



St Alban's

Catholic Primary and Nursery School
Member of St Clare's Catholic Multi Academy Trust, Diocese of Hallam

Let God's love shine in our lives as we grow and learn together

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Wednesday 17th July 2024

To all in our school community,

It has been another busy year at St Alban's with so many successes and special moments to celebrate! In Autumn Term, we received our S48 RE Inspection and achieved a good and outstanding outcome where our Catholic Mission was recognized as excellent. Not only were our children praised for their Catholic Mission, our Friends of School group led the Christmas Fayre and our community raised almost £2000!! Children enjoyed residential visits to Beaumanor Hall and Whitby, and we invited weird and wonderful reptiles into our Early Years during Immersion Week! In the Spring Term, we celebrated Epiphany with a Liturgy and Panto, children took part in litter picks and road safety missions, and some visited Magna and Conisbrough Castle as part of their science and humanities expeditions. Our children in KS2 have enjoyed learning in the community and visiting our neighbours through inter-generational sessions and learning about their heritage and mining in Denaby. Our CAFOD Club led the Big Lent Walk raising money for CAFOD and our Lenten projects totalled £886 for Caritas Hallam Caring Service who continue to provide our families with an exceptional counselling support.

This term, we have continued to enhance our children's learning with a Theatre performance of Jungle Book and a workshop, children throughout school have engaged in football, cricket, rounders and athletics on St Alban's home soil as well as away at St Pius! Year 5 and 6 have engaged in great transitional days at St Pius with their Evacuation and sports days. We have welcomed Ruby and Ralph, our new road safety buddies who help to keep our children safe around the school grounds. We have made great links with All Saints Church, where some of our KS2 children visited the Mining Chapel and met the new Vicar! Over the year, every parent or carer has been invited into the Grand Finale presentations each term where children have shared with their families the product of their Adventures in Learning expeditions and found out the answers in their year group to, 'Who am I and Where do I come from?', 'How do people and our planet work together?' and 'How can we love our world better?' And once again, our Friends of School, have worked tirelessly to put on a superb Summer Fayre and raised £1300 towards all the enhancements we plan to make to our outdoor provision and enhancing our curriculum!

During the Spring and Summer terms we have invited in educational experts, Ofsted Inspectors, National Leaders of Education, our Trust School Improvement Directors and other colleagues across our Trust and Family of Schools, to review and audit our provision and offer and they have recognised all the strengths of our school. They have noted the following: art outcomes are strong, our science curriculum is secure, and with regard to SEND, our school culture provides a strong sense of collective vision and desire for the best for all children, in order to overcome any barriers. With regard to maths, pupils enjoy this subject and they know that it is important to learn maths well. Pupils' behaviour is excellent and behaviour for learning is a strength, as pupils are highly engaged and very motivated to learn. Adaptive teaching is used well to ensure that pupils with SEND can meet the maths curriculum expectations. Pupils take pride in their work and pupils' books are beautifully presented. Additionally, it has been noted that, most children enjoy geography and their attitudes to learning and their behaviour to each other, with visitors and around the school, is excellent. Geography outcomes are of high quality and children demonstrate that they have a strong knowledge of this subject. We already make use of the local area however it is our mission to use the field, Forest School and all the other opportunities on our school grounds to engage the children in fieldwork and enhance our playground to support the curriculum we offer. We are exceptionally proud of these reflections from a variety of

visitors, but with conviction and staff vocation, we will continue in our mission to continue to build on these successes.

Our community and parish are key stakeholders in our school and their support along with that of our Governors and Father Desmond enables us to keep moving forward. Numbers on roll in school continue to increase as do staff members who each offer their unique God given talents which combined provide a strong and resolute team of professionals. We say a huge thank you for your contributions to St Alban's and goodbye to Miss Fidler, Miss May, Miss Tideswell and Miss Wray who leave us to go onto pastures new, and good luck on your journey into motherhood and family life to Miss Strawbridge and her partner, and Mrs Sharpe and family, who are due to welcome their third child in September. We will look forward to welcoming Miss Strawbridge and Mrs Sharpe back next academic year but will also see the departure of Miss Gibson who will take her maternity leave from October. Our Year 6s leave us ready to negotiate the next step in their lives and as we were reminded in the Gospel reading today at mass, we must not be upset, but be brave. Life is a journey to be enjoyed and endured, and each step, even if sometimes to the side or backwards, if we are brave and continue on that right path, we will succeed, we will be the best version of ourselves.

