



Kindness Respect Ambition

Alban Wood Primary School and Nursery Newsletter

Edition 9 26th Jan 2024

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A NOTE FROM MRS PINDER

Following their visit to our wonderful school on 13th and 14th December 2023, Ofsted have now released their final report. We are thrilled to inform our school community that we were judged overall as a 'Good' school.

We are immensely proud of our children and staff for their hard work, dedication and passion to achieve this result. I would also like to thank our Governing Body and parent community for their support and contribution to this achievement.

ATTENDANCE 2023-24

Aim: over 96%

Rec- 93.4%

Year 1-93.2%

Year 2-95.2%

Year 3-95.1%

Year 4-96.6%

Year 5-97%

Year 6-96.8%

Whole School-95.1%

This week the whole school attendance is 95.1%. Our school attendance target is 96%, so as you can see, we have not hit our target.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

30th Jan - Year 6 Class Assembly - 9:00am
1st Feb - SEN Coffee Morning 9:00am
5th - 9th Feb - Bikeability - Years 5 and 6.
6th Feb - Year 5 Assembly - 9:00am
8th Feb - FAW School Discos
13th Feb - Year 4 Assembly - 9:00am
14th Feb - Year 4 Dance Festival at Rickmansworth School
15th Feb - Away Football match against Holy Rood - 3:30pm
19th - 23rd Feb - Half Term
5th Mar - Year 3 Class Assembly - 9:00am
7th Mar - Year 5 Tag Rugby Festival
13th Mar - Year 2 Class Assembly - 9:00am
13th March - SEND Parent Consultation - 3:30 - 6:00pm
20th Mar - Year 1 Class Assembly - 9:00am
22nd Mar - Year 6 Trip to Warner Bros.
25th Mar - Reception Screening
25th and 27th Mar - Parent Consultation - 3:30 - 6:30pm
27th Mar - End of Term for Nursery
28th Mar - End of Term - 1:30pm finish
15th Apr - Children return to school

Medical



If your child has a condition we do not know about or there have been changes to their medical requirements, please contact us as a matter of urgency.

Alban Wood Primary School and Nursery

Holiday List and INSET Days

1 Sept 2023 - 31st Aug 2024

	Closing Date	INSET	Re-Opening
Autumn 2023		Friday 1st September	Monday 4th September
Autumn half term	Friday 20th October		Monday 30th October
Christmas 2023	Wednesday 20th December	Thursday 4th January Friday 5th January	Monday 8th January 2024
Spring half term 2024	Friday 16th February		Monday 26th February
Spring Holiday 2024	Thursday 28th March		Monday 15th April
May Day 2024	Friday 3rd May		Tuesday 7th May
Summer half term 2024	Thursday 23rd May	Friday 24th May	Monday 3rd June
Summer 2024	Friday 19th July	Monday 22nd July	

Alban Wood Primary School and Nursery

Holiday List and INSET Days

1 Sept 2024 - 31st Aug 2025

	Closing Date	INSET	Re-Opening
Autumn 2024		Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd September	Wednesday 4th September
Autumn half term	Friday 25th October		Monday 4th November
Christmas 2024	Friday 20th December	Monday 6th January	Tuesday 7th January 2025
Spring half term 2025	Friday 14th February		Monday 24th February
Spring Holiday 2025	Friday 4 April		Tuesday 22nd April
May Day 2025	Friday 2nd May		Tuesday 6th May
Summer half term 2025	Friday 23rd May		Monday 2nd June
Summer 2025	Friday 18th July	21st July 22nd July 23rd July	

Parent Governor - A message from the Chair of Governors Emma Reese

I am pleased to confirm that from January 2024 there will be a position for a parent governor on the board for the school. Being a school governor means being part of the team who supports Mr. Spector and Mrs. Pinder in their roles as Executive Headteacher and Head of School in a strategic position. We look at matters which effect the school as a whole such as the budget and changes in Ofsted requirements and how these will effect the school.

You will be given training on the role of being a school governor and options to have further training through out your term in this role. As a governing board we meet every half a term in the evening at the school.

If you are interested in becoming a school governor then please submit an 80 word statement explaining who you are, your expertise and why you think you would be suitable for this position. Please ensure your application is received by the school by no later than Friday 2nd February 2024.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me, I will do our best to answer them.

If we have more candidates than vacancies we are required to hold an election. Your statements would then be distributed to Alban Wood parents who can then vote for the candidates of their choice.

