

Spring Term: Friday 6th January 2023



Important Dates



- Praise assembly every Wednesday starting Wednesday 11th January at 2/45pm (Individual parents will be contacted)
- Tuesday 17th January – 9-10am coffee morning to meet SLT – (Enter via main entrance)
- Monday 6th February – 9-10am. Phonics stay and play for EYFS – (Enter via Reception)
- Wednesday 8th February – Year 6 trip to Carding Mill Valley
- Half Term- Monday 20th-24th February
- 27th February- inset day (school closed)
- Friday 31st March- End of term

Summer Term

Monday 17th April 2023 to Friday 26th May 2023

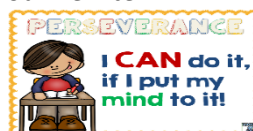
Monday 1st May - May Day Bank Holiday

Monday 29th May 2023 to Friday 2nd June 2023 – Half Term Break

Monday 5th June 2023 to Wednesday 26th July 2023



Happy New Year to 2023! I am very excited to be here as your new head of school and looking in getting to know all of the amazing things our children can do. I hope you have all had an enjoyable break over the Christmas period and had a chance to catch up with friends and family. It has been wonderful seeing the children returning to school, looking so smart and ready to start our new term.



We have introduced the Christian value of perseverance for this half term. Our school worship will be celebrating various stories of faith, along with examples of famous people showing this value. We will also be looking for children trying that little bit more when they are finding something difficult or challenging. I'm pleased to share that I've already had children coming to show me their fantastic work and how they have tried so hard.



I am looking forward to welcoming you into school for our Wednesday praise assemblies. These are starting again next week. Class teachers will inform parents of the children who are up for praise. I would also like to invite you into school for a coffee morning on the 17th January from 9-10am. This will give you a chance to come and meet the senior leadership team over a cuppa.



I'm looking forward to seeing the children's art piece for the competition. It will be great to have the winning entries framed and hung around school. Please see below for information on our art competition.

I've had a fabulous week. I can't thank everyone enough, including yourselves, the staff and children for welcoming me so warmly to St Albans! I'm certainly enjoying being with the children and trying to learn everyone's names. Please don't hesitate to come and share any feedback (both positive or any worries) that you may have. I'm out on the playground at the start and end of the day. I'm looking forward to getting to know you all too so please come and say 'hello'.

Mrs J Robinson

Safeguarding: If you have any safeguarding concerns, you can contact MASH on: 01902 555392 (9am –5pm). Out of office hours contact the emergency duty team on 01902 552999 or in an emergency call 999. Alternatively, you can call Child Line on 0800 1111 or email them by visiting www.childline.org. However, please feel free to come and speak to either Mrs Robinson, Mrs Abbiss, or Miss Headland. We will always listen and try to help.

Art Competition Time!

We are inviting children from Nursery to Year 6 to draw or paint a picture that we can use to brighten up our community room. We would like children to use the skills taught last term and use the artist they explored for inspiration (You could go onto the school website and the curriculum page to read the curriculum maps as a reminder

<https://www.stalbansceacademy.com/our-curriculum>). Children can take paper from school and the winning pictures will be framed and hung in school. Please can entries be in school by Friday 20th January. Please can the children's names be written on the back of their pictures, and we will let you know who has won after the entries have all come in. We are looking forward to seeing lots of entries and seeing how talented the children are. Good Luck!

Here is a reminder of the artists the children explored last term. Children in EYFS could draw/ paint a picture of our school.

Year 1 – Van Gogh / Picasso

Year 2 – Kandinsky

Year 3 – Robot Cossey (a local sculptor, children can sketch one of his designs)

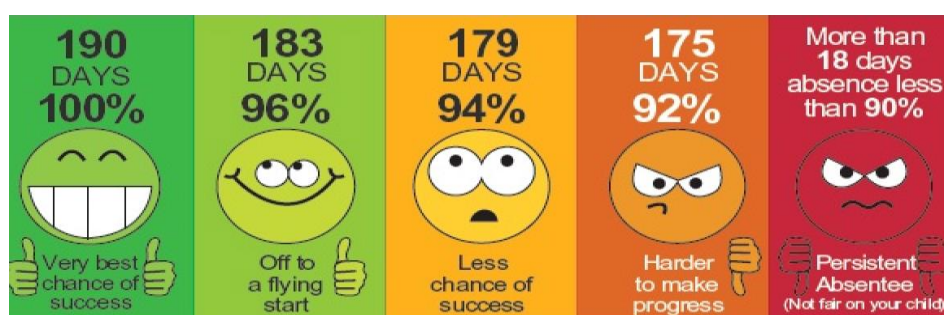
Year 4 – Hans Holbein

Year 5 – Renaissance period using perspective

Year 6 – Henry Moore (children can sketch one of his sculptures)



Attendance



I'm sure you all appreciate that we want every child to reach their full potential and coming to school every day is important. Every day, the children learn new skills and even missing a few days or being just a few minutes late can have an impact on your child's confidence and the chance for your child to reach their full potential.

The national expectations for school attendance is 96%. Attendance that is 90% and below is called persistent absence and will have a significant impact on children's emotional well-being and the progress they make.

From next week, children will be rewarded for 100% attendance. **Rewards will include:**

- 100% sticker each Friday for attending school every day that week
- 100% wrist band at half term and a non-uniform day, on a day of their choice
- 100% badge at the end of each term and a non-uniform day, on a day of their choice and an Easter Egg at the end of the Spring Term.
- Class attendance will continue to be shared in the weekly praise assemblies and shared with parents on our newsletters with the winning classes in EYFS/KS1 and KS2 having extra time at a break time the following week.

Children not attending school

It is vital that parents and carers notify school each morning if a child is not attending school. If school do not receive a call, or an entry logged on MCAS app, for a child's absence the school will try and contact to find out the reasons of non-attendance. A home visit will be completed if no contact is made. Parents whose children's attendance falls below 90% will be invited into school for a meeting. This meeting will be around discussing the barriers to attendance and how we can support families. An attendance contract will be drawn up with parents if attendance does not improve and unfortunately if this still does not improve, attendance referrals will be made, where parents can be fined and be faced with a criminal record. We wish to support parents in helping children attend school every day.

We look forward to seeing children in school every day and receiving their rewards!

Thank you, Ava for sharing the amazing work you have done in collecting food for St Alban's foodbank this Christmas. What a fantastic job you have done and I'm sure so many families have benefitted from your hard work! Thank you!



St Alban's Church, Ashmore Park

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From the Foodbank: Special thanks to Ava, who organised family and friends to provide Christmas dinners for families who might have gone without. Enjoy your dinner, Ava!