We are working with both the St Wilfrid's English Hub and South Yorkshire Maths Hub to continue to enhance our core curriculum provision and we have plans in place to embark on the new RE Curriculum next year. Our pastoral care offer along with our SEND offer has grown and we have seen more families getting the support they need, more children receiving necessary interventions and increased funding being secured to enable us to support our children in school with complex needs. Working with others in our community we held a crafting afternoon for parents and children and due to the positive response from our families and working alongside other teams within the community, from next year, there will be learning provision for our parents and carers to enjoy also! Our attendance has increased again by 1% overall whereas the National increase this year has been 0.5% and persistent absenteeism has reduced however there is still work to do to support the families with children who year on year do not regularly attend school. The outcomes of national checks and tests demonstrate the commitment of our teaching and support teams, as well as the resilience and determination from our children, with some outcomes above national average. We are so proud of what our children have achieved and how our staff team have had a helping hand along the way to ensure these groups of children achieve their potential. Many of the children exceeded their individual targets or met the aspirational levels targeted.

National Check or Test	St Alban's		National 2023 or 2024	
Good Level of Development in Reception	43%		67%	
Y1 Phonics Check	70%		79%	
Y4 Multiplication Tables Check	22.41 mean/57% full marks		20.20 mean/29% full marks	
End of KS2 (Y6) Reading	77% EXS	20% GD	74% EXS	28% GD
End of KS2 (Y6) GPS	73% EXS	37% GD	72% EXS	31% GD
End of KS2 (Y6) Writing	73% EXS	10% GD	72% EXS	12% GD
End of KS2 (Y6) Maths	70% EXS	17% GD	73% EXS	23% GD
End of KS2 (Y6) Combined	70% EXS	7% GD	61% EXS	7% GD

In the words of Pope Francis:

'During the summer time, let us learn how to take a break, turn off the mobile phone to gaze into the eyes of others, cultivate silence, contemplate nature, regenerate ourselves in dialogue with God.'

We wish you all a joyous summer and look forward to starting our new year in September, fresh and ready for the wonderful journey that awaits us!

God Bless, Mrs Ebsworth

Summer Fayre Raffle Prize Winners!

Prize Winners	Other Winners
Balti Palace vouchers – Lexi in Selby	Nelly in Easby
Weatherspoons vouchers – Violet in Fountains	Neveah in Selby
Beef Bar vouchers – James in Kirkstall	Eva in Rievaulx
Discount Foods vouchers – Lewis in Selby	Rue in Rosedale
Prime hamper – George in Kirkstall	Aiden in Kirkstall
Wax burner and soaps – Isabel in Fountains	Rosie in Rosedale
Ted Baker Set – Joe in Fountains	Martyna in Kirkstall
Man's toiletries bag – Ava M in Easby	Amber in Rosedale
Diesel Perfume – Riley in Rievaulx	Alana in Fountains
The White Company Set – Alaric in Selby	Jenson
Red velvet cake – Jude in Kirkstall	Lucy in Whitby
Children's hamper – Eva in Rievaulx	Adley in Roche
Sweet Jar Jelly Beans – Archie in Rosedale	Esme in Whitby
Sweet Jar Jazzies – Greyson in Easby	Olivia in Selby
Who's the baby? Tallulah in Kirkstall, Jude and Euan in Whitby	

Thank you to all of our Friends of School Group (Eileen, Kay, Gail, Sam and Lorraine) and to those who helped out on the day (Sheila, Catherine, Katie and Sharon along with a special mention to Mr Barnes on the wet the staff member stall!)- we are so very grateful! What a great Parish and Community event!

This last week in pictures...

