



St Alban & St Stephen Catholic Primary School & Nursery

Weekly Newsletter



Friday 29th April 2022



In our Gospel Assembly this week, Key Stage 2 heard some unbelievable facts in Mrs Moore's True or False quiz. Did you know that some snails can sleep for up to three years? Or that apples can grow in the shape of a cube if they are wrapped in plastic as they grow? Or that there is a Lego bridge in Germany which you can actually walk across? When Jesus' disciple Thomas heard the news that Jesus had risen from the dead, he refused to believe that it could be true. To him, the news seemed unbelievable! Thomas did not believe until he had actually seen Jesus and touched his hands and side.

Jesus said,

"Blessed are those who have not seen and have yet believed."

If we believe in Jesus even though we weren't actually there for that very first Easter Day, we are blessed for our faith and trust.

Go Forth

Just like Jesus' first disciples, we are sent out to share the amazing, unbelievable news that Jesus died and rose to life again for us.

Who will you share the good news with this week?

Artistic Inspiration in Year 1

In Year 1 this week, we have been using our artistic and creative skills to produce some fabulous paintings during our art lessons.

Taking inspiration from the artist Piet Mondrian, we used primary colours to create abstract shape pictures. We used paint to print the different shapes we had chosen, creating some bright and colourful patterns. Have a look at our artists at work!

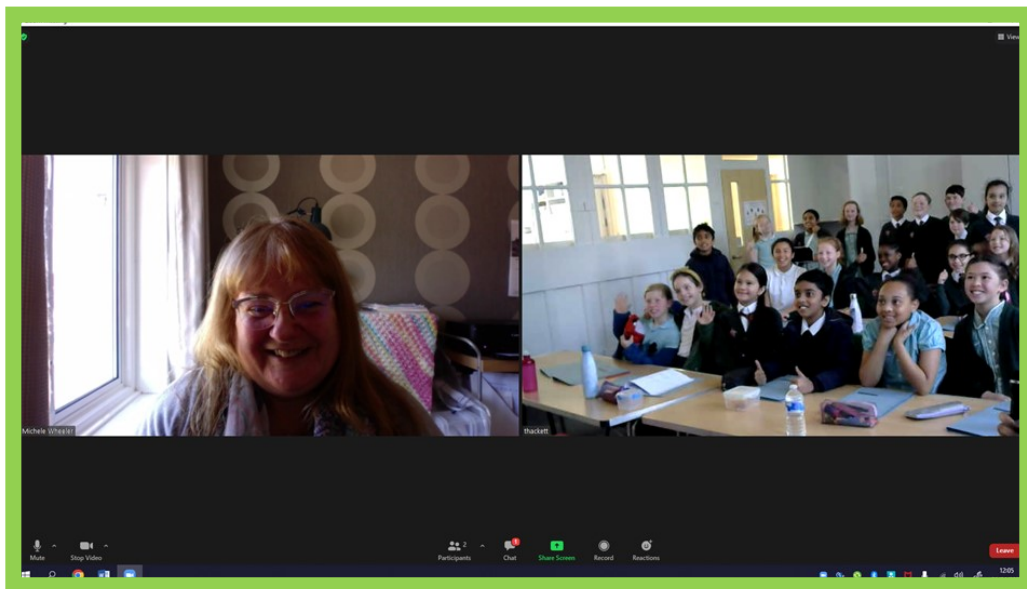


Meet the Squabble Squashers!

We would like to introduce our new team of Year 5 Squabble Squashers. The Squabble Squashers work in the playground every lunchtime. When children have minor disagreements and squabbles, they can visit the Squabble Squashers. They will be guided through a series of steps to help them to talk through the disagreement and finally arrive at a fair and sensible solution. This process is called 'Peer Mediation'.

Over the past two weeks, the Squabble Squashers have been taking part in training sessions to prepare them for this important pupil leadership role. The training was delivered via Zoom by trained mediator Michele Wheeler from the charity Hertfordshire Mediation. All of the training was generously funded by a grant from Councillor Chris White, Leader of the St Albans City and District Council.

