



ALBAN WOOD NEWSLETTER – Issue 4, 2016-2017

Attendance

Congratulations to Year 5 and Year 6 as their attendance before half term was 98.7%. Well done to all, as attendance so far this term is meeting our overall target of 96.5% - 97% so far. This has such an excellent impact on all aspects of children's enjoyment of school life. Congratulations to our half termly attendance winners who were announced in assembly just before half term. Well done to Edward (Y6), Sam (Y6), Sophie (Y2), Ruby (Y2) and Isabella (Y5).

Parent Workshops

The three parent workshops last half term were very well attended – thank you all! **Please complete the slip below with any suggestions for workshops this half term.**

Severe Weather: reminder of procedures

It is approaching that time of year again!

In the event of severe weather, we will make the best decision possible based on current weather and the forecast as early as possible in the morning.

Information will then be sent to you in the following ways:

* This notification will be immediately sent to Hertfordshire, who will post whether the school is open or closed on their website: www.hertsdirect.org

* Announcements will also be made on Three Counties Radio.

* We will text all parents with information stating whether we are open or closed (another reason to make sure we have your up to date mobile number details).

* We will add a post to our school Facebook page and website.

We will always endeavour to keep the school open if at all possible, but will first need to take into account Health and Safety (particularly our ability to clear ice from the entrance to the school and in the playgrounds), and staffing numbers (ensuring that enough staff can make the journey in to school). You can help us with this in two ways. Firstly, please do not call the school office to check whether we are open unless absolutely necessary, instead using the above ways to find out information: this is because staff are likely to be involved in preparing the school for the day (cover arrangements, clearing snow etc) and may be unable to answer the phones. Secondly, if there are parents who live locally that may be able to help with clearing snow early in the morning, then that would be very much appreciated – thank you! If you are able to help with this please complete the slip below.

Just a few dates for this term!

***Week beginning 14th November – Anti Bullying Week.** This year the theme will be cyber bullying – a letter will follow next week but a date for your diary now is Thursday 17th November between 9am and 10am as there will be workshops in class and a coffee morning.

* **Christmas Fair and Christmas hat and jumper day – Friday 16th December,** after school

***Friday 18th November** – we are sorry but unfortunately the PTA's Pamper Evening has been cancelled. We hope to arrange another one later this year.

***Wednesday 30th November** – Music Celebration Assembly

***Wednesday 21st December, 2pm** – End of autumn term

Alban Wood Car Park and surrounding area
A reminder please that it is **not possible to drive into or park in our car park between 8.45 – 9.15am and 2.45 – 3.15pm each day – this is for the safety of all of our children.**

Please could I also urge all families to take extra care when parking on The Brow – **please do not park over the crossing area or the yellow zig-zags** as these need to be kept clear to ensure the safety of all.

Finally, we hope to have new crossing patrol warden with us later this month. Thank you all!

Poppy Appeal

School Council will be selling poppies and other poppy items (for example wristbands and reflective poppies) in aid of the British Legion Poppy Appeal before and after school next week. A letter is coming home from School Council with more information too.

Sporting News!

Last week some of our Year 4 children went to the Tri Golf final over in Rickmansworth. Mr Mitchell and Miss Douglas were both incredibly impressed with the dedication, determination and sportsmanship.

Spelling Challenge Winners

Our first spelling challenge of the year took place on Thursday 20th with the final on Friday 21st. The determination shown by every child was fantastic and we would like to thank parents for all of the home support too.

Lots of children were very close to winning but a special congratulations to the following children who were the overall winners:

**Jude (Y2), Natalie (Y2) and Daniel (Y2)
Caitlin (Y4), Scarlett (Y4) and David (Y4)
Ishaal (Y6), Freya (Y6) and Ricardo (Y6)**

As you will have seen from the letter in book bags earlier this week, this term's challenge is linked to mental maths. Children will take part in the competition on **Thursday 15th December with the final being on Friday 16th December.** We look forward to another great challenge!

Staffing News

Many congratulations to Mrs Barnes who is expecting her first child in April. Mrs Barnes is likely to begin her maternity leave at the beginning of April.

Parent workshops and snow

Next term it would be good to have parent workshops linked to: _____

I am able to help with snow clearing (see message above)

My contact details are: Name: _____ Name of child: _____

Telephone number: _____ Email address: _____