



St Albert the Great Catholic Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs K Little



NEWSLETTER

21st July, 2017

Catholic Life of the School

We have received a letter from Mr JP Morrison, Director of Education for Westminster Diocese, to thank all our families for the support given to the victims of the Grenfell Tower fire. As a reminder, we sent £223 from our non-uniform day on June 23rd.

Our school council decided they would like to take up a collection to support sick children so asked us to provide donation baskets at the end of our Year 6 production on Wednesday 12th. I am delighted to announce we raised £192. Thank you to everyone who donated for your generosity.

Leaver's Mass

Our Leaver's Mass was celebrated on Monday evening with Fr Derek. This year we have children moving on to 9 different Secondary Schools. The children were presented with a 'Year Book' and a Prayer Card. Thank you to the PTFA for their support in funding the gifts from the school.

The Amazing Adventures of Superstan

Our Year 6 children provided 2 evenings of excellent entertainment when they put on their performances of the show 'The Amazing Adventures of Superstan'. They were accompanied by children from the Years 3, 4 and 5 classes who sang beautifully. I am always amazed at how our children demonstrate amazing talent through our end of year productions and this year we saw Superheroes, villains, scheming scientists, mad minions, reporters, a secret formula, anti-gravity underpants lots of one-liners and some brilliant scenery. Stanley – played by Shayne Ellam, DC – played by Lily O'Donnell, and Gran – played by Frances Lizardo, all sang beautiful solos, Superstan – played by Gwen Sear, showed her super acting skills and passed the whole range of superhero tests and lessons. This year, the children also took on the challenge of choreographing the dances, painting the scenery and controlling the lighting and sound system. Every task was completed to an excellent standard and the audience showed their appreciation on both evenings with rapturous applause. Thank you to the children and teachers in Years 3, 4 and 5 for learning all of the songs so they could provide the choral singing, and finally, thank you to the parents of the Year 6 children for supporting them with learning their lines and songs and the provision of costumes. Your continued support is much appreciated. A DVD of the performance will be available to order in the Autumn Term and details will be sent out to you in September.



KS2 SATs results

I am delighted to report that we have seen a significant rise in our KS2 SATs results this year. I would like to thank the class teacher - Mrs Anderton, the teaching assistants - Mrs Adams and Miss Kelliher, all teachers who gave up their lunch breaks to help out with 'Booster Sessions' for the Year 6 pupils and Mrs Wendy Mander, who helped with the Year 6 Maths lessons this year. The results below reflect the hard work, the positive attitudes towards learning and the application of our Learning Powers and Gospel Values.



'The more I learn about the world in which I live, the closer I grow to God.'



Percentage of pupils achieving each level in 2017 No of pupils in the cohort: 29 No of pupils who took the exams: 28	Reading	Writing (teacher assessment /29 pupils)	Maths	EGPS
Percentage of pupils who met the expected standard or above (28 pupils)	79% (71%)	89% (76%)	86% (75%)	71% (77%)
Average 'scaled score' (28 pupils)	102.5	NA	103.2	102.5
Percentage of pupils achieving expected level in Reading, Writing and Maths (28 pupils)	71% (61%)			

Data in brackets is preliminary National Data
EGPS = English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling.

Percentage of PPG pupils achieving each level in 2017 No of pupils in the cohort: 9 No of pupils who took the exams: 9	Reading	Writing	Maths	EGPS
Percentage of pupils who met the expected standard or above	89%	100%	89%	67%
Average 'scaled score'	102.7	NA	103.5	103.3
Percentage of pupils achieving expected level in Reading, Writing and Maths	89%			

Recent Successes

Music: All children in Year 3 and 4 have had a successful year of playing the recorder and the ukulele. Well done for all the hard work and skills they have learned. The children in Year 5 had an opportunity to demonstrate the beautiful harmonies they have learned with Mrs Jones and Mrs Watts, when they sang 'Somewhere Only We Know' at our Sharing Assembly on Friday 14th July. Mr Neves (Headteacher at JFK Secondary) came in for a visit and they sang for him. His response was, 'magnificent'!

Congratulations to Lilly Beth Smith in Year 5. She was awarded Grade 2 in piano at the ABRSM examination board. She scored 122 out of 150, which is a Merit.

Dacorum Schools Sports Network Awards

Congratulations to all children who were nominated for and also received awards on Thursday morning. Many thanks to Mrs Lulham for her dedication to making sure our children have access to high quality PE and Sports activities. It was fantastic seeing so many award winners.

