



Welcome back to you all. I hope you have had a good break. It has been lovely to see the children this week and how they have grown! The children have settled into their new classes immediately and everyone I have spoken too has been excited to share their new learning.

In assembly, we have been celebrating with all those children who have completed the Summer Reading Challenge – there is still time to bring in certificates.

We have also learnt about the Tour of Britain – with stage 5 finishing in Harlow today just after the end of school.

Education Sunday is this Sunday and we heard a message from Bishop Marcus about the importance of Education, knowing we are loved by God and reflection on the Gospel words spoken by Jesus – wherever two or three meet in my name “I shall be there” . A letter from Bishop Marcus is also attached here.

On Wednesday Fr Bogdan will celebrate a Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church for us, for the start of the new school year.

Mrs A M Black, Head of School

“Family is the first and essential place of education where, apart from first encounter with the Gospel, children learn that *“education is above all a matter of love and responsibility handed down from one generation to another “* .

Pope Francis

Final House Points: Well done to **St Francis!**

St Bernadette – 38 points

St Francis – 65 points

St Paul – 45 points

St Theresa – 39 points

St Thomas More – 33 points

St Anne Line – 43 points



Pupils of the Week: Pupils who gained a certificate this week are:

Year R – Will start from next week.

Year 1 – Jaxon

Year 2 – Vicky

Year 3 – Nathanael Year 5 – Whole Class

Year 4 – Oskar Year 6 – Raul



Latest

Summer Reading Challenge: Well done to the children celebrated in assembly today for completing the Summer Reading Challenge. Please do remember if you haven't yet shared this with us, certificates can still be brought in next week to be celebrated in class and earn some extra house points!

Free School Meals: Automatic entitlement to free school meals finishes at the end of Year 2 and only children from low income families are eligible from Year 3. An application for your child to receive a free school meal must be made [here](#) or by calling 0345 603 2200.

New School Year Mass: The students from year 1-6 will celebrate the start of the New School Year with Mass on Wednesday morning at Our Lady of Fatima Church

Parent Talks: Thank you to all those parents who attended the Parent talks for years 1,3 and 5 this week. We hope you found these useful. The talks for years 2,4 and 6 are straight after school on Monday in the classroom. If you cannot attend, do speak to the class teacher whenever you can and they can update you.

Governors: If you are interested in becoming a governor within any of our schools, please email me via the school office. We are particularly seeking governors/trustees with a financial or legal background.

School Meals: The price for pupil school meals increased this academic year. The new school **dinner charge is £2.50 a day**. Please ensure Arbor accounts are topped up accordingly in line with the new pricing.

Arbor: If using Breakfast or Afterschool club please ensure accounts are in a credit balance and then book the days required as per information emailed. If you have a query, please contact the school office.

Medical

Medicines: It is parents' responsibility to ensure relevant medication for your child is in school.

Asthma pumps and Epi Pens should all be in class daily and **new medical forms for this academic year completed** with the school office. The school does not provide any medication for the children and if you would like to have some paracetamol kept at school for if it may be required, please provide and complete relevant forms.

Flu Immunisations: You will today have received an email with information on this and [consent forms](#) to complete. Please also find attached video provided by NHS of the process. Deadline for consent forms is **Tuesday 19th September**.

Catholic Community

First Holy Communion 2024: A message for Our Lady of Fatima and St Thomas More Parish: Practising Catholic parents who wish to enrol their children (year 3 or above) in next year's First Communion programme can contact Fr. Bogdan at Our Lady of Fatima Church. Parents have until the end of September to register their interest.

Tech Tips

E-Safety: Roblox have released a new safety checklist to help parents with settings to allow safer play. The checklist is attached to this newsletter.

School Life

Dinner Menu: Our school dinner menu can be located [here](#) on the website. Next week we will be on week 3 (w/c Monday 11th September).

Parent Handbook: Do ensure you have had a read of the [Parent Handbook](#) for this academic year on our school website and familiarised yourself with this.

Facebook: [St Alban's Catholic Academy](#) now has its own official Facebook page. This will be updated weekly with events and school news including children's school activities and photos.

Key Dates: Please remember to keep check of the upcoming dates link in this newsletter which advises dates for all the key events we have planned for this academic year. [Click here for St Alban's Key Dates 23-24](#)

Term Dates: School term 2023-2024 dates are available on the [school website](#).

Gate Opening Times:

8:40am – 8.55am - After this time, your child will be marked as late.

3.05pm – Pre School sessions finish

3.15pm – End of the school day

