



# Ss Alban and Stephen Catholic Primary School Weekly Newsletter



## Hello from Year 1!



Friday 11th September 2020

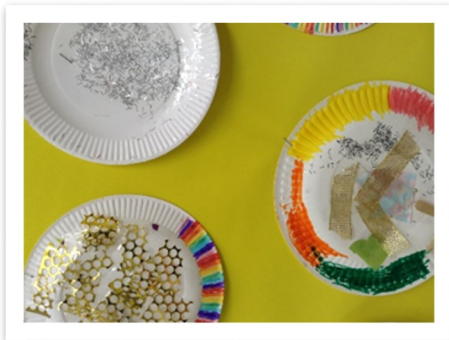
## Year 1's Wonderful Work

We were delighted to welcome the new Year One children back to school this week. They are settling in and getting used to the new routines and they have already produced some fantastic work! The children have learnt about our new House Saints and have begun looking at positional language in Maths and parts of the body in Science! Here are some pictures of what they have been getting up to this week.

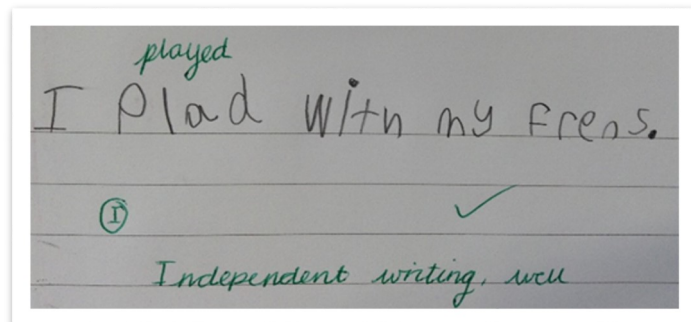


Computing Skills

Holiday News



Our Mark Making Wall



Learning about our House Saints.

### Introducing our specialist teachers!

My name is Mrs Flatt and I am the new Music Teacher at Ss Alban and Stephen Catholic Primary School. I am in the fortunate position of teaching the children right across the school from Reception to Year 6. It has been wonderful to meet them this week and begin to learn all their names – they are being very patient with me as there are a lot!



We have already been having lots of fun in our Music this week including using basketballs to create rhythms with Year 6!

I have 12 years' experience in teaching Music in primary schools and have been involved in many concerts and performances with local primary schools at the Alban Arena, the O2, Wembley Arena and the Civic Centre in Welwyn Garden City as well as running school choirs. I've also been in a rock and roll band, playing at weddings and birthdays in various venues across the country!

I'm a firm believer that Music should be accessible to all and that it is great for children's (and adult's) well-being. I am really looking forward to getting to know the children and to enable them to have success through enjoyment in Music lessons.



My name is Mrs Bowen and I am the new Sports Specialist for the primary school. It has been a great first full week back and wonderful to see the children outside and enjoying the sunshine with friends. This week has been my first week at Ss Alban and Stephen Catholic Primary School and I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the children. In PE, we have been learning about the importance of physical exercise in keeping our minds and bodies fit and healthy. The children have been setting themselves personal challenges during our week of circuit training, e.g. how many Jumping Jacks can they achieve in 30 seconds. I

look forward to working with them and developing their skills this year.

Bonjour!

My name is Mrs Betteley and I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new French Specialist at Ss Alban and Stephen Catholic Primary School. Having been a part of the school community since my eldest son (now in Year 8) joined Reception, I am very happy to be part of the teaching team at this exciting time for the school.



Whilst French is our subject, I am looking forward to helping your children on their language learning journey through KS2 and beyond.

This is all the more exciting due to the incredible range of languages spoken by the children at the school. I am hoping to learn as much from them as they can from me.

Please do ask them to share what they have learned when they get home on Wednesdays!

Merci et bon week-end.

Rescheduled Welcome Meetings

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We would like to extend a special welcome to all our new families who have joined us this September and hope that they will feel an important part of the wonderful community of Ss Alban and Stephen Catholic Primary School.

Due to a recent change in government guidance on 9<sup>th</sup> September, we have come to the difficult decision to reschedule the Welcome Meetings on both sites next week to virtual Welcome Meetings using the app Zoom. This is to ensure we do not have more than six parents from different households on the school premises.