Bonnie Mander - Nominated for 'Young Sport Achiever of the Year KS2'

Freya Goad - Winner of the 'Elite Performer of the Year'

Khyan Frazer-Williams - Highly Commended 'Elite Performer of the Year'

Billy Redman - Highly Commended 'Play Leader of the Year'

Year 3 & 4 Boys Football Team - Winner of 'SportSpace School Sports Team of the Year Lower KS2'

The following children achieved awards under the category of 'Olympic Values'

Phoebe Molnar - Winner of the 'Determination' award

Grace Taylor - Highly Commended in the 'Passion' award category

Dara Jones - Winner of the 'Passion' award

Olivia Buzzle - Winner of 'Self-Belief' award

Natalie Krezel - Winner of the 'Respect' Award



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Year 5 have been taught Contemporary Dance this term by the Head of Contemporary Dance at Tring Park School for the Performing Arts. This week they took their Level 1 exam and were awarded the 'Tring Technique Award in Contemporary Dance'. There was 1 student award a 'Distinction' – only awarded to an outstanding performer and that went to Amber Gee. Well done to all of the children.

In the Autumn Term, Tim Blowfield will return to teach all of the children from Years 1-4 and then in the Summer Term, Year 5 will take part in the Level 1 technique classes and Year 6 will take part in the Level 2 classes.

Preparations for September

The children will return to school in September in their summer uniform. The full uniform guidance is available on our school website.

Summer Reading Challenge

The theme for this year's reading challenge is 'Animal Agents.' The challenge of reading six books over the Summer break and telling someone in the library about them, runs from July to September. Further information is available from the library.

Term Dates for 2017-2018

Autumn Term 2017

Term begins for children on Tuesday 5th September 2017 and ends on Tuesday 19th December 2017 at 1:30 pm. The half-term holiday is from Monday 23rd to Friday 27th October 2017.

Spring Term

Term begins for children on Thursday 4th January 2018 and ends on Thursday 29th March at 1:30 pm. Half-term holiday is from Monday 12th to Friday 16th February 2018.

Summer Term 2018

Term begins for children on Tuesday 17th April and ends on Friday 20th July 2018 at 1:30 pm. Half-term holiday is from Monday 28th May to Friday 1st June 2018.

Holidays during term time are NOT authorised. Children may be granted a leave of absence to attend events such as a family wedding, funeral or to visit a sick relative. In these cases, only the necessary time will be authorised, with requests for these EXCEPTIONAL periods of absence being put in writing in advance to the Headteacher.



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Dinner Money

Hertfordshire Catering Ltd has increased meal charges from September 2017. School meals will cost £2.40. The full amounts payable for next term are as follows:

Weekly: £12.00 First half term: £81.60 Second half term: £88.80 Full term: £170.40.

Dinner money must be paid in advance, preferably using the School Gateway. Alternatively, cheques can be made payable to Hertfordshire Catering Ltd. If your child's school meal account is not kept in credit, you will be asked to provide home packed lunches. Thank you for your support.

Please note that as of September, the office will no longer accept any cash payments.

We wish all of our Year 6 children a fond farewell as they move on to their Secondary Schools. We also wish our Nursery children who will not be continuing in the Reception class a fond farewell and all the best for their new schools too.

Finally, I would like to thank all staff for their hard work throughout this year and the parents and governors for their support. On behalf of the staff, I would also like to thank all the parents for their gifts and best wishes. They are much appreciated. I wish you all a very happy and restful summer holiday.

Mrs K Little
Headteacher

Summer Holiday Information

Trains to/from Euston: There will be no trains in/out of Euston on Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th August.

10 Minute Shake-Ups: Public Health England will be releasing Disney-inspired 'Shake-Ups' each week over the summer holiday starting from 17th July, on the Change4Life website.

KidZone: A 'two for one' voucher for entry to KidZone in July and August is attached below. Please print off a copy and take to KidZone.



St Albert the Great RC Primary School

TWO 4 ONE VOUCHER

Bring two children and only pay for one on presentation of this voucher during July & August
Open 7 Days a week 9.30 - 6pm

We also offer 20% off all Birthday Parties held in July and August

01442 878441 / www.thekidzone.co.uk
Northbridge Rd, Berkhamsted. HP4 1EH



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