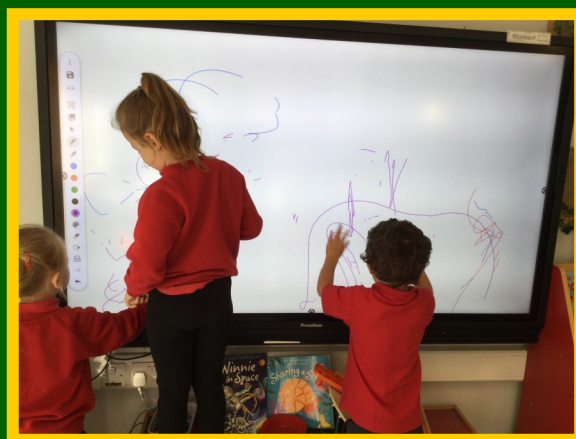
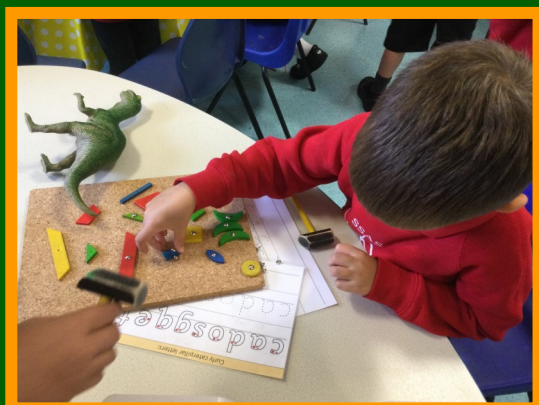


*Learning and Growing with God by our Side*



# St Alban & St Stephen Catholic Primary School & Nursery

## Weekly Newsletter



16th September 2022

## Our Prayers this Week

We will not be in school together for our Gospel Assembly on Monday, so you may wish to pray with your family using the prayers below as we remember the Queen, her family and all others who have lost loved ones.



### **A Prayer for Those in Mourning**

Bless those who mourn, eternal God, with the comfort of your love that they may face each new day with hope and the certainty that nothing can destroy the good that has been given.

May their memories become joyful, their days enriched with friendship, and their lives encircled by your love.

Amen.

### **A Prayer for the Queen written by the Year 5 Prayer Leaders**

Dear God,

We thank you for our sovereign, Queen Elizabeth II. Guide her soul in Heaven and give her eternal rest. We thank you for her life and her service, especially during World War II, and also for her service to many other countries across the Commonwealth and worldwide. We thank you that she was able to help so many people. Guide the Royal family at this time and give them hope. Be with King Charles III and help him to lead us all in this time of grief.

Bless us all , Oh Lord. Amen



## We remember Queen Elizabeth II 1926-2022



This week in school, we have remembered the Queen and her family in our prayers. Year 2 have been learning about the story of Paddington Bear and this made them think about the time when the Queen met Paddington Bear during her Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. Thank you to Robyn and Adam from Year 2 for their beautiful drawings of Paddington and the Queen.



## SAS Harvest Festival Foodbank Appeal

Dear parents and children,

We are the Year 6 Pupil Chaplains and we would like to ask you to help us with our Harvest Appeal. This year, we are once again collecting food to donate to the St Albans Foodbank.

Jesus told his followers that they should help anyone who needs help: **“I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger, and you took me into your home. I needed clothes, and you gave me something to wear. I was sick, and you took care of me. I was in prison, and you visited me.”** (Matthew 25).

We always try to follow in Jesus’ footsteps and we hope that you will help us to make a big donation to the foodbank.

Please bring one or more items in from the list on the next page and give them to the School Office on the Lower or Upper Site **before Friday September 30th.** At the end of September, a lady from the Foodbank will come and visit the school and speak to us in our Harvest Assemblies. She will collect all the food and take it to the foodbank.

Thank you for helping us!

*The Year 6*

*Pupil Chaplains*



# SAS Harvest Festival Foodbank Appeal



## DONATE FOOD

Please help by donating an item or two from our shopping list to ensure we can provide food to help people in crisis.



## Things we don't need

Fresh food (we can't store it!)

## The types of item we need

St Albans & District Foodbank only works with non-perishable food items (tinned and dried goods), which do not spoil or decay. This means that neither the foodbank nor the recipient has to worry about storing the food in a fridge or freezer, and there is less likelihood of food going to waste. It also means that we can give each client a carefully designed food parcel that contains three days' worth of nutritionally-balanced food.

All items should be unopened, in date and in good condition. We are forbidden by law to give away food which has passed its "best before" date.

We also take non-food items such as toiletries, laundry, cleaning and sanitary products, as these are just as essential to the clients who come to us.

