



# ST. ALBAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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**Head teacher**  
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## September 15<sup>th</sup> 2017 Newsletter

Dear parents

The new term is now in full swing. Your child should have brought their learning log home this week. From listening to parental feedback, we are trialling a different approach to homework this term based around speaking and listening, developing children's memory and knowledge of the key facts for the topics they are studying so that they are better placed to reason with this knowledge. Please use these knowledge organisers with your children to talk about what they are learning. As a school we hope that this makes homework less of a "battle." My experience is that children absolutely love knowing things and being able to tell you interesting and exciting facts that they have learnt. As always we would welcome any feedback on this initiative.

Attached to the newsletter is a letter from Bishop Patrick which was read out to children this week. As a school we will support this request from Bishop Patrick throughout this academic year.

### PTA

As you may be aware we have had a little bit of work done over the summer. The areas outside the KS1 classrooms have been improved and artificial grass put down. The area outside my office has also been transformed. This space will be used as our prayer garden. We have also replaced the fencing on the infant playground. At half term we hope to have markings put on the junior playground. All of this has been possible due to the fundraising of our fantastic PTA.

Money from the summer fair is being used to buy a defibrillator for the local community.

Future projects include purchasing some new IT equipment and more work on the outdoor environment including putting a multi-purpose path around the school field and a trim trail for your children to enjoy.

### School Uniform

The children continue to look smart in their uniforms. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

### Parent Governor

If you wish to stand for election for one of the two places available, please send in your self-nomination form which came home on Monday to school by Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup> 2017.

### *After School Clubs*

A variety of after school clubs are available.

Monday	Drama
Wednesday	Dodgeball
Thursday	Central Soccer

### *Parking*

A little reminder about parking. Please do not park blocking resident's drives, as they may need access during the few minutes you are in school with your child.

### *NSPCC Parent Workshop*

Please note the date, Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:15pm, for the workshop which will last about one hour. The content of the workshop will be based around the information shared with the children in the "Stay Safe" Assembly last week. It will also provide support and advice on how parents can approach sensitive issues related to keeping their children safe.

### *Y6 Open Days*

Y6 parents may like to note that both Catholic Secondary schools in our area, are holding their Open Days this month. This gives you and your child, a chance to look around the schools and meet some of the staff and help you in making the very important decision of where your child will continue their academic career from Y7.

St John Houghton are holding their Open Day on Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup>. Visits are welcome from parents, and their Y6 child, during the school day.

Saint Benedict Catholic Academy are welcoming visits on Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup> from 5pm onwards.

Any information regarding Y6 applications we have received in school has been sent out to parents.

### *Tempest Photographs*

Individual photographs will be taken on Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. If you have more than one child in school, a photograph of siblings together will be taken. If you wish your children to be photographed individually, you must inform the school office. If you wish to have a family photograph to include younger siblings not in nursery or school, you may go to the Infant Hall at 3:40 pm. Please do not arrive at any other time for a family photograph.

### *Prayer Group*

Prayer Group meets on Thursdays at 8:30am until 8:45am in the Junior Library. It was pleasing to see how many attended yesterday. Thank you.

*Please inform the school office of any changes of address, email or mobile telephone number*

*Thank you*

*Key Dates for the term*

DAY	DATE	EVENT	TIME
Monday	September 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Y6 Mrs Muldoon's Class Assembly</b>	3:00 Infant Hall
Thursday	September 21 <sup>st</sup>	St John Houghton Open Day re Y7 <b>Y5 PGL Residential Meeting</b>	6:00pm
Monday	September 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Y5/6 Mr Blurton's Class Assembly</b> <b>Y6 Height &amp; Weight Checks</b>	3:00 Infant Hall
Wednesday	September 27 <sup>th</sup>	RSE Meeting for Y5 parents	9:00am
Thursday	September 28 <sup>th</sup>	St Benedict Open Evening re Y7	5pm onwards
Monday	October 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Y3/4 Miss Burton's Class Assembly</b>	3:00 Infant Hall
Thursday	October 5 <sup>th</sup>	Harvest Festival	School only
Monday	October 9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Y5 Miss Handley's Class Assembly</b>	3:00 Infant Hall
Sunday	October 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Y5 Parish Mass at church</b>	10:30am St Alban's Church
Monday	October 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Y3 Mrs Morris's Class Assembly</b>	3:00 Infant Hall
Wednesday	October 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Y6 Class Mass</b>	9:30 am

Tuesday Wednesday Thursday	October 17 <sup>th</sup> 18 <sup>th</sup> 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Parent's Evening</b>	Time to be confirmed
Wednesday	November 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Whole School Mass –Feast of All Saints</b>	9:30 am
Monday	November 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>FS2 Assembly</b>	3:00 Infant Hall
Thursday	November 9 <sup>th</sup>	Tempest Individual Photographs	
Monday	November 13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Y4 Mrs Ruston-Donald's Class Assembly</b>	3:00 Infant Hall
Wednesday	November 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Y5/6 Mr Blurton's Class Mass</b>	9:30 am
Monday	November 20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Y1/2 Miss Liddane's Class Assembly</b>	3:00 Infant Hall
Friday	November 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>INSET DAY</b> School closed	
Sunday	November 26 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Y4 Parish Mass at church</b>	10:30am St Alban's Church
Monday	November 27 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Y1 Miss Leatham's Class Assembly</b>	3:00 Infant Hall
Monday	December 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Y2 Mrs Leatherland's Class Assembly</b>	3:00 Infant Hall

<i>Wednesday</i>	December 6 <sup>th</sup>	'Flu Immunisation for <b>FS2, Y1 Y2 Y3</b> and <b>Y4</b>  <b>Y3 and Y4 Christingle</b>	9:30 am
<i>Monday</i>	December 11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Foundation Stage Production</b>	2:00pm
<i>Tuesday</i>	December 12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Foundation Stage Production</b>	9:30 am
<i>Wednesday</i>	December 13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Y5 Class Mass~ Advent</b>  <b>KS1 Production</b>	9:30 am 2:00 pm
<i>Thursday</i>	December 14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>KS1 Production</b>	9:30am
<i>Wednesday</i>	December 20 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Lunch	
<i>Thursday</i>	December 21 <sup>st</sup>	Carols & Readings to Parish <b>Y5 and Y6</b>	St Alban's Church
<i>Friday</i>	December 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Carol Service</b>  <b>Break up for Christmas</b>	2:00pm
<i>Monday</i>	January 8 <sup>th</sup> 2018	Back to school	