Please note regulations require that everyone elected to a governing body undergo a check by the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) - largely for child-safeguarding reasons. If you are elected and you subsequently decline to undergo such a check, you will disqualify yourself. You will also be asked to provide two references.

SMARTPHONE SAFETY TIPS

for young people

7

You may have been lucky enough to have unwrapped a smartphone at Christmas, or you might be eagerly anticipating getting a new one at some point during this year. Whether it'll be your first ever phone or an upgrade on your old model, it's always useful to have a refresher about how to set it up and adjust the settings to keep yourself – and your valuable personal info – safe and secure. We've collected some expert tips to help you enjoy your smartphone in the healthiest way possible.

NEVER SHARE YOUR PASSCODE

Alongside face or fingerprint recognition, your passcode is crucial to unlocking your phone and accessing your apps and personal information. You shouldn't give it out, even to close friends – after all, you wouldn't hand them a key to your house and let them go in for a nosey around! If a friend wants to use your phone, ask them why and make sure you can see what they're doing with it.

RESPECT PARENTAL CONTROLS

If you're allowed to have a smartphone, it's because your parents or carers feel that you're mature and responsible enough to use it safely. They might set controls and boundaries on your device – not to spoil your fun but to help you avoid hazards like too much screen time or costly in-app purchases. Following these rules means you can enjoy using your phone while respecting their wishes.

TALK TO A TRUSTED ADULT

Whether it's to listen to music, play games, create content or chat with friends, using a smartphone should be fun. If you're ever feeling anxious, worried or scared about going on your phone, then something isn't right. It's important not to ignore these feelings; instead, talk to a trusted adult about what's happening and how it's making you feel.

STAY ALERT

Two words: look up. It might sound obvious, but it's so easy to get immersed in what we're looking at or listening to on our phones that we can become unaware of our surroundings – or who might be around us. People often walk with their head down, focusing on their phone, and forget to check for obstacles in their path, cars or other pedestrians coming towards them, which is clearly dangerous.

DEVELOP HEALTHY HABITS

Phones offer a vast amount of content and the chance to chat with friends whenever we feel like it, which can make it difficult to take time away from the screen. If that's something you struggle with, you could try setting time limits on certain apps. Putting our phones down for a while gives us more time to interact with others or do something physical that helps keep us fit and healthy.

IGNORE UNKNOWN NUMBERS

There are some scammers who might call or text asking you to share personal data or to click on a link and provide your details. Some may claim to be from a genuine company, but trustworthy businesses don't spontaneously call or message to ask for your information. It's safest to ignore calls or texts from unknown numbers, and never give your personal details out over the phone.

ONLY USE AGE-APPROPRIATE APPS

Before downloading a new app or game, check what age rating it has. Don't feel pressured into getting a particular game or app just because your friends are using it. If it's intended for older people, there's a definite risk that it could include content (which is violent or frightening, for instance) or language which isn't suitable and may leave you feeling upset or disturbed.

REMOVE TEMPTATION

A good night's sleep is so important for concentration, mood and overall health. Unwinding properly before going to bed – which means not staring at a screen late at night – can often improve sleep quality. Put your phone on charge overnight, but not in your room. This means you'll have a lot less temptation to check any notifications, reply to messages or get caught up scrolling on social media.

THINK ABOUT OTHERS

Watching videos, listening to music or calling someone can all help to pass the time while we're on the bus, waiting in a queue or walking down the street. It's important to remain mindful of other people, though: they might not want to hear your tunes or your conversation. Likewise, if you're calling from a public place then don't forget that anyone could overhear something personal about you.

SWITCH OFF GEOLOCATION

In your phone's settings, you'll be able to disable geolocation for individual apps and photos; this means that people online (including strangers) can't see information about where you are when you share or post a pic. On the subject of images, it's also important to ask permission before taking or sharing a photo of someone – and don't share embarrassing images of your friends with others.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The
National
College

