



ALBAN WOOD NEWSLETTER – Issue 9, 2016-2017



Attendance

This week, we have been able to give out 14 certificates to children for their significant improvements to attendance and punctuality – great news! The children’s dedication to coming to school every day that they possibly can is admirable – thank you!

Whilst attendance has fallen as a school percentage due to one or two bugs/viruses (now 96.5%), we are still achieving our school target – and we are pleased that, on the whole, children are well once more. Just a reminder that if children are suffering with minor ailments such as colds/coughs, it is important for them to come to school – please do not hesitate to speak to us if we can support in any way (for example, if you would prefer for them to stay inside at lunchtime on a particularly cold day).



Staffing

I am pleased to let you know that we have appointed a new member of lunchtime staff this week: Mrs Stroud (our road crossing patrol person and a governor at the school). Mrs Stroud will be primarily based in the KS1 playground. She is very excited about joining our team and ensuring positive, safe and happy lunchtimes for all of the children at Alban Wood. Welcome!

Spelling challenge

Just a reminder that the spelling competition will take place next Thursday (9th February) with the final on Friday (10th February). Please encourage children to practice lots in this last week – a very exciting time! Good luck to all!



Promoting a love of reading at Alban Wood!

Today, our reading hut has been built – we can’t wait to get it ready for use and are certain that children will find this a new and motivating space in which to read. Launch day coming soon! Within classes, there is lots happening too – each class is now reading a class book, which children love (they are never too old to be read to!) – a new hall display will share these across the school, with children’s feedback. Class teachers are also developing book corners – such inviting spaces in the classroom – with lots of new books available, including some of the classics, which can support children to develop their vocabulary and enjoyment of different sorts of books. Please do not hesitate to speak to any member of staff if you have any questions or comments about reading – home reading, library books, guided reading and much more!



Just a few dates for this term!

*Week beginning 6th February – Take One Book Week

Parents are very welcome to join us in school on Monday 6th February from 9 – 9.30am, in classrooms, followed by informal coffee in the Creative Arts room.

*Thursday 9th February – Spelling Competition

*Thursday 9th February pm – ITV filming, Aviatrix assembly and Y4 flight workshop

*Friday 10th February – Spelling competition final

* Week beginning 13th February – Half Term

* Week beginning 20th March - Parents’ week

PLEASE NOTE ONE IMPORTANT CHANGE:

Friday 31st March will now be an INSET day (school finishing on Thursday 30th at 2pm); there will therefore now be no INSET day on Monday 5th June - school beginning on this day. Our apologies for needing to make this change.



Sports news!

* Gymnastics club for Reception-Y2 has been a great success this term - well done to all of the children. We look forward to seeing their skills keep developing...

* Thank you to the KS2 children and parents who have made a commitment to the Parmiters dance festival – their performance is at the Watford Palace theatre on 23rd February.

* Children’s commitment to tag rugby continues, which is great – we are looking forward to the tag rugby festival on 23rd March 2017.

* Mr Mitchell is enjoying running football club for children across the school from Year 1 – 6 – it is great to be able to support children with this opportunity, which they, of course, love!