



The Gospel from Mark 1:40 this week shows us Jesus as a model of compassion. We learnt about St. Damian who followed Jesus to look after the sick too, in a kind way bringing happiness to them. Then we took time to pray for those who are sick or need help at this time and that we might, in small ways, be able to show compassion and love to others too.

As Lent begins, our Chaplaincy Team have begun sharing inspiration for how the students can pray, fast (from activities that prevent conversation or action with others) and give. Their enthusiasm is helping to spread ideas for how we can do more this Lent to follow Jesus more closely.

Mrs A M Black, Head of School

"Let us not forget: God never tires of forgiving us!"

Pope Francis

House Points: Well done to [St Anne Line](#) our winners this week!

[St Bernadette](#) – 146 points

[St Francis](#) - 177 points

[St Paul](#) – 123 points

[St Theresa](#) – 110 points

[St Thomas More](#) – 108 points

[St Anne Line](#) – 182 points



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

Year R – Nojus

Year 1 – Lily

Year 2 – Dylan

Year 3 – Sienna

Year 5 – After half term

Year 4 – Eric

Year 6 – Barbara



Latest

Half Term: School has now finished for half term. Children return back to school on

Monday 26th February.

Congratulations: Our warmest wishes to Mrs Patterson who had a beautiful healthy baby girl on Saturday 10th February.



Clubs: Staff clubs will resume on Tuesday 27th February after the half term break.

Dinner Menu: Our school dinner menu can be located [here](#) on the website. We will return back after half term on Week 1 (w/c 26th February).

Library: Do take the time to visit the library over the half term holiday. Also have a look at their [website](#) for upcoming events.

"There is more treasure in books than in all the pirate's loot on Treasure Island." – Walt Disney

School News: Please do remember to regularly check your [child's class page](#) and the school official [St Alban's Catholic Academy](#) Facebook Page for all the latest news on what our children have been up to.

Founder Day: This year scouts founders day was during half term. To celebrate all our children who attend guides, rainbows, scouts, beavers, cubs, air cadets and other such groups we invite them to wear their uniforms in school on Tuesday 27th February. We look forward to seeing them in their smart uniform.

Ash Wednesday and Lent: As we begin the journey of Lent together do see this link to the CAFOD [website](#), which has some beautiful ideas for prayer within the home.

Stations of the Cross during Lent: If the weather is dry, please do join us after half term break for the Stations of the Cross which are said outside each Tuesday. Please come to the School Office for 9am. For other times to join the Stations of the Cross at our local Parishes, please do see the websites on the right of this newsletter.

Emergency Contact: The school needs to be able to contact parents in case of an emergency. If there are certain days or times you may not have your phone switched on or be available, please ensure you have provided an alternative point of contact/contact number.

School Photographs: The school photographer will be visiting the school on Thursday 29th February for individual and sibling photos.

Punctuality and Attendance: It is important that your child attends school on time every day, unless there are exceptional circumstances, every school day counts. Children's learning starts at 8.55am, please ensure you allow plenty of time for your morning school journeys to ensure your child arrives on time.

Let's all return back to school as superheroes!

HERO

Here, every day, ready and on time

Breakfast Club: When bringing children to breakfast club neither the school car park is to be used or pulling in in front of the school gate.

Tech Tips

Internet Safety and more!

The NSPCC have shared the following link as they say 'You don't get instructions for being a parent. We know that there are overwhelming, and often contradictory, messages about **how to manage family life and what's best for children**. This is why our campaign aims to remind everyone that **we've got advice and support for all their parenting concerns.**'

[This page has information for many aspects of parenting including digital life - but more!](#)

Community

Help For Households: See what support is available to help with [the cost of living](#) and save money with energy savings tips.

Butterfly Effect Wellbeing Hub, The Bungalow, Latton Bush Centre: Offer parent and social support groups, mindfulness sessions and many more services including food donations. Please have a look at their [website](#).

Catholic Community

Mass Times:

Old Harlow - **Sunday** Mass times are 10am and 6pm

<http://www.catholicchurchoftheassumption.co.uk/>

Our Lady of Fatima Parish Mass times are STM Church **Sunday** 8.30am

OLF Church: **Saturday** 6pm

Sunday 10.30am, 12.15pm (Polish)

<https://olfstm.weebly.com/>

School Life

Key Dates: Please remember to keep check of the upcoming dates planned for this academic year. [St Alban's Key Dates 23-24](#)

School Term Dates: Please find these on our [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

Wishing you all a wonderful and restful Half Term break

Through God's love we learn together, grow together and achieve together.

