

APRIL 2010

Wednesday, 28 April 2010

KEY STAGE 2 SATS

Inside this issue:

You may have recently either read or seen that the National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT) and the National Union of Teachers (NUT) have balloted its membership with regards to a boycott of this years Key Stage 2, year 6 SATs.

So what is happening at St Alban's School with regard to this years SATs?

As a member of the NAHT I will be boycotting this years publication of SAT data. The children will still be doing an assessment, parents, children and secondary schools will still receive the information about the their work.

Why is so late in being decided when children have been preparing for them?

I understand that during the year consultations have been taken place between the different unions and the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) with no positive outcomes. With regard to the ballot under trade union law action has to take place within a specified time, so the ballot took place at the earliest opportunity.

What are other schools in Derby doing?

Although I am taking this action and know of other head teachers who will be doing the same, I don't think all schools will take action.

What is wrong with SATs?

In my opinion there is nothing wrong with using them to support our own teacher assessment. However, schools do spend far too long preparing the children for these tests. Secondary schools test the children again once they arrive. For some children it can be very stressful.

If you would like to discuss this issue with me or even let me know if you agree or disagree, then please don't hesitate to contact me.

Key Stage 2 SATs	1
Safety Around School	2
School Nurse Drop in Sessions	2
PTA Events	2
Learning Platform	3
Car Share Website	3
St Benedict Events	3
Diary Dates	4

Special Points

Congratulations to year 6 for their excellent behaviour during their residential visit to the Briars



SAFETY IN AND AROUND OUR SCHOOL

Have you noticed the posters around the school? Derby City have erected them around both entrances to the school. Thank you to the children who have drawn them and those that took part in the promotion.

Can parents please take the suggestions to heart. Also with the warmer, drier weather approaching and the lighter mornings and evenings, it is a good time to think about parking that bit further away and walking to school.

There are car parks at the bottom shops and on Chaddesden Park ~ please give it a go.



SCHOOL NURSE DROP IN SESSIONS

Susie Fetherston the school nurse has arranged a number of drop in sessions for parents. If you are worried or concerned about:

- Bedwetting
- Behaviour
- Hearing
- Vision
- Growth
- Head Lice
- Eating Habits
- Or any other health concerns



Then she is available to offer confidential advice and support.

The next drop in sessions are

Thursday 6th May 8:30 to 9:30 in the school library

Tuesday 18th May 8:30 to 9:30 in the school library

If you want to speak to her before that please contact her on 01332 288779

PTA EVENTS

The PTA are holding a **“SALE AND FASHION SHOW”**. There will be clothes for the Young & Trendy and Mature & Elegant sizes 8 to 32.

Mainly Ladies items.

This is being held on Tuesday 18th May in the Junior Hall from 7:30 pm. Entrance £5 which includes a glass of wine. Tickets available from the School Office or PTA committee members.

This is to raise money for the new computers in the suite.



LEARNING PLATFORM

I am sorry that we have had to cancel the meeting for parents due to be held on **Wednesday 12th May at 4pm** in the Junior Hall. I will let parents know of a new date.

We are presently upgrading all the computers in the computer suite which I hope will be finished by the end of this week.

We are also getting new types of projectors and interactive boards in a number of classrooms to replace the freestanding projectors.

Finally our internet should be working more efficiently and faster since changing over from a DCSL line. (Sorry I don't know what this stands for)



CAR SHARE WEBSITE

The Derby City School Travel Plan Team have invited St Alban's School to be one of six schools in Derby to take part in a pilot project.

Every year we have issues regarding increased car use by parents. Last year Derby City was successful in being granted funding for a new project. The schools involvement will be to pass on material provided by the Travel Team to parents on a termly basis; issue online codes for a new website specifically designed for the six schools.

The aim of the website is to act as a "Virtual School Gate", where parents can meet other parents in the area that travel to the same school and potentially share lifts to school in the future.

Please take five minutes to complete an on-line survey at:

Erskine.wufoo.com/forms/derby-car-share-user-survey/

For further information about the project, please contact Ruth Hill on
01332 641735



ST BENEDICT SCHOOL EVENTS

St Benedict School will be holding a number of events for year 5 and 6 parents and children.

Tuesday 8th June	Fantastic 5's	After school at St Benedict School
Tuesday 29th June	Open Evening	For year 6 children
Wednesday 30th June	Open Evening	For year 6 children
Tuesday 6th July	Common Transfer Day	For year 6 children



Email admin@stalbans.derby.sch.uk

DIARY DATES

MAY

Sunday 2nd	First Holy Communion Children's Meeting	10:00 Church
Monday 3rd	Bank Holiday	
Thursday 6th	Science Workshop in school	
Friday 7th	Miss Biggs' Class Liturgy	10:15 Inf Hall
Sunday 9th	First Holy Communion Children's Meeting	10:00 Church
Thursday 13th	Years 3/4 Trip to Hardwick Hall	all day
Friday 14th	Mrs Smalley's Class Liturgy	10:00 Inf Hall
	Recycling Day	8:30-9:00am
Saturday 15th	First Communion Meeting	10 or 11am
Sunday 16th	First Holy Communion Children's Meeting	10:00 Church
Monday 17th	Maths Dance workshops	
Tuesday 18th	PTA Fashion Show	7:30
Friday 21st	Miss Ziomek Class Liturgy	10:15 Inf Hall
	Dance performance	2:00 Jun Hall
Sunday 23rd	First Communion	10am or 2pm
Monday 24th	Y5 Wales	
Friday 28th	Mr Monaghan Class Liturgy	10:15 Inf Hall
	Y5 return from Wales	

HALF TERM

JUNE

Monday 7th	Return to school	
Friday 11th	Mrs Tidbury Class Liturgy **	10:15 Inf Hall
Friday 18th	Mrs Needham Class Liturgy **	10:15 Inf Hall
Sunday 20th	St Alban's Day	
Tuesday 22nd	KS1 Fun Afternoon	
Friday 25th	FS2 Liturgy	10:15 Inf Hall

JULY

Friday 2nd	Mrs McNamara/Mrs Mendonca Class Liturgy	10:15 Inf Hall
Tuesday 6th	KS1 Trip to Conkers	
Thursday 8th	Parent's Evening	
Friday 9th	Mrs Wright Class Liturgy	10:15 Inf Hall
Friday 16th	FS2 Class Liturgy	10:15 Inf Hall
Monday 19th	Sports Day	9:30 am
Friday 23rd	Leaver's Liturgy	

END OF SCHOOL YEAR

** please note change of dates