



# Newsletter

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2023

## Class Attendance since September

Nursery 94%	Reception 95%	Year 1 96%	Year 2 96%	Year 3 95%	Year 4 95%	Year 5 96%	Year 6 94%
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Well done to Years 1, 2 & 5 who reached the Government average of 96% for their attendance.

I hope to see an improvement in the attendance from our other classes next half term.

Just a reminder for parents that attendance and punctuality is something that is monitored very closely in school

### Traffic Light Attendance letters

On Friday all children will receive their 'Traffic Light' attendance letter for this half term. Attendance is a priority across the whole country and especially in Newcastle. It is now closely monitored in school and working with the Local Authority, we have held parent contract meetings and issued holiday warning letters to some of our parents. The Local authority have started the process to fine some of our families who continue to take holidays in term time. Parents need to understand that if they take their child out of school during term time, they will be contacted by the Local Authority. I would ask parents to read the attendance information on the school website.

### Safeguarding

Can I just remind parents that myself and all the staff have a duty to safeguard children. Where necessary, this involves working with Children's Social Care. Our current safeguarding policy, which was agreed at the Local Governing Committee meeting last week, is available on the school website. Parents can obtain a paper copy from the school office, if required.

### RE

Thank you to all the families that attended our Harvest Family Mass last Saturday at St Anthony's. The feedback I received was very positive and it was a great way to say thank you and goodbye to Fr Shaun, who will be leaving us soon. Thanks for all of the kind food donations. I'm sure they will be well received by the local Foodbank.

### Relationships and Sex Education Policy.

Our School Relationship and Sex Education policy was reviewed and accepted at the Local Governing Committee meeting last week. Thank you to the parents who came forward with questions and concerns. I hope they now feel reassured after speaking with school staff.

### Curriculum

The new half term curriculum plans will be on the school website after the half term holiday. These give parents an insight to all the wonderful learning that will take place in school up to Christmas.

### Non-Uniform Day

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October  
Non – Uniform Day  
Shine Day  
Children can wear  
something  
YELLOW to support the  
Shine Charity



If parents would like to make a small  
donation  
(50p) we will donate it to the Shine Spina  
Bifida Charity

### Parents Evening

Thank you to all the parents for making appointments for this term's Parents Evening. Over 90% of our parents made contact with school. I would encourage the parents who have not made appointments to contact their child's class teacher to make an appointment after half term. It is really important for parents to find out how their children are doing in class.

### Different After School Clubs

This half term we have ran three new afterschool clubs. **Boxercise, netball and cycling** clubs have taken place alongside our normal music, basketball and football clubs. The children who have taken part have thoroughly enjoyed their time experiencing the new clubs and we hope the parents who participated in boxercise enjoyed the experience too.

Working with different coaches is a way for the children to develop a different skill set. All our after-school clubs support our School's Personal Development curriculum. Trying different sports is also a good way of supporting our children SEMH – Social Emotional Mental Health. Mrs Duncan, who coordinates the afterschool clubs, will be sending out details of the clubs after half term.

## Halloween Disco

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October  
Halloween Disco  
(for Years 1 – 6 children only)

Fancy Dress optional

5.00- 6.30pm



*£2.00 per tickets which can be purchased for the school office*

*The children will receive a hot dog, some sweets and a drink.*

## Reception & Nursery

On Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October our Nursery and Reception children can come to school dressed up and there will be activities in class throughout the day.

## New Parent Governor

Thank you to Mrs Agboola and Mrs McIntyre for putting themselves forward to be parent governors of St Alban's. If any other parent would like to put their name forward, please contact me. I will close the window for applications Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October and proceed to the next stage.

## Fr Shaun.

You will probably already know that Fr. Shaun will be leaving to become the parish priest of Berwick/Seahouses/Holy Island parishes. Fr Shaun has been fantastic support to our school and formed great relationships with the children, staff and Governors. We will all miss him and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him on behalf of everyone at St Alban's and wish him good luck in his new role.

Fr. Jonathan Bowes will be taking over and everyone at St Alban's is looking forward to working with him. Father Bowes has been in contact and has arranged to come into school to meet the children and staff on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

**School reopens after the holidays on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October**