

ALBAN WOOD NEWSLETTER – Issue 10, 2017-2018

Attendance

Whole school attendance is still currently 96.4% which is very close to our school target of 96.5% - well done all! **A particular well done to Reception whose attendance so far this term is 98%!**

Come and Stay

Last week saw the introduction of Come and Stay in Key Stage 1 – a similar event to Stay and Play in Early Years. Staff were delighted to see so many parents and families join this Reading event. Further sessions have been planned for the rest of the year; we look forward to seeing lots of parents! Finally, thank you to Mrs Gainfort, who, in her phase leader role, introduced this new event.

*Tuesday 27th March – Maths themed

*Thursday 10th May – Writing themed

*Thursday 12th July – Outdoor Learning themed

Bring a Dish

It was great to see the hall full of parents, children and food from around the world last Friday! Children, parents (and staff!) all enjoyed tasting different dishes whilst having a chat at the tables. A huge thank you to Miss Hardiman for her leadership of this event, and we look forward to the next ones...

*Thursday 22nd March, 2pm – Early Years

*Friday 20th July, after school – Year 4 and Year 6

Roblox – online gaming

We just wanted to share something that has come to us through Herfordshire's e-safety team regarding an online game called Roblox...

We have been made aware of a supposed warning from Kent Police about the dangers of the Roblox game. These warnings were not actually issued by Kent police but **we are taking this opportunity to remind parents that Roblox, just as any other gaming website that allows players to interact, has its potential risks.**

At a recent CEOP event it was shared that there had been minor issues with inappropriate characters on the Roblox gaming site but that these had been resolved very quickly. **Roblox is age rated for 8-18 year olds and there is a reporting facility should it be needed.**

Our advice is not to stop children accessing age appropriate online games but to:

- * Ensure they know how to report an incident when on any game
- * Keep their information private at all times
- * Talk with a trusted adult immediately if they have any concerns
- * Check safety and privacy settings are limited to people they know in the real world

For more information please visit the childnet guidance for parents on Roblox at <http://www.childnet.com/blog/roblox-a-guide-for-parents>

PTA – Easter Event

The PTA met last week and are now busy organising the Easter event which will take place on **Friday 16th March** – look out for more information after half term.

Young Minds

Alban Wood's Mindfulness Colouring Books have been a great success and are still available from the office for £2. So far we have raised £180 for Young Minds – thank you all! A huge thank you too to Mrs Bowie for all of her hard work in photocopying these books.

Healthy Playtimes and Lunchtimes

Just a reminder that if your child has a school packed lunch, it is important to consider which drink they have, as well as the balance of foods they have to eat. In particular please do think about the sugar levels within packed lunches – **one small treat is sufficient and should ideally not be chocolate based.**

For children in Key Stage 2 a playtime snack is a great idea as this helps to break up the morning for them and keep them going until lunch! **This snack needs to be a healthy option – fruit ideally. Please do not send in chocolate bars or crisps** as these will not give children the energy that they need in the morning. Thank you all.

Trips and events this term and next!

I have been asked by parents to share dates for trips and events taking place this year – here are the ones organised so far...

Tuesday 27th February – Viking 'Thing' afternoon in Year 3 and Year 4

Tuesday 27th February – Year 5 and Year 6 to a musical performance at Watford Coliseum

Thursday 1st March – Nursery and Reception Superhero dress up day

Wednesday 14th March – Year 3 and Year 4 Viking workshop

Friday 16th March – Year 5 and Year 6 trip to RAF Hendon

Friday 23rd March – Blue Watch Fire Engine visiting Early Years

Spring term (date to be confirmed) – guide dog visiting Early Years

Tuesday 8th May – Year 5 and year KNEX challenge

Just a few dates for this term!

*Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February – Half term – we hope you all have a wonderful half term break!

*Friday 23rd February – Movie Night

*Monday 26th March – Music Celebration assembly

*Thursday 29th March, 2pm – end of the spring term