## How else can you help?

We can be reached via email [info@stalbandsdistrict.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@stalbandsdistrict.foodbank.org.uk) or by telephoning 01727 613019

We also welcome monetary donations and our website has details on how you can donate to us

<https://stalbandsdistrict.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/>

## Things we need

Baked Beans  
Pasta  
Rice  
Tinned rice pudding  
Tinned custard  
Tinned peas  
Tinned sweetcorn  
Tinned soups  
Tinned meats  
Tinned fish  
Tinned tomatoes  
Desserts  
Biscuits  
Cereals (not oats - we have plenty!)  
Longlife fruit juice  
Longlife Milk  
Cooking Sauces  
Cooking Oil (1 litre max)  
Noodles  
Jam/Spreads  
Toilet Rolls  
Shower Gel/Shampoo  
Laundry powder/tabs  
Nappies sizes 5 and upwards  
Tea/Coffee



## Settling in to EYFS

After a fantastic first week last week, getting to know new friends and a new learning environment, the Reception children attended their first Gospel Assembly on Monday. Mrs. Moore, our Head Teacher, was very impressed by all the children's listening skills and the way they have already learnt our School Prayer by using actions for some of the words. The children have also continued to work together at building friendships and following the School Rules. Even when they are enjoying their morning snack, they are respecting each other and putting their rubbish in the bin. The children have also been exploring the standing and low-level sand pits, and discovering the apparatus! It is lovely to see them building-up strong relationships while enjoying collaborative play.



## Our First Week in Nursery



The newest children to the school are settling in wonderfully. They have been creating self portraits and drawing pictures of their families.

Every day, the Nursery children have been learning how to do the sign of the cross and saying our prayers. They are getting better and better at this every day.

It has been lots of fun getting to know the children and watching them all grow in confidence and starting new friendships, while learning the new routines.

We are looking forward to seeing you all after the bank holiday.



## Little Wandle Phonics Scheme

We are excited to inform you that we have introduced a new systematic phonics scheme called Little Wandle. We trialled this Government-approved scheme in the Summer Term and have now introduced it in Early Years and Key Stage 1 to further improve reading and spelling.

Reception and Year 1 will follow this scheme in daily whole class phonics sessions and in reading groups three times a week. In other year groups, your child may also be part of smaller phonic group sessions following the scheme too. This is to ensure we have a consistent approach in our school in the teaching of early reading and spelling.

As part of introducing this new phonics scheme, we have reorganised our reading scheme books to ensure they are closely matched to your child's phonics ability. The reading book that each child brings home should be read with 95% accuracy which is why it is very important that the book matches their phonics ability.

We have purchased a significant number of new reading scheme books and passed on books which are no longer fit for purpose, so you may notice the book your child brings home could be labelled differently to previous academic years. Please do not be concerned about this adjustment and speak to your class teacher should you need any further clarification.

Books have been re-banded into phonics phases. We therefore ask that any Big Cat Collins Books you may have at home are returned immediately for re-banding. After Phase 5 Set 5, children will move onto coloured book bands.

We will be holding Parents' Workshops this term to tell you more about how we teach reading at school and how the Little Wandle scheme works. Please come along to find out more:

**Thursday 6th October 2.30pm EYFS Parents' Phonics Workshop, Lower Hall**

**Thursday 13th October 2.30pm KS1 Parents' Phonics Workshop, Lower Hall**





## Dates for your Diary

- Monday 19th September SCHOOL IS CLOSED DUE TO THE QUEEN'S STATE FUNERAL
- Tuesday 20th September 9.05 Year 4 Welcome Meeting—Upper Hall
- Wednesday 21st September 9.05 Year 2 Welcome Meeting—Lower Hall

Wednesday 21st September 1.40 at SSAS Catholic Church

Start of the School Year Celebration Mass led by Year 4

All parents and carers are welcome to attend

- Thursday 22nd September 9.05 Year 3 Welcome Meeting—Upper Hall
- Friday 23rd September 9.05 Reception Welcome Meeting—Lower Hall
- Tuesday 27th September 9.05 Nursery Welcome Meeting—Lower Hall
- Wednesday 21st September 9.05 Year 1 Welcome Meeting—Lower Hall
- Thursday 6th October 2.30pm EYFS Parents' Phonics Workshop, Lower Hall
- Friday 7th October 9.15 Year 2 Family Assembly, Lower Hall  
Year 2 Parents and Carers are welcome to attend
- Thursday 13th October 2.30pm KS1 Parents' Phonics Workshop, Lower Hall
- Friday 14th October 9.15 Year 3 Family Assembly, Upper Hall  
Year 3 Parents and Carers are welcome to attend
- Saturday 15th October PTA Autumn Fair
- Thursday 20th October 1-7pm Parent Consultations
- Friday 21st October School closed for INSET day.

Please remember that the school day begins at **8.55 am**. The children will be able to enter their classrooms between 8.45 and 8.55.  
After this time, your child will be marked late.