

January 2011

Monday 31st January 2011

A Belated Happy New Year

A rather belated Happy New Year to you all, children, parents and staff.

Although the signs of spring are appearing, bulbs peeping through the grass, snowdrops already in flower, I don't think we have seen the end of winter, but hopefully the worst of the bad weather is over.



Can I, remind parents of the school's policy on bad weather.

The safety of the children is of paramount importance.

During bad weather, parents must make the decision at the start of the day. **If the school could not open** in the morning, due to heating failure etc, we would notify parents via the school text messaging service as well as informing Radio Derby; they would then

broadcast that information. **If there is no message, then the school is officially open.** Any parents concerned about deteriorating weather conditions, during the day will be able to collect their children early. The school will not close early due to bad weather ~ unless there is a health and safety risk.

Radio Derby Wavelengths 104.5 FM

269 MW

1116 MW

SAD NEWS

Last week the school received the sad news, of the sudden death, of Mr Greenhough, the school caretaker. I have been informed this morning that his funeral will be taking place at Markeaton Crematorium on Monday 14th February at 2:20.

Please keep him and his family in your prayers. Also, please remember the families of Mrs Wilson and Mrs Tidbury whose fathers died recently, and Mrs Squires whose mother also died just before Christmas.

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SPECIAL POINTS

WHOLE SCHOOL CLOSURE

Monday 28th February 2011

FR. GERRY MURPHY



On Wednesday, 2nd February, Fr. Gerry leaves St Alban's Parish and moves to Our Lady's Parish in Bulwell. On behalf of the Staff, Governors, Parents and especially the children of St Alban's School may we all wish him well and every success in his parish. At the same time thank him for his commitment, dedication and prayers for all those involved at St Alban's School over the last ten, successful, years.



Fr Paul Newman will be arriving at St Alban's from Bulwell on the same day. We graciously welcome him to our Parish, even though he supports Forest.

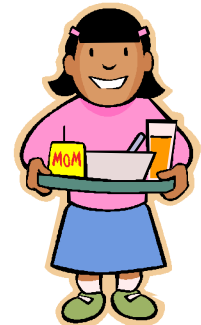
SCHOOL LUNCHES

The Governors of St Alban's School have, after the situation last November and December and Derby City's School Meals Service decision to provide only reheated meals, decided to opt out of the catering contract. As from April 1st the school meals will become the responsibility of the school.

We recently sent out a questionnaire regarding this and have an excellent response.

What will happen now?

- The price of a school meal will remain at £2.00, cheques are still to be made out to Derby City Council.
- Staff will organise their own menus, using nutritional guidelines, which will be distributed to all parents by the end of March.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS

We have a number of clubs that will be running this half term

Dodgeball: a six week course on a Wednesday for years 3 to 6. £18 for 6 weeks, 3:30 to 4:30.

Street Dance: a six week course on a Tuesday for all years . £18 for 6 weeks, 3:30 to 4:30.

Football: a six week course for years 1 to 4.

Coming soon

Film club on a Monday, hopefully starting next Monday after school at 3:45. Children will be able to watch a film ~ cost ~ nothing. Further information will be sent out to parents.

During half term there will be a **Movie Makers** day on Wednesday 23rd February for years 3 to 6. To book a place please contact Tessa Dearmer on 01332 716299 cost is £2 for the day

We are also looking into the possibility of an **athletics club** and for years 5 and 6. The **Gardening Club** will also be starting again soon.

I'm also meeting with Derby University to see if we can offer even more diverse clubs.

Children's Corner

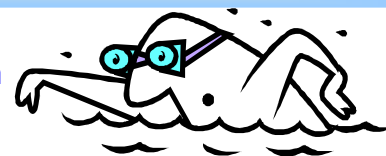
What number comes next in the following sequence

1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, ?

Fax 01332 671498

SCHOOL SWIMMING

The year 4 will complete their swimming lessons this half term on Thursday 17th February. Derby City will be analysing the data from the swimming trial to see if going twice a week for half a year is more successful than once a week for the whole school year.



