



Welcome to the new academic year, we hope everyone returns rested and refreshed after our summer holiday, ready for the Autumn Term. We offer a special welcome to all those who are just starting their St. Alban's Journey, including our new children and their families, Miss Gibson (Fountains Class) and Mrs Watson who is returning in Roche Class. We hope you will find friendship and happiness and soon feel a part of this wonderful community.

As usual our first newsletter contains lots of information and some general reminders that we hope will help everyone to get off to a flying start. If you need information about classroom routines or the school day please speak to your child's class teacher, if you have queries regarding school procedures, please speak to Mrs. Ayres, Mrs. Ebsworth, Mrs. Strawbridge or Mrs. Hays in our school's office, if they haven't got the information to hand, they'll get the answer for you as soon as possible.

Here at St. Alban's we believe we hold a privileged position that allows us to play an instrumental role in so much of your child's development. As such we relish every opportunity to celebrate children's achievements and talents. We strive to include parents, carers, extended family members and friends to join us in school for a host of activities and events, assemblies and liturgies. Please make a special note of these events and join us whenever you can, knowing you're always welcome.

Gold Awards

Friday 4th 11th & 18th October starting at 2.40

We invite you to join us for our St. Alban's New School Year Mass and blessing of the Pit Sense Mural at 2.00pm on Wed 25th Sept.

Our Open Air Mass in the school grounds will be followed by cream tea.

Sports Day Thursday 19th September

School gates open at 1.15 ~ Races begin at 1.30pm
IMPORTANT REMINDER Earrings can cause injury during PE and Games lessons; children **MUST REMOVE** earrings for PE & Games and sports lessons

Seed Gathering Season

Our autumn mission is to further develop the wildlife habitat within the school grounds. Watch out for more details about how you can join our mission and plan for next year's harvest

Friday 6th September **'Read a Book Day'**
There will be a selection of 'pre-loved' books on sale just 50p

Early Birds Breakfast Club from 8am (£3.00)
Free bagels available from 8.45am

We know that strong partnerships between home & school promote good attitudes to learning, encourage positivity and are a key driver in improving attendance.

We strive to build positive relationships with parents & carers and to ensure that our home/school collaboration meets the needs of every child.

Throughout the course of the year information, updates and messages will be conveyed through a range of sources including newsletters, class updates, verbally and through our school's website. If you do have any questions please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher or other members of staff in school.

You can contact your child's classteacher by email. Please find them from the list below. If you do not have an email account, don't worry just let your child's teacher know and they'll contact you by phone or letter.

EYFS Rosedale: (FS2): Mrs Petty & Miss Hinchliffe

Year 1 - Roche: Mrs Watson

Year 2 - Selby: Miss Redfearn /Miss Sellars

Year 3 – Whitby: Mr McCormack /Mrs Noonan

Year 4 – Fountains: Miss Gibson

Year 5 - Kirkstall: Mrs Dyson & Miss Brennan

Year 6 - Rievaulx: Miss Wilson

classteachername@st-albans.doncaster.sch.uk

clare.brennan; michaela.dyson; anna.gibson;

michael.mccormack; hayley.petty; lauren.redfearn;

sarah.watson; charlotte.wilson; lindsey.ebsworth

School Email:admin@st-albans.doncaster.sch.uk

Telephone:01709 862298 Visit our website, following the link to add your views to **Parent View**

Parent Evening TUESDAY 22nd October. Details and appointments will follow closer to the time.

This year the children will be continuing their learning through our 'Mastery Approach' curriculum, the Autumn Topic 'Mission' is linked to 'Class Books' and has a strong literacy link. Our aim is to engage and challenge the children to secure their knowledge and understanding by mastering their skills. As the term progresses you will receive information from your child's teacher about projects and activities to support home learning, together with ideas of how parents & carers can join our 'Mission Topic', including our seed gathering mission in October...

UNIFORM: Please ensure you support our school tradition and adhere to the school's **uniform policy**, including black or dark school shoes or plain dark trainers. Please ensure your **child's name is clearly visible** on all items of clothing. All children require a PE KIT, comprising a plain white t-shirt and dark shorts; children may also need a **change of footwear** (plimsolls/trainers). For outdoor games sessions, in cooler weather jogging bottoms and sweatshirt are advisable. Children with **pierced ears** may wear one pair or a single SMALL GOLD OR SILVER STUD. Children **MUST REMOVE** earrings for ALL PE and Games lessons. Children should not wear nail varnish, gels or acrylic nail extensions for school. Thank you.

The Pedestrian Walkway to improve the safety of our children and their families is now completed. Thank you for your patience and support during the improvement works at the front of the school's site. To keep everyone safe please remind your child NOT to cycle or scooter along the pedestrian path. We also remind you NOT TO PARK in the Club Car Park when picking up or dropping your children at school. The area is for Club patrons ONLY and parking in this area may incur a fine.

We also remind all pedestrians to be mindful of the vehicles as they leave the school's pedestrian walkway and rejoin the public highway. We ask all drivers to keep to the 20mph speed restriction on Wadworth Street in front of the school site.

Collecting children at the end of the school day.

We have written Collection Policy, procedures that enable parents & carers to give formal consent to the home time arrangements for their child. *Please note if you wish your child to travel to and /or from school alone or with older siblings (of secondary age) SCHOOL must receive a signed confirmation reply slip.*

Thank you for your support in this safeguarding matter.

Consultation last year returned 74% in favour of allowing **dogs on the playground**, (a risk assessment is in place). We therefore continue to allow dogs onto the playground, however we stress; Dogs must be under the control of an adult at all times. Children **MUST** ask permission of their parents & carers and the dog's owner before approaching and /or stroking dogs within the school's site.

Dog owners should follow abide by the school's risk assessment at **ALL TIMES**. DOGS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN THE SCHOOL BUILDING, MUST NOT BE TIED UP or LEFT UNATTENDED ON THE SCHOOL SITE AT ANYTIME

HOMEWORK: Comes in all sorts of forms covering a host of subjects and in a range of activities. However all learning is underpinned by basic skills, we therefore urge you to read with your child as much as possible. Together with reading books from school, try to encourage your child to read widely including when you're out and about. Our aim is to broaden children's vocabulary and language. So why not visit the library and use computer based programs to develop your child's interest in reading.

In our consultation last year 70% of responses agreed that school aged children should NOT play on the outdoor equipment before and /or after school.

Those in favour 28% agreed parents/carers **MUST** supervise their children. We are happy for **pre-school** children to use the equipment **at the end of the day** while waiting for older children. However, **children must be supervised at all times** by an adult and this is at your **own risk**. School cannot accept responsibility for accident or injury. **School age children do not** play on the equipment before or after school.

Healthy eating if your child brings a packed lunch to school, please include healthy choices. Chocolate bars, sweets and fizzy drinks **should not be included in lunch boxes**. If you have any concerns about your child's packed lunch, initially speak to or contact your child's class teacher.

Drinking water is available in school; however please ensure your **child brings a fresh bottle of water each day**. Bottles should have the child's name clearly written on them.

During the course of last year we welcomed a number of new children and families to St. Alban's. Our numbers are growing, but there are still places in most classes. So continue to spread the word about our wonderful, school. As an inclusive school families don't have to be Catholic.

IMPROVING ATTENDANCE:

School Attendance Target 2019 /20 **96.5%**

The October Teacher Training Day

Friday 20th September

The Governing Body has vacancies for Foundation Governors please speak to Fr. Desmond, Mr J Cape or Mrs J Ayres