We cannot wait to see our Squabble Squashers in action next week, as they live out our school values of Friendship, Respect and Unity.



“In the training, I learnt how to listen to both sides of the argument, be patient and not to pick sides.”- Amelie

“I am looking forward to getting children to communicate with each other and to solve problems more easily.” Therese

“In the training, I learnt to use body language to show the other person I am listening.” Finnian

“Peer mediation will generally make our school a happier environment. I hope the peer mediators will make everyone feel like they can have help to sort out their problems.” Madeleine

You're never too small to make a difference!

It was wonderful to welcome so many Year 3 families into school today to watch the Year 3 curriculum assembly. The Year 3 pupils confidently displayed their learning about climate and weather and helped the audience to understand the different climate zones around the world. Year 3 then went on to talk about Climate Change and explained the small changes we can make every day to help "turn the tide". Finally, we were treated to a beautiful rendition of the song, 'I am the Earth'. Well done, Year 3!



Year 3 reminded us that it is very important to do everything that we can to stop climate change and to protect our wonderful planet. With St Alban and St Stephen Annual Green Day fast approaching on May 19th, your family might like to use this 'Prayer for our Earth' at home, taken from Pope Francis' Laudato Si'.

<https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayer-resources/Prayer-for-our-earth>

Calling all Swimmers!

We would like to pass on an important message about the 2022 St Albans District Primary Schools Swimming Champs – Friday 20th May, 2022



The 2022 St Albans District Primary Schools Champs is used as a basis for selecting the St Albans District team to compete in the Herts Primary Schools Inter-District Swimming Championships on the Friday, 24th June, 2022.

Entry to this gala is by the individual and not by the school.

Any student from years 5 and 6 (for the 2021/2022 school year) attending a school within St Albans District can enter this gala. It includes 50m events for each of the 4 strokes. Swimmers should be competent to complete any event entered.

The gala will be held at the St Albans (Boys) School, warm-up at 6.30pm with start 7.00pm. A Swim England licence has been given, in which case those swimmers who swim for a club will be able use times in this gala for the national Swim England database.

St Albans District schools are automatically affiliated to ESSA (English Schools Swimming Association) and swimmers are covered for insurance purposes where the gala is a scheduled ESSA event (this Gala is a scheduled ESSA event)

Deadline for entries is Tuesday 17th May, 2022

Entry is to be made online at the StASSA website: www.stassa.org.uk. If you would like a one-page information sheet to print off which includes all details of the gala including the website link to enter please [click here](#).

The entry fee is £5 per swimmer (not per event) and can be paid online as part of the online entry on the StASSA website using debit/credit card (via Paypal) or by BACS (Bank Transfer).

As a note, St Albans District, in the Herts Primary Schools Champs, came 1st in 2019, which was the 6th win in 9 years. This gala and the Herts champs were not held in 2020 and 2021 due to covid.

Dates for your Diary

This half term is going to be very busy and exciting. We are looking forward to welcoming parents into school for some of the celebrations and events below.

06.05.22 at 9.15 (Lower Hall) Year 1 Marian celebration. Year 1 parents and carers are welcome to attend.

26.05.22 at 9.15 (Upper Hall) Year 4 family curriculum assembly. Year 4 parents and carers are welcome to attend.

Jubilee Celebration Day Thursday 26th May

To celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, all children can come to school either dressed up as royalty, or wearing red, white and blue. We will be learning more about the Jubilee and taking part in lots of fun, royalty-themed activities.



School will then be closed for the extra Jubilee Bank Holiday on Friday 27th May.

Do you have a talent for basketball?

Are you in school year 5 or 6?

Herts Basketball Association needs you!

Under 11 Boys County basketball trials



Date: Sunday 1st May 2022

Time: 11 am—1pm

Venue: Presdales School Sports Hall,

Hoe Lane, Ware, Herts SG12 9NX

Players need to be available for Tournament on Saturday 18th June 2022

To attend please contact hertsbasketballsecretary@gmail.com