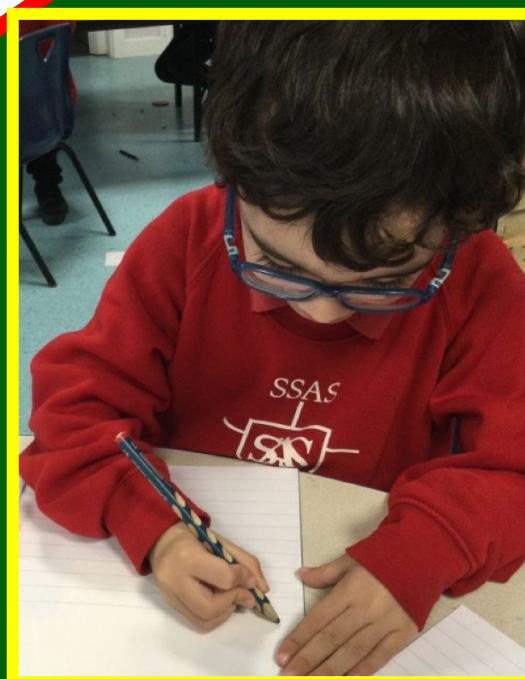


Learning and Growing with God by our Side



St Alban & St Stephen Catholic Primary School & Nursery

Weekly Newsletter



11th November 2022

November- a Month of Remembrance



In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

- Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae

Last week on All Souls' Day, we remembered people we no longer see and created our beautiful School Remembrance Books. This week, we remembered people who lost their lives in the two World Wars and those who continue to suffer in wars across the world. On Friday, our Year 5 Pupil Chaplains led a beautiful and reflective Remembrance Day assembly on our Lower Site, sharing the poem 'In Flanders Fields' by John McCrae, praying for peace and an end to war and leading the one minute silence at 11am. On our Upper Site, pupils took part in a live interactive assembly led by the British Legion. Reception and Nursery also held a special assembly and painted some poppy pictures. Throughout this month, we will continue to remember all those who are no longer with us, using our School Books of Remembrance to help us.

Go Forth

Think about how we can bring peace to others around us. Maybe you can help to sort out an argument or maybe you can be kind to someone who is upset. Jesus was sometimes known as the Prince of Peace. We can follow in his footsteps and bring peace to others too.

Dear God,

Thank you for the many happy memories we have.

We are sorry that some people have sad memories at this time of year as they remember those who have died for their country.

We pray for peace across the world and an end to war. May we wear our red poppies with love and compassion. May we remember together and be thankful.

May we follow in the footsteps of Jesus, the Prince of Peace, and bring peace to everyone we meet.

Amen.

SSAS Remembrance Day

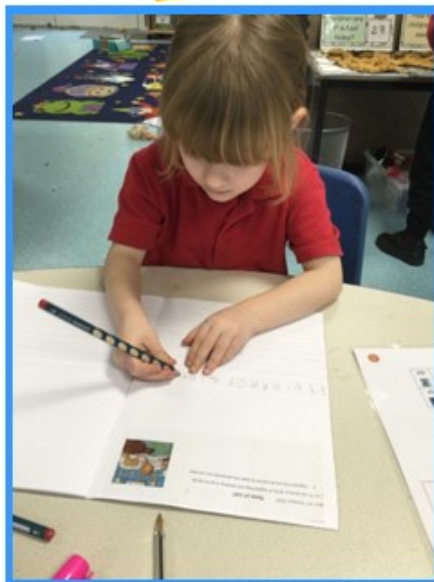
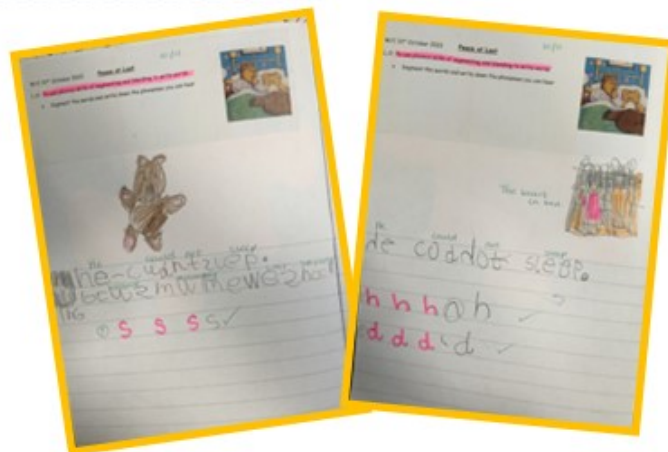
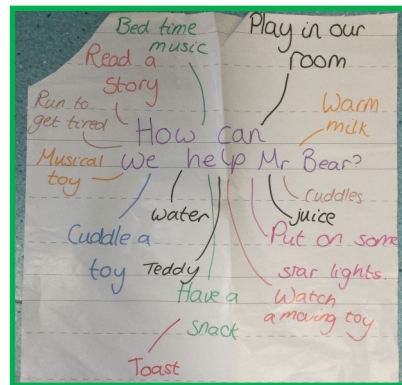


Writing in Reception

This week, we have been working hard on our writing. We have been reading the story "Peace at Last" written by Jill Murphy and have been writing words and sentences about what happened in the story. We used the Little Wandle grapheme mat to help us find the sounds.

