

Learning and Growing with God by our Side

Issue 34



St Alban & St Stephen Catholic Primary School & Nursery Weekly Newsletter



Friday 20th May 2022

Gospel Assembly

In our Gospel assembly this week, we thought about what it means to follow in someone's footsteps. Our Gospel reading told us that during the Last Supper, Jesus said to his disciples,

'I'm giving you a new commandment, and it's this: love one another! Just as I have loved you, so you must love one another. This is how everybody will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for each other.'

We talked about what Jesus meant when he asked his friends to love each other and decided that it meant showing love, kindness and respect to others, not just to our friends and family. Showing love also means helping others in need, whoever and wherever they are.



Go Forth:

How can we show love to others and follow in Jesus' footsteps?

Will following in Jesus' footsteps always be easy? How can we have determination to keep on loving others even when it is challenging?

SSAS Green Day

What a wonderful time we had on our annual Green Day! Green Day is a special day when we think about how we can live our lives in a way which looks after our planet for future generations. It's a day when we spend time outside together taking part in lots of exciting activities which help us to appreciate nature and the environment around us. Green Day is also important because it helps us to remember our mission from God to take care of His creation.



This year was particularly special as, for the first time in many years, we were able to share activities across both the Upper and Lower sites. All of the children worked in their Houses (St Bernadette, St Teresa, St Peter and St Paul) and took part in exciting activities such as den-building, making leaf clay prints, pond-dipping, creating natural art in the style of Andy Goldsworthy and lots of planting and weeding in our beautiful grounds. We really enjoyed our picnic at lunchtime in the sunshine. The day ended with a wonderful whole school rendition of our Green Day song, 'I am the Earth'.

Click here if you would like to listen to the song at home:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TNtmqStVRo0>

SSAS Green Day



"I really loved Green Day because we could interact with other years and make new friends. I loved how we could get closer to wildlife. Green Day is great for the planet and I wish we could do it more often!" Elisa



"I enjoyed the mixing of year groups because it gave a feel that everyone was one school and we all enjoyed the day together as one family." Chiji

"I liked it when we turned off all the electricity because it saves energy and it's good for the environment." Susie



"Green Day is fun because I see my friends and it makes me feel happy. It's great because everyone is doing it together and we're helping each other and the planet." Amelia

"When we went to the other site, I saw my sister. We did so many other fun outdoor activities with our friends which we don't always get to do in school. I loved it!" Elodie



Our School Library is Open!

It has been a fantastic week in the library. There has been much excitement around the school about the opening and a joy to see so many children coming in to read and borrow books. Our Year 6 Junior Librarians officially announced the opening with an assembly and have been on duty at break and lunch times to welcome and help all our visitors.

Library lessons also started this week, with children visiting in their class groups. They have enjoyed getting to know the new space, the categories of books available, and some library etiquette. These will continue next week so that every child will have a library book to read over half term.

The library moved outside yesterday for Green Day with the focus on all things environmental. We had story time for the younger children and everyone reading to discover some new facts about how to protect our precious earth.

Mrs Keaty, School Librarian

Fantastic Home Learning in EYFS.

For Home Learning the children were asked to make a rocket using 3D and 2D shapes. Look at this fabulous rocket which Annabelle made ! Mrs Moore awarded her a special head teacher sticker for her impressive home learning. Well done, Annabelle!



Sporting News



Last week, the girls took part in the Semi- Final of the St Albans City Cup playing against the favourites, Fleetville Juniors. The girls' team only started in September, so they have been on a steep learning curve. The resilience and determination shown by the girls and their "never give up attitude", has made them a pleasure to watch and coach over the season. Unfortunately losing their semi-final, SSAS then went through to play Oakwood in the 3rd and 4th Play Offs. It was not our day, but the whole squad should be very proud of what they have all achieved this season. Well done!



Congratulations to Joseph, Darius and Oliver, who play for the St Albans City West football team. They were awarded medals and the Oak Cup for their performance in the Hertfordshire Development League. The boys achieved a thrilling victory, with the winning goal being scored by Joseph, taking the final score to 4-3.

Dates for your Diary

This 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.

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

10.06.22 at 9.15 (Upper Hall) Year 5 family curriculum assembly. Year 5 parents and carers are welcome to attend.

16.06.22 pm (SSAS Church) KS1 and KS2 SSAS Celebration Mass for the School Amalgamation

20.06.22 TBC (Lower Site) EYFS and Key Stage 1 Sports Day

24.06.22 TBC (Upper Site) Key Stage 2 Sports Day

01.07.22 at 9.15 (Lower Hall) Year 1 family curriculum assembly. Year 1 parents and carers are welcome to attend.

Other school events:

Please ask your child what they have been learning during these special events!

16.05 – 26.05.22 SSAAS Sustainability fortnight– bunting art project

23.05.22 Young Voices Concert (KS2)

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.

Please see the information below which has been passed on to us regarding a family event at St Paul's Church. Children will have a chance to take part in nature-based activities and there is also a plant sale. The event is part of St Albans Sustainability Festival.



God's Green House

Sat 21st May 10.30am - 12.30pm

St Paul's Church, Blandford Road, St Albans, AL1 4JP

Come and see how we can protect God's creation and what we're doing at St Paul's

Make a bird feeder and a bug hotel
Enjoy a tour of the sustainable features in the church and gardens
Check out the minibeasts and birds in our gardens
Learn about eco-friendly flower arranging

Why not visit the St Paul's Plant Sale and take a break for some delicious refreshments while you're here?

sustfest.org



 @SustFest
 @SustFest22
 @SustainableStA

The poster features a vibrant blue and green color scheme. At the top right is a circular logo with colorful icons representing various environmental and social themes. The background includes stylized illustrations of a church, a wind turbine, a sun, a globe, and a tree with people inside its branches. The text is presented in a clear, sans-serif font, with key information highlighted in yellow and bold black text.



 The Purcell School
for young musicians

CALLING ALL YOUNG POP + ROCK MUSICIANS

NEW DEPARTMENT, MADE FOR YOU
The Purcell School has launched a new **Commercial and Popular Music Department**. This is a fantastic chance for young musicians (11-18) to study with industry professionals, in an exciting full-time musical environment, surrounded by like-minded students.

FIRST STUDY INSTRUMENTS
Applications are welcomed from:

- electric guitarists
- bassists
- drummers
- keyboardists
- vocalists

INDIVIDUAL TUITION
Our team of celebrated industry professionals will deliver a unique programme of 1-2-1 study and ensemble sessions in our fully equipped recording studio.

PROGRESSION PATHWAY
Providing a rare pathway to **Modern Music degree** courses at conservatoires and universities, as well as equipping students with the skills essential for careers in commercial and popular music.



40 YEARS ST ALBANS HALF MARATHON

SUNDAY 12TH JUNE 2022

PRIMARY SCHOOL CHALLENGE

Get the whole family involved and win your school a cash prize by running in the Family Fun Run at the St Albans Half Marathon!

Children under 8 must be accompanied by a full paying adult

Make sure to enter the name of your school on the booking page when you sign up!

MORE INFO HERE!



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