prepared to celebrate the birth of Jesus. [Photo link](#)

Christmas cards

This is always an enjoyable time for the children receiving and sending cards to their friends and staff. Please make sure that the class and name is on the card, and if sending to children in one class could you collate them with a rubber band - this helps the sorting out. The post box will be set in front of Headteacher's office on Monday 9th December.

Christmas lunch 18th December

We will be catering for all the children on the day. Although it is not obligatory to have school dinners we would like to encourage everyone to make this choice. Our thanks to the PFA who have been able to source luxurious crackers from Waitrose at a very reduced price. On the day the children are able to wear their Christmas jumpers.

Permanent appointment of Mrs Tait

We are delighted to inform you that Mrs Tait has accepted the position as the job share in Year 1. Mrs Tait brings a lot of experience and we know she has already made a big impact with the class.

Beginning and the end of the day.

Could all parents and carers please make sure children are not cycling in the school grounds before and after school. There have been a few incidents which could have been avoided if more care was taken. Also, please note that it is the parents responsibility for supervising the children in the morning and at the end of the day. We have noticed children playing in the wooded area or being left alone early in the morning(KS2) with nobody looking after them. In the winter months it gets very wet, icy and windy and so we ask everyone to take more care while on the premises. The children were told this today in assembly. Thank you.

After School Music Club concert

Congratulations to all the children who took part in the music club concert on Tuesday. It really was a lovely event and so nice to see children from all different year groups working so well as a team. Our thanks go to Mrs Scourse who arranged the music so that all the children had something to play and also Mrs Barlow for directing the group, and Alice for her help with the percussionists.

Parking

Unfortunately, the work continues in the church and there are a number of contractors taking up spaces. The church recognises this is an issue and has started to issue warning notices to cars without either a school permit or permission from the church. We know some parents find it difficult to park in the surrounding area but the majority of our parents do find alternative arrangements. Please consider this when coming to school in the coming Winter days.

Wrap up warm

PE lessons can be cold outside so please ensure your child has enough to wear. Tight fitting gloves are permitted.

29/11	Y3-Y6 Cross Country (selection of children)
02/12	Carol Service - Choir
06/12	Advent Fair and Service
09/12	GenR8 Performance
11/12	Reception class Nativity
11/12	KS1 Christmas Performance 2.15pm
12/12	KS1 Christmas Performance 2.15pm
18/12	Christmas Dinner
19/12	Termly Reports Out
19/12	End of Term Mass
19/12	Dressing of the Crib 2pm



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**Open Day for new 2020/21 Reception children on
Monday 9th December 9.30 –11.30 and 1.30—2.15**

Advent Fair 6th December

A reminder that next Wednesday is non school uniform day. Please bring in gifts for the tombola. [Click here for the flyer](#)
The format of the Fair; Children buying in the afternoon, parents return with the children to buy gifts, join in with the festivities and to finish off a chance to sing some traditional carols outside, weather permitting.

Planting a tree. A pledge to the Big Climate Fightback

We are delighted to launch our pledge to the Big Climate Fightback <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/protecting-trees-and-woods/campaign-with-us/big-climate-fightback> . Today the Eco Group planted an apple tree and the children celebrated this by hitting the button to commit to be more eco friendly in school. [Photo Link](#) More news from the Eco Group in the coming weeks.

From the Governors:

A letter is attached to the newsletter regarding the funding situation the school finds itself in with the additional money promised to Cambridge. However, due to the Local Authority intending to transfer money, St Alban's will not benefit from any increase. This is a factual letter which has been created by the South of the City heads group and it is being sent out to all homes today. We would like to stress this is for your information only and there is no intent to influence any political decision in the coming election.

Multi Academy Trust (MAT) meeting

The governors are meeting with representation from the Trust next week, 4th December, to discover why we should join the MAT. The Bishop would like all Catholic schools in the diocese to be part of a MAT by September 2020. The governors want to make sure the decision is correct for our school within this time frame.

St NikoLaus Festival At Great St Mary's Church, Friday 6th December 3.30pm - 8.00pm

The Power of Little Things - The museum of London

Everybody is welcome to join the festival THE POWER OF LITTLE THINGS at the Museum of London. Maestra Marica (After School Italian Teacher) will guide you through the festival on SATURDAY 30th November from 12.00 to 4.00 p.m. For further information, please contact Marika.triola@gmail.com

'Perform' drama and dance school free trial

Popular children's drama and dance school Perform is offering a Free Trial Session and a special introductory discount of £40 for members of the School if they sign up by Saturday 25th January. Parents should quote STTN250120 when they book their free session by going to perform.org.uk/try or calling 020 7255 9120. You can find out more about the classes at perform.org.uk/try

Free family healthy lifestyle programme

8th January-25th 16.15-17.30 at Colville Primary School. [Click here](#) for more information.

Homework

Year 3	Money
Year 4	Angles
Year 5	Division & Multiplication /Jade Investigation task
Year 6	Calculating angles

Quiz

The start of Advent is this Sunday.

What colours are the candles and what do each represent?
Listen out at church for the first candle. Which prophet do we remember? A clue: one eye is higher than the other.
How many Sundays are in Advent.
What does the word Advent mean?



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PFA Announcement

Hello lovely PFA members (that's all of you!)

Just to confirm the new core committee is:

Chair – Jane Burke

Vice-chair – Angela Bennett

Treasurer – Carolina Stannard

Secretary – Irenka Lennon

We are hoping for a fun year of events and fundraising working with our fabulous team of Year Reps, event committee and the wider team. More on our fundraising commitments to the school for the year ahead - and our new [Facebook page](#) after our first meeting on Friday 13 Dec at 2pm.

Three quick things this week

1. Black Friday today - please don't forget to use the [easyfundraising website](#) to get a donation from the store to the PFA for any big purchases you make - thank you
2. [Stall list for the advent fair](#) - more detail will be coming from your Year Reps - do please volunteer to run a stall as we are only half way there on numbers. There will be lots more hot food this year to keep you all well fed for the carols at 5pm.
3. While you are looking in your cupboards for donations day on Wednesday 4th December if you find any clothes you no longer need 'bags2school' are coming on Monday, the 9th of December.

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