In the story, Mr Bear cannot sleep. The children came up with ideas of how to help him sleep, and shared some of the things they do before bed time to help themselves sleep.

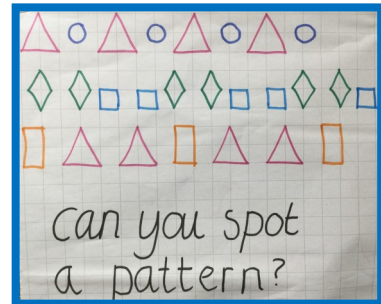
Here are some of their ideas:



Patterns in Reception

Maths

In Maths, we have been learning about patterns and have been finding out how to recognise the pattern and to carry it on. Look at our wonderful, colourful patterns!



Exciting Learning in Nursery

The children have been learning about Nocturnal animals with a focus on the story "Owl Babies" written by Martin Waddell.



They have also been exploring their new role play area which is an ice cave! They have been looking for polar bears and penguins. Keep your eyes peeled!



Anti-Bullying Week– Odd Socks Day!



Next week is National Anti-Bullying Week. The theme this year is 'Reach Out'. Bullying affects millions of lives and can leave children feeling hopeless. But it doesn't have to be this way. If we challenge it, we can change it. It starts by reaching out. Whether it's in school, at home, in the community or online, let's reach out and show each other the support we need. Reach out to someone you trust if you need to talk. Reach out to someone you know is being bullied. Reach out and consider a new approach. It doesn't stop with young people. From teachers to parents and influencers to politicians, we all have a responsibility to help each other reach out. Together, let's be the change we want to see. Reflect on our own behaviour, set positive examples and create kinder communities. It takes courage, but it can change lives. So, this Anti-Bullying Week, let's come together and reach out to stop bullying.

We will start our Anti-Bullying Week at SSAS with Odd Socks Day on Monday. Wear odd socks to school- the crazier the better! By wearing odd socks, we encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique!

Throughout next week, we will be taking part in lots of different activities designed to raise awareness of how we can all reach out together to stop bullying.

SENDCo Coffee Morning

Mrs Smith is having a SENDCo Coffee Morning on Thursday 17th November at 9am on the lower site. This is an informal session for you to talk to Mrs Smith and other parents. Elaine Bridle, the DSPL7 Manager and SEND Lead is joining us on Thursday. She works in many schools and in her role provides support, training and advice to schools and families. Do come along!



Wonderful Home Learning

All of the teachers have been so impressed with the learning that you have been doing at home. From beautiful Christmas card entries to stunning 3-D space models, you have been putting so much effort into your learning outside school! Well done to everyone who is working so hard and having so much fun learning and growing. We are very proud of you!



A Big

THANK YOU



Click or tap here to enter text.

St Alban and St Stephen School

for supporting St Albans & District foodbank.

Your donations make a BIG difference to local people in crisis.

Total weight donated: **333** which will help provide about **792** meals

St Albans & District foodbank is part of the Trussell Trust's UK wide foodbank network.

Registered Charity Number: 1158917 | Registered in England and Wales



The St Albans & District Foodbank have contacted us to say thank you for collecting donations earlier this term. Our Harvest Appeal is part of our Catholic Social Teaching as we try to follow Jesus' teachings and help those in need. The Pupil Chaplains would like to say a big 'thank you' to all of those families who donated food and hygiene products.

WatfordFC
wellbeing



#JUSTTALK
co



Parent/Carer Workshop:
**Managing Conflict
for Children and
Young People**

Thursday 24th November
12:30pm-1:15pm



Professional
Footballers'
Association

Premier League
Charitable Fund

WatfordFC
wellbeing



#JUSTTALK
co



Parent/Carer Workshop:
**Managing Conflict
for Children and
Young People**

Thursday 24th November
6:00pm-6:45pm



Professional
Footballers'
Association

Premier League
Charitable Fund

As part of Just Talk week, Watford FC CSET are providing two Positive Minds; Parent/Carer workshops on Thursday 24th November at 12:30pm and 18:00pm.

The free workshop focuses on **Managing Conflict with Children and Young People**, inclusive of top tips to aid your approach, guidance to support you through key steps to effectively communicate, as well as providing you with take home resources, to support you around conflict with your child/young person.

To register a place, please follow this links below.

