



St Albert the Great Catholic Primary School

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NEWSLETTER

9th March, 2017

Catholic Life of the School

Last week we celebrated **Shrove Tuesday** and every child in the school had a pancake dessert at lunch time. It was time for us to remind our children that as we lead into the season of Lent, we need to prepare and reflect on how the teachings of Christ can have a positive impact on our lives today.

Last Wednesday we celebrated **Ash Wednesday** with our Year 6 children leading our Collective Worship. They led the worship with prayers, moments for reflection and hymns. Many of them then administered the ashes to the staff and the rest of the school. Thank you to the Year 6 pupils and Mrs Anderton. During the next 40 days, we will be encouraging our children to try and do something positive for one another so that the focus is on sharing their gifts and talents with one another as we look forward to Easter.

During Lent, the children of St Albert's have traditionally supported charitable collections/events and this year, they will be supporting the following:

1. **CAFOD Lent Fast Day - Friday 10th March.** CAFOD's focus for this year's Lenten appeal is 'Florence and the Fish'. The children are invited to bring **silver coins** to use as the 'scales' on the outline of a fish.
2. **Red Nose Day – Friday 24th March.** The theme for this year is 'Make Your Laugh Matter'. On this day we will invite the children to **bring a joke to school** which will be put into a class book. There will be prizes for the jokes that create the most laughs or groans! They can also create a **'crazy hair' style** and it will be a **non-uniform** day. **Donations** to support Red Nose Day will be very welcome and the class teachers will collect these in the morning when the children arrive.
3. **Wear a Hat Day – Friday 31st March.** This charity is special to us as a member of our school community is currently undergoing treatment for a brain tumor. The charity raises funds for **Brain Tumor Research**. Just 1% of the national spend on cancer research has been allocated to this devastating disease. Brain tumors kill more children and adults under the age of 40 than any other cancer. **Every penny (or pound) you donate** will make a huge difference.

A representative from the **Catholic Children's Society** came in to school for an assembly on **Tuesday 7th March**. She spoke to the children about how the work of the CCS helps disadvantaged children and families in the UK living in physical and emotional poverty. She shared a story about how there was a Mum who couldn't pay the rent and she and when she got home the locks had been changed on her flat and she and her two children couldn't get in to their flat. They spent the night travelling around London on a night bus. The next morning, she went to see the Headteacher who contacted the CCS, and through emergency funds, was in a flat by the end of that afternoon.

BLP Awards

Congratulations to the following children who have received awards this half term for the following Values and Learning Powers:

Kindness & Respect: Jasmine Haines, Ellie Godley, Lola Buzzle, Rebecca Anderton, Maddie Smith, Frances Lizardo



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



Capitalising: Joseph Anderton, Salvador Gee, Daniel Adenaike, Kian Cox, Rhys Brevern, Joshua Brooks.

World Book Day

A huge thank you to everyone for the amazing efforts that were made to support and celebrate **World Book Day on Thursday 2nd March**. This year we saw an incredible variety of book characters that included *The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark*, *Mary Poppins*, *The Gruffalo*, *The Tiger Who Came to Tea*, *Mr Strong*, *Little Miss Sunshine*, *Cinderella*, *Goldilocks* and *Harry Potter*. We also had a fantastic response to the challenge of decorating a potato as a book character and have a lovely display of some of the potatoes in the entrance hall. If you have a chance, please do pop in to see them.

This year, we awarded a £5 Book Token to the child in each class who had the most creative/inventive costume and/or potato. The following children were the winners: Dominik Woltynski in FS1 for his 'No-Bot the Robot', Lara Martinica in FS2 who came as Angelina Ballerina and had a potato dressed as Rainbow Fish, Ben Pritchard in Year 1 who came as the Jolly Postman with a whole box full of potatoes that were dressed as the different characters in the Jolly Postman book, Liam Kelly in Year 2 who came as Mr Strong and designed a potato rocket, Phoebe Molnar in Year 3 who was the ladybird from the story 'What the Ladybird Heard', Ollie Atkins in Year 4 who was Ben from Gangsta Granny, Amber Gee who was Galadriel from Lord of the Rings, and finally Leah Corrigan who was Astrid from How to Train Your Dragon.