NOS
National
Online
Safety
#WakeUpWednesday



Funded by
UK Government

STEP2 SKILLS
PREPARE FOR SUCCESS IN HERTS

Learn something new in February

MONDAY

Introduction to PowerPoint

5 hours | £10
Online | 5th Feb.
9.45am-2.45pm

Intro to Additions & Subtractions

5 hours | FREE
South Oxhey | 5th Feb. | 10am-12pm

CV & Cover Letters

2.25 hours | £5
Online | 12th Feb.
9.45am-12pm

Festive Crochet - Valentine's

2 hours | FREE
Watford | 12th Feb.
10am-12pm

Crochet a Little Bit of Kindness

2 hours | £5
Bishop's Stortford
12th Feb. | 1pm-3pm

Jewellery Making For Beginners

5 weeks | £25
Bishop's Stortford
Starts 26th Feb.
12.45pm-2.45pm

Improve your skills in Excel

5 weeks | £25 | Online
Starts 26th Feb.
9.45am-11.45am

Improve your skills in PowerPoint

5 weeks | £25 | Online
Starts 26th Feb.
12.45pm-2.45pm

TUESDAY

CV & Cover Letters

2.25 hours | £5
Online | 6th Feb.
9.45am-12pm

Understanding Fractions

2 hours | FREE
Online | 6th Feb.
11am-1pm

Online Job Search, Applications & Personal Brand

2 hours | £5 | Online
6th Feb. | 1pm-3pm

Understanding your Smart Device

4.5 hours | £10
Stevenage | 13th Feb.
10am-2.30pm

Introduction to Crochet

2 hours | FREE
Waltham Cross
13th Feb. | 11am-1pm

Family Crystal Challenge

2 hours | £5
Waltham Cross
20th Feb. | 10am-12pm

Family Spring Crafts

2 hours | £5
Waltham Cross
20th Feb.
1.15pm-3.15pm

Level 2 Certificate in Team Leading

11 weeks | £25
Online | Starts 27th Feb.
9.45am-12pm

TUESDAY

Amigurumi Crochet (Intermediate Level)

5 weeks | £25 | Online
Starts 27th Feb.
9.45am-11.45am

Digital Skills for Work

5 weeks | £25
Stevenage | Starts 27th Feb.
9.45am-11.45am

Digital Scrapbooking

5 weeks | £25
Stevenage | Starts 27th Feb.
12.45pm-2.45pm

Crochet a Mug Warmer

2 hours | FREE
Waltham Cross
27th Feb. | 11am-1pm

WEDNESDAY

Understanding Percentages

2 hours | FREE
Online | 14th Feb.
6pm-8pm

Building your Budget in Excel

2 hours | FREE
Stevenage | 28th Feb.
10am-12pm

KEY

- Face to Face
- Online
- Accredited

THURSDAY

Understanding Discounts & Deals

2 hours | FREE
Online | 1st Feb.
10am-12pm

Introduction to Excel

4.5 hours | £10
Online | 8th Feb.
10am-2.30pm

Assertiveness & Communication Skills

2 hours | £5 | Online
8th Feb. | 10am-12pm

First Steps to Excel

2 hours | FREE
Online | 8th Feb.
10am-12pm

Interview Skills

2.25 hours | £5
Online | 15th Feb.
9.45am-12pm

Public Speaking & Presentation Skills

4.5 hours | £10
Online | 15th Feb.
10am-2.30pm

Acrylic Painting

2.5 hours | FREE
Waltham Cross | 15th Feb. | 9.30am-12.15pm

Family Crystal Challenge

2 hours | £5
Stevenage | 22nd Feb.
10am-12pm

Gain a recognised qualification with Step2Skills

Visit our website to find out more about accredited English and maths courses.

THURSDAY

Family Spring Crafts

2 hours | £5
Stevenage | 22nd Feb. | 1.15pm-3.15pm

Setting up your own Business

5 weeks | £25 | Online
Starts 29th Feb.
9.45am-11.45am

Find your Career Path

2 weeks | £10
Waltham Cross
Starts 29th Feb.
9.45am-11.45am

Improve your skills in Excel

5 weeks | £25
Waltham Cross
Starts 29th Feb.
12.45pm-2.45pm

FRIDAY

Acrylic Painting

2.5 hours | FREE
Waltham Cross | 2nd Feb. | 9.45am-12.15pm

Public Speaking & Presentation Skills

4.5 hours | £10
Online | 2nd Feb.
10am-2.30pm

Interview Skills

2.25 hours | £5
Online | 9th Feb.
9.45am-12pm

Online Job Search, Applications & Personal Brand

2 hours | £5 | Online
16th Feb. | 1pm-3pm

Assertiveness & Communication Skills

2 hours | £5 | Online
16th Feb. | 10am-12pm

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step2skills.org.uk/courses

or 01992 556194

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