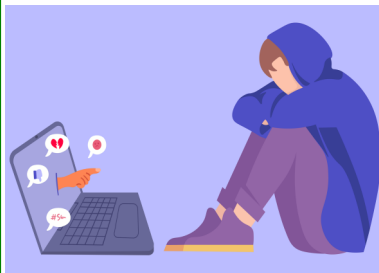
This link is to register for the day time event [Parent/Carer workshop: Managing conflict Children/ Young People \(day time\) Tickets, Thu 24 Nov 2022 at 12:30 | Eventbrite](#)

This link is to register for the evening event [Parent/Carer workshop: Managing conflict Children/ Young People \(Evening\) Tickets, Thu 24 Nov 2022 at 18:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Online Safety

Teaching children how to stay safe online is a vital part of our Computing and PSHE curriculum. However, the majority of children's online activity takes place while they are at home. In order to support parents and carers to keep their children safe in the digital world, we will be including regular online safety articles in our weekly newsletters in addition to our e-safety workshops which will be running next year. Our article this week is from the Anti-Bullying Alliance and links to National Anti-Bullying Week. Read the full article here: <https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/tools-information/advice-and-support/advice-parents-and-carers/im-worried-about-cyberbullying>

Cyber-Bullying Tips for Parents and Carers



Research shows that cyber-bullying, or online bullying, is experienced by many children. Like face-to-face bullying, online bullying can be defined as the repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. Online /cyber bullying may include posting on social media, sharing photos, sending nasty text messages, social exclusion.

So, what can you do to help at home?

- ⇒ Talk to your child about who they're talking to online and encourage them to think before talking to people they don't know in person.
- ⇒ Try to understand and guide your child's online behaviour - negotiate, establish boundaries and discuss sensitively issues around the concept of 'friends'.
- ⇒ Familiarise yourself with the social networking sites and chat programmes your child uses. Find out more about its built-in safety functions and how they can be contacted within the service.
- ⇒ Ask your child if they know how to block someone they don't want to talk to anymore. If they don't, help them learn how to use the blocking feature.
- ⇒ Use parental control software provided by your internet service provider, mobile phone network, online content provider or games console, and consider using filtering options, monitoring and setting time limits for access to chat.
- ⇒ If you discover misconduct between your child and someone online stay calm, investigate the facts and seek expert help. If someone has acted inappropriately towards your child, or someone they know (eg sexual chat, or asking them to meet up) contact the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP).
- ⇒ **NSPCC and O2 have a free online safety helpline for parents and carers - 0808 800 5000. Find more information for parents and carers on the Internet Matters website which covers all things internet safety.**

SUPER SPORTS NEWS! Reported by Mrs Bowen, Sports Coach

On Tuesday, the Boys' Team played against Alban City and started the game strongly with plenty of shots. During the first half, Alex scored a screamer putting the team ahead. Alban City came back and pressurised our defence and just before half time equalised. The second half started evenly with both teams getting lots of shots away, Alban City managed to get a goal on the break. SSAS dug in hard and Noah made a great run to score bottom left. The game ended in a 2-2 draw. The team played well with a special mention to Francis in goal who made some unbelievable saves. Congratulations to Francis who picked up the well deserved POM and CP.



Two football teams took a trip over to Mandeville School to play in league games. This was the first game of the season for the girls and the excitement had been building all day. The girls started strongly with lots of possession, playing the ball beautifully into space. The first break through was from Elodie who was in the right place to score from Emma's cross; the second goal came from a fantastic run by Emma; the third was an own goal; the fourth and fifth goals came from Amelia with some superb individual footballing skills. The girls finished off an amazing win with a well-taken penalty from Emerald. What a performance! Yesterday the girls showed what a long way they have come over the year. Their resilience, determination and pure passion for the game shone through for a thoroughly well deserved win! Congratulations to Emma for POM and Elodie for CP.

The netball team were also in action with their first game against Fleetville Juniors. The team fought a tough game and everyone had to play well from the start. The first quarter finished without a goal, but during the 2nd quarter both sets of shooters were on fire with the score 2-2 at half time. In the second half, SSAS pulled out some fantastic play to finish the game as 5-4 winners. Well done to Lois who picked up POM and Ami, who was awarded CP.

Dates for your Diary

- Monday 14th November Odd Socks Day- wear your craziest odd socks to school to show that we are all unique and different!
- Monday 14th-Friday 18th November: National Anti-Bullying Week.
Theme: 'Reach Out'
- Friday 18th November 9.15 Year 6 Family Assembly, Upper Hall
Year 6 Parents and Carers are welcome to attend
- Friday 18th November Individual and Sibling Photographs
- Thursday 8th December 9.15 am Key Stage 1 Nativity assembly, Lower Hall- *Year 1 and 2 parents are welcome to attend.*
- Friday 9th December 9.15 am Key Stage 1 Grandparents' Carol Concert, Lower Hall- *Year 1 and 2 Grandparents and older relatives are welcome to attend.*
- Thursday 15th December 1.40 pm Key Stage 2 Carol Service at Ss Alban & Stephen Catholic Church- *all parents are welcome to attend.*
- Friday 16th December Time TBC EYFS Nativity play, Lower Hall- *Nursery & Reception parents are welcome to attend.*

Parking on Cavendish Road and Vanda Crescent.

If you drop your children off at school by car in the morning, please be considerate to local residents and other pedestrians. Stopping in the middle of the road, parking on double yellow lines and pulling up on to the pavement causes danger for pedestrians, congestion for other road users and inconvenience for local residents. Think about whether you can park further away from school eg on Hatfield Road or in Clarence Park car park and walk the rest of the journey to school. Whenever possible, try and walk, scoot or cycle to school as this is a healthier and more environmentally friendly option.