



ALBAN WOOD NEWSLETTER – Issue 5, 2016-2017

Attendance

Congratulations to Year 4 whose attendance last week was 99.4% - they very proudly received their certificate in assembly on Monday.

Well done Year 4!

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.



Shakespeare school's festival

Year 5 performed a Midsummer Night's Dream on Wednesday evening this week to a packed Abbey theatre in St Albans. It was such a special occasion, and the children performed with confidence, pride and great humour! Some of the feedback included their excellent use of voice and movement. A huge thank you to Miss Wells and to all the staff for their help and support leading up to this event. Thank you too to parents for your support, and most of all our talented and inspiring Year 5 children!



Anti-bullying week

Anti-bullying week was a huge success last week and it was great to see so many parents in school for both the workshops and our coffee morning. As you will know last week had a particular focus on the use of technology and keeping safe on the internet. If you were able to come to the coffee morning after the workshop you will have received a pack with a number of resources – there are spare copies of these in the office if you would like one. Last week we also introduced our new Bully Busters – congratulations to Yasmeen, Ishaal, Catherine, Ollie G, Tyler and Nathan for taking on this important school role. Finally, on the reverse of this newsletter is a document listing key age restrictions for a number of social media websites/ apps. Please also check our website as there are a number of resources on their too.

Remember, every week is anti-bullying week at Alban Wood!



Just a few dates for this term!

- * **Wednesday 30th November** – Music Celebration Assembly
- * **Wednesday 7th December** – KS2 Carol Concert
- * **Wednesday 14th December, after school** – Secret Santa stall
- * **Thursday 15th December** – Maths challenge competition
- * **Friday 16th December - Christmas Fair and Christmas hat and jumper day**
- * **Monday 19th December** – Christmas Lunch
- * **Tuesday 20th December** – Christmas parties
- * **Wednesday 21st December, 2pm** – End of autumn term



Hertfordshire Improvement Partner Visit – Pupil Outcomes

I am delighted to be able to let you know that this week included a very positive meeting in school, where our Improvement Partner agreed with our school self-evaluation, demonstrating, with us, that our **pupil outcomes are outstanding across Alban Wood**. We looked at all children's progress from when they begin with us to when they leave; their achievement, particularly at the end of Reception, Year 2 and Year 6; the achievement of groups within our school (boys/girls, children who are entitled to Free School Meals, children who speak English as an Additional Language); and perhaps most importantly the children's ongoing learning in pupil books – **in all respects, our school was found to be outstanding!** An enormous thank you goes to our children, whose learning behaviour and ambition is excellent; our staff, whose commitment continues at such high levels; and to parents too for so much valued home support.

Sporting Success

Congratulations to our football team for their 4-1 victory last night at Cherry Tree School. Excellent team work and sportsmanship shown!

Snow clearing

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

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

Telephone number: _____ Email address: _____