The school will be notified during the summer term of the outcome and whether the trial has been successful or not. As yet I am unsure of what the system will be for next year year 4.

FOUNDATION STAGE



During half term we hope to complete the areas outside Mrs. Bradford and Mrs. Paterson's classroom.

We will be laying a 'safeturf' an all-weather surface in the two areas where there is presently mud and a little bit of grass. Hopefully, it will mean that the children will be able to access the areas even when it has been wet.

ARRIVING LATE



A number of children are arriving after the whistle has been blown and getting into class after the start of lessons.

Children arriving late disturb the class and teacher.

School starts at 8:55 and children should be here by that time. If you are going to be late please let us know.

PARKING PROBLEMS

You may have recently noticed an increase in police and parking wardens in and around the school.

I understand that the council has had a number of complaints from residents about the parking situation outside schools. The police are not just targeting St Alban's School, but several in the area.

Please park in a safe place, that does not obstruct other cars being able to gain entry or leave their drives. Do not get into a confrontation with neighbours, it can be very distressing to children who see and hear the arguments.



READING WITH CHILDREN



Key stage 1 are continuing their "reading with children" on a Friday morning from 8:55 to 9:25 and Tuesday from 8:45.

It is wonderful to see so many family members participating and the children enjoying it so much.

If you can spare some time come along with your child to class.

PTA EVENTS

The PTA recently held a committee meeting. The outcomes of the discussions were:

- Thank you to the parents who purchased tea towels ~ there are a few of key stage 2 ones available
- Thank you to all parents and children who came to the Christmas Disco
- Pick a present for Mother's Day to be held the week beginning Monday 28th March.



DIARY DATES

FEBRUARY 2011

Tuesday 1st	Year 5/6 Brass lessons Assembly by "Frankie and Benny's"	10:15 12:45
Wednesday 2nd	Year 4 swimming Fr Gerry leaves Year 5 & 6 visit to Pride Park	all morning
Thursday 3rd	Year 4 swimming	11:00
Friday 4th	Healthy Eating Day	all day
Saturday 5th	First mass for Fr Newman at St Alban's	6:30 pm
Tuesday 8th	Year 5/6 Brass lessons Year 4 swimming	12:45
Thursday 10th	Year 4 swimming	7:30 pm
Friday 11th	Whole school class liturgy ~ Mrs Needham's Class	11:00
Tuesday 15th	Year 5/6 Brass lessons Year 4 swimming	10:15 Infant Hall 12:45
Thursday 17th	Year 4 swimming (Last one)	11:00
Friday 18th	Whole school class liturgy ~ Mrs Smalley's Class Break up for half term	10:15 Infant Hall
Wednesday 23rd	Movie Makers ~ contact Tessa Dearmer 01332 716299	10am to 3pm
Monday 28th	Whole School Closure ~ Staff Training at St John Fisher School	

MARCH 2011

Tuesday 1st	Children return to school Year 5/6 Brass lessons	8:55
Thursday 3rd	Class photographs	all day
Friday 4th	Whole school class liturgy ~ Mrs Royle's Class	10:15 Infant Hall
Monday 7th	Year 2 Road Safety PTA meeting ~ all welcome	7:30 junior library
Tuesday 8th	Year 5/6 Brass lessons	
Wednesday 9th	Ash Wednesday Liturgy	TBA
Friday 11th	Whole school class liturgy ~ Mrs Wright's Class	10:15 Infant Hall
Tuesday 12th	Year 5/6 Brass lessons	
Friday 18th	Whole school class liturgy ~ Miss Beech's Class	10:15 Infant Hall
Sunday 20th	Clocks spring forward an hour	
Tuesday 22nd	Year 5/6 Brass lessons	
Thursday 24th	Parents' Evening	4:00 to 7:00 pm
Friday 25th	Whole school class liturgy ~ Miss Gadsby's Class	10:15 Infant Hall
Monday 28th	PTA ~ Pick a Mother's Day Present	

APRIL 2011

Friday 1st	Whole school class liturgy ~ Mrs Johnson and Mrs McNamara's Class	10:15 Infant Hall
Sunday 3rd	Mothering Sunday	