Mrs Hiller and our violinists and pianists played some beautiful music during our Sharing Assembly and we ended with them playing as an ensemble. Thank you to the following children: Isabella Spice, Katherine Brason, Ciara O'Brien, Julia Lojekova, Grace Morello, Amber Gee, Ella Pinfeld, Patrick McDonagh and Lena Joshi. I am sure we will be able to have a school orchestra if we keep encouraging them to play together. If you would like your child to learn to play an instrument, please see Mrs Tompkins in the school office for further information.

A Message for our Year 5 Parents

I wrote to you all back in December regarding the Children's **Year 6 Residential Trip** which will take place between **Monday 25th and Friday 29th September 2017**. As explained the cost of this fully catered week will be £207 per person. I wanted to remind you all that the balance must be paid by 30th June. The easiest way to pay is through 'Schoolcomms' or alternatively send a cheque, made payable to 'St Albert the Great School' with your child's name marked clearly on the back. Should you need to discuss anything about this trip then please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Tompkins in the school office. There will be a parent meeting at the end of the summer term where we will give more information about the trip.

Child Protection

On Wednesday morning we were visited by two representatives from the **NSPCC**. They shared key messages about keeping safe and who to go to for help as well as **Childline**. The children have learned the **Childline telephone number (0800 1111)** and have also identified adults they can go to for help – within and outside the school. They will be back on **March 20th** to provide workshops for our **Year 5 and 6 children**.

Parent Consultations

These meetings will take place on **Tuesday 28th March between 1.40pm and 7.30pm**. Please log onto <https://satg.parenteveningsystem.co.uk> to book an appointment. Alternatively you can contact the office where Mrs Small or Mrs Tompkins can book an appointment for you.

Parent Workshops/Family Support

There are places available at a two session workshop called '**Talking Resilience and Motivation**'. The workshop is for parents of children of all ages and will take place at **Longdean School on Thursday 23rd and 30th of March 7-9 pm**. It is run by Supporting Links and the cost is £10. I have attached the flyer at the bottom of this newsletter for further information.



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



We have also been sent details of a new **DSPL (Developing Special Provision Locally) Sibling Group**. This group is for children ages 5-11 years, who have a sibling with SEND and attend a school in Dacorum. To book, parents/carers will need to complete the contact details form and sign the group information form and return to the Dacorum Family Services at Hobbs Hill Wood School. Details included on the flyer.

Law change for using your mobile phone whilst driving

The Hertfordshire Road Safety Partnership have asked schools to highlight the following:

It is illegal to use a hand-held phone or similar device while driving, or riding a motorcycle - this is still the case stopped at traffic lights or queuing in traffic.

Did you know? It is also illegal to use a hand-held mobile when supervising a learner driver or rider.

New penalties now mean that motorists and motorcyclists caught using a phone while driving and riding will receive six penalty points on their licence and a £200 fine. This means that new drivers, within two years of passing their test, run the risk of losing their licence for a single offence.

[Keep safe](#) – put your phone away in the glove compartment.

Lost Property

We continue to accumulate a large amount of lost property. Most of it is unnamed clothing. The Lost Property is outside the school Hall in a labelled storage box. Unclaimed items will be put in the clothing donation bank at the end of this term.

General Safety

Please ensure that if your child comes to school on a bike or scooter, that they leave it in the bike/scooter shelter at the front of the school. Please do not let them ride their scooters on the playground so that we can keep everyone safe from accidents. Thank you.

Sports News

Please see attached Sports Newsletter

Dates for the SpringTerm:

10.3.17	Lenten Alms Giving (coins to create fish scales on a fish template)
13.3.17	Science Week
16.3.17	K'Nex Challenge – Year 5 and Year 6
17.3.17	St Patrick's Day Assembly at 9:05
17.3.17	Dacorum Dance Competition
20.3.17	Year 5 and 6 NSPCC workshops
24.3.17	Red Nose Day and Year 4 sharing assembly
27.3.17	CAFOD Assembly
	Whole staff Lenten Reflection at JFK (4:00)
28.3.17	Parent Consultation Day
30.3.17	Science Day at George Street (8 pupils t.b.c)
31.3.17	Wear a Hat Day
	Term Ends 1:30 pm
18.4.17	INSET day for all staff (no children)
19.4.17	Children back to school

Mrs K Little
Headteacher



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