Zoom is a safe way for our teachers to deliver the planned Welcome Meetings and will enable us as a school to ensure effective communication with parents and carers. This will give you the opportunity to listen to the class teachers and learn about the daily routines and expectations of the year group.

Please see updated Zoom Welcome Meeting timetable below.

Year Group	Rescheduled Virtual Meet the Teacher date	Teachers	Start time
Year 1	Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> September	Mrs Tennant/Mrs Cooper Miss Knight	4.30pm
Year 2	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Mrs Bates Mr Taylor	4.30pm
Year 3	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Mrs Adams Miss Cowan	4.30pm
Year 4	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	Ms Noonan Miss Nicolaou	4.30pm
Year 5	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	Mrs Smith/Mrs Duffey Ms Mannering	4.30pm
Year 6	Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	Mr Jewels Mrs Barras	4.30pm

Please refer to the letter sent regarding these Zoom meetings for support in accessing the meeting and the privacy rules.

Thank you.



### Drop off and Collection

As you know, we are still in a pandemic. Many restrictions have been placed on schools in an attempt to limit the transmission of the virus. Although children no longer have to be in a bubble of 15, they must still be organised in consistent groups. We must limit contact between different groups of pupils, and limit movement of pupils across the school buildings and grounds. We also have to minimise potential contact between adults. Sadly, this means limiting parents' and other visitors' access to the school, including the grounds.

As a result, we have had to spend much time considering how we manage the daily drop off and collection of over 430 pupils. Unlike many schools, we are in the fortunate position of having 2 sites and 7 entrances at our disposal. However, this poses other problems. Many parents have communicated suggestions about what they feel should happen. I want to assure all parents that the Senior Leadership Team, in discussion with the staff, have considered many possibilities prior to opening and there is no perfect solution. Some issues will only come to light once arrangements are in place. We are also constantly reviewing our procedures to support parents, while still ensuring pupil and staff safety.

In order to socially distance as best we can, we will have a soft start and different entrances into school. Parents are discouraged from congregating at the gates. Teachers and a member of the SLT will ensure that parents and children are socially distancing.

Please see below for our latest procedures.

Lower Site	Drop Off	Collection
Nursery	Drop off from 8.40am. Enter the Lower Site through an entrance on the Alban Way. Please approach the gate from the Dellfield/Camp Road bridge side of the Alban Way.	Collection at 3.15pm from the gate on the Alban Way.
Reception	Drop off from 8.40am - 9.00am at the Camp Road gate.	Collection at 3.05pm from the Camp Road gate.
Year 1	Drop off from 8.40am - 9.00am at the Year 1 entrance. Access from Vanda Crescent and parallel to the Alban Way.	Collection at 3.10pm from the Year 1 entrance.
Year 2	Drop off from 8.40am - 9.00am at the main entrance on Vanda Crescent.	Collection at 3.10pm from the main entrance on Vanda Crescent.

Upper Site	Drop Off	Collection
Year 3	Drop off from 8.40am - 9.00am at the Alban Way gate at the Upper Site.	Collection at 3.20pm at Alban Way gate at the Upper Site. (1 parent may come on site but must wait at the bottom part of the play-ground )
Year 4	Drop off from 8.40am - 9.00am at the Camp Road gate at the Upper Site.	Collection at 3.20pm at the Camp Road gate at the Upper Site. (1 parent may come on site but must wait on the grass
Year 5	Drop off from 8.40am - 9.00am at the main entrance gate on Cecil Road.	Collection at 3.20pm at the main entrance gate on Cecil Road. (1 parent may come on site but must wait in the top court near the gate)
Year 6	Drop off from 8.40am - 9.00am at the main entrance gate on Cecil Road.	Collection at 3.20pm at the main entrance gate on Cecil Road. (1 parent may come on site but must wait in the top court near the gate)

We ask that only one parent or carer drops off and collects each child/family and that you show consideration for other parents and carers at these times by maintaining a safe distance from each other. Where this is not possible, we suggest that you may wish to wear a face covering of some sort. This is not currently a mandatory requirement and it is not possible for the school to enforce this. Please also bear in mind that some adults are unable to wear face coverings due to a range of medical conditions, which may not be apparent.

We appreciate that for many parents this is an anxious time but we ask for your patience and your trust that the school is working hard to do the very best we can to keep our pupils, staff and parents safe, in challenging times.

Thank you for your continued support.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

God bless.

Mrs Moore, Mrs Porter, and all the staff of SSAS