

St Alban's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter to Parents

September 3rd 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome back everyone to the beginning of a new school year. It is lovely to see everyone back safely and to meet our new Reception children. We hope that all the children will make an excellent start to the year showing enthusiasm for their work and a high standard of behaviour.

Our F2 parents are meeting with the teachers this week but we will shortly be holding Welcome Meetings for year groups 1 – 6 to give parents an early chance to meet teachers and to find out how they can help their child to have a successful year in school. The dates for the meetings this year are detailed overleaf. Invitations with more detail and a reply slip will follow but please try to make arrangements to attend if you possibly can.

As always, the staff including myself, try to be as available as possible to speak to parents and deal with any minor problems. However, if you need a longer chat or wish to speak in confidence, it is helpful to arrange an appointment via the school office. I look forward to a happy and successful start to the year for us all.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C. L. Frost
Headteacher



**REMEMBER OUR NEW HOMETIME IS 3.20pm FOR F2, Y1 AND Y2
AND 3.30PM FOR Y3, Y4, Y5 AND Y6.**

School Uniform

It is always lovely at the start of term to see all the children so smart and well presented. Please encourage them to keep this up and wear their uniform with pride!

The correct uniform is a shirt and tie for all pupils with a green jumper or cardigan and a grey skirt or trousers. Please be aware also that the only supplier who has contact with the school and has ensured they are embroidering uniform correctly is the Wirral Uniform Centre in Birkenhead. Last year some parents inadvertently bought uniform that was incorrectly embroidered in the wrong colours. We have samples of uniform in the entrance area and if you have any other queries, please see Mrs Price or Mrs Mountfield at the office.

Black school shoes should be worn to school. May I also remind parents that Local Education Authority Health and Safety guidelines state that no jewellery during PE lessons and the school prospectus states clearly that no jewellery (including earrings) should be worn to school. We have a number of children who have returned wearing earrings. **These must be removed as soon as possible and covered until then.** No child will be allowed to participate in PE lessons until they are removed.

HOMETIME SAFETY

You will all know that it can be difficult at home-time as we try to get nearly 400 children out safely to waiting adults in such a tightly confined space as we have in Ashburton Road. Teachers do their best, especially with our younger children, to ensure that they see all the adults collecting pupils before letting them go. This can be slow at the beginning of the year when class teachers are not yet familiar with the Mums, Dads, Nans etc who collect the children so please be patient with us!

Chatterbox



Our Thursday morning coffee club is starting up again on Thursday. Just come along for tea/coffee and a chat. All are welcome including any little ones and it is a great way to get to know other parents. Starts from 8.45am in the dining hall.

WELCOME MEETINGS

All meetings start at 9.00am and will last 30-40 mins

- Year 5 – Tuesday September 10th
- Year 6 – Wednesday September 11th
- Year 4 – Thursday September 12th
- Year 1 – Monday September 16th
- Year 3 – Tuesday September 17th
- Year 2 – Wednesday September 18th

WELCOME MEETINGS

We hold welcome meetings to give parents an early opportunity to meet your child's class teacher and find out about what will be happening in the new year group they have moved into. Every year presents new requirements, challenges and opportunities so it is great to get in and find out so that you can support your child effectively. At the end of the meeting you will have the chance to go and see your child in their new classroom

YEAR 6 - IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This week Y6 pupils will bring home a leaflet detailing the procedures for applying for Secondary Schools. This is a small but essential leaflet so please make sure you read it carefully. All applications must be done on-line and the deadline for this is October 31st 2019. If your application is not in before this, it will be deemed LATE and you will not get your choice of secondary school! If you have any queries or need help (or the use of a computer) please come in to see us and we will help you. Open nights at all secondary schools are taking place over the next few weeks so ensure you visit the schools you are considering for your child if you have not done so.

Do you think you may be entitled to Free School Meals?? Call in to the school office who can help you register for this important entitlement.

ATTENDANCE

This is a reminder to all parents that the target for attendance for all pupils is 95%.

Please can you ensure that if your child is off sick that the school is informed on the first day of absence. If the absence is longer term, it is also useful to ring and up-date us about likely return to school. Holidays in term time **cannot be authorised** and will be recorded as unauthorised absence. The school will use fixed penalty notices issued by the local authority, if a child is taken out of school for more than 5 days or if their attendance is below target. They are also used if a holiday is taken without informing the school. Fixed penalty notices may also be used when a child is repeatedly absent for school without reasonable explanation. Please see the office if you need further information or a copy of the attendance information for parents.

Good attendance is essential for good progress