



# St Albert the Great Catholic Primary School

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Head Teacher: Mrs K little

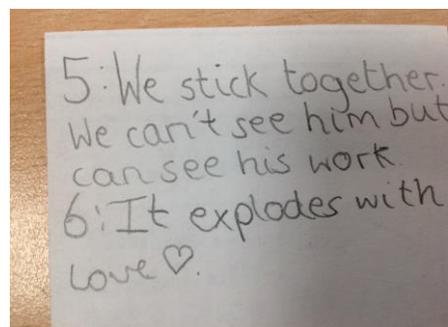
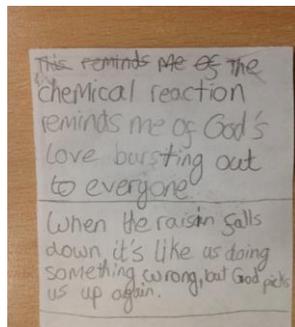


## NEWSLETTER

16<sup>th</sup> November, 2017

### Catholic Life of the School

Yesterday we celebrated the Feast Day of St Albert the Great with a Science theme day. Thank you to Mrs Ansell for providing the inspiration and the resources to demonstrate the Science experiments and think about the link between these and our relationship with God. The children have recorded their thoughts on some commemorative bookmarks. Thank you also to Mike Pritchard (his son Ben is in Year 2) and his colleague Kane Aston who came in to demonstrate the practical application of Science through their Robot – Behemoth. The children were very interested in hearing about how it works and if you want to see it in action, you can see it in the first episode of the current series of 'Robot Wars' on the BBC iplayer.



This morning we celebrated the Feast of St Albert with a whole school Mass led by Fr Kim. This is the first Mass that Fr Kim has celebrated with us here at the school and he was very impressed with the children's behaviour and focus during the Mass. I would like to thank Miss Lally for her organisation and to the children who were our readers, brought up the offertory and shared everything they had learned about St Albert with Fr Kim. Fr Kim told the children that he attended a Primary School called St Thomas Aquinas in Zimbabwe and that St Thomas Aquinas had been taught by St Albert.



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



### **Staffing News**

I am delighted to inform you that I have appointed Mrs Anderton and Mrs Wilson as my Acting Assistant Headteachers for the next 2 terms. Until I recruit a Deputy Headteacher, they will both support me as members of the SLT and deputise in my absence. In addition to their current responsibilities and class teaching, Mrs Anderton will have responsibility for Teaching and Learning, and Mrs Wilson will have responsibility for Behaviour and Inclusion. I am sure you will join me in congratulating them and wishing them well in their new roles.

### **Curriculum News**

On November 8<sup>th</sup>, seven of our Year 6 children went to George Street Primary School for the day to take part in a Robotics Day. This was a hands-on science and technology day based around the Knex construction system. In small groups, the children worked together to assemble a 'Kbot' which was then used in a series of activities, each designed to encourage their ingenuity and increase their knowledge of Design Technology and applicable scientific concepts. The children learned about the benefits and problems of friction, explored the workings of an electric motor and most importantly, the social aspects to successful design work. There was an emphasis on co-operation in order to ensure team success. I am planning activities in the Spring and Summer terms to roll this type of activity out on a wider scale and ensure that all of our children have an opportunity to explore science and technology in this practical manner.



### **School Applications**

Applications have now opened for parents requesting a place for their child/children in our Reception Class for September 2018. I will be showing parents round the school on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November at 9:30 am and on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January at 9:30 am. Please note that the on-line deadline for applications is January 15<sup>th</sup>. Fr Paul and Fr Kim will post information in the church newsletter to inform you when they will be available to sign the forms.

### **PTFA Christmas Fair**

In response to parental feedback, the PTFA will be holding our Christmas Fair on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December. We will be collecting donations of bottles – alcoholic and no-alcoholic on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November and donations of sweets in jars on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December. I would like to encourage all families to come and do some last minute Christmas shopping as well as join us for festive fun and games. The Fair will run from 11:00-2:00. Come and grab a bargain (or two), have a go on the bottle and sweetie tombola, have some lunch and at the same time, support our PTFA in their fund-raising. A meeting was held last week with a very small number of parents volunteering to help so if you are able to help out on the day, please let Rachel McGuinness or Jackie Nicholson know asap by emailing [PTFA@albertthegreat.herts.sch.uk](mailto:PTFA@albertthegreat.herts.sch.uk). Thank you in advance for your support.

### **Mathletics Challenge**

Next week, Mathletics are holding a National Challenge to encourage children to use their Mathletics programme. The challenge will run from November 20<sup>th</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup>. Please help our school make the 'Hall of Fame' by encouraging your child to log on and practice their Maths skills – not only will it help improve their maths at school, but we could be in a position to win a prize, as prizes will be awarded for top performing schools. Thank you.



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### Dates for the rest of this term

17.11.17	Children in Need Day ('Spotacular' theme) Year 5 and 6 to Duxford Museum (school uniform)
20.11.17	Parent and child 'sharing learning' 2:45-3:10
22.11.17	Potential Reception Parents in for school tour 9:30
23.11.17	KS2 classes to the cinema
24.11.17	Bottle Donations for Christmas Fair Class Assembly – Year 1
1.12.17	KS2 Advent Service
2.12.17	Christmas Fair at Our Lady's
8.12.17	Filled Jars Donations for Christmas Fair
12.12.17	Year 4 class to Westminster Cathedral (am) KS1 Nativity (pm)
13.12.17	Christmas Lunch
14.12.17	Reception to Year 6 trip to the Pantomime in St Albans (am)
15.12.17	FS1 and FS2 Nativity 11:00 End of Term Assembly 2:45 (parents welcome)
16.12.17	PTFA Christmas Fair 11-2
18.12.17	Class Parties Mr Marvel in F Stage (am) Christmas Carol Service at Our Lady's 7:00 pm
19.12.17	Term Ends 1:30 pm
3.1.18	INSET Day (School closed to children)
4.1.18	New Term begins for all children

Mrs K Little  
Headteacher



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