

St Alban's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter to Parents

December 6th 2019

Dear Parents,

It now feels that we are racing to the end of term - our first Nativity was yesterday with F2 presenting "Away in a Manager" which was an absolute delight! Today we had the H.S.A Gift Fair which the children really enjoy every year. Thank you for your support with this sending in gifts and thanks to all the parents who came in to help. All these lovely events make Christmas in school such a special time for the children and all of us too. Next week we have the Non-Uniform day on Monday (see note home today), KS1 Nativity and the KS2 Carol Concert, as well as the H.S.A Bingo on Thursday so lots more to look forward to. Please see the notice overleaf about Mass on Sunday at St. Alban's – it would be so lovely to see lots of the children there for my last weekend mass in the Parish.

With best wishes,



Mrs C. L. Frost
Headteacher

INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

We are currently experiencing increased reporting of diarrhoea and vomiting in school aged children consistent with viral gastroenteritis. This is often caused by Norovirus, a frequent cause of vomiting and diarrhoea in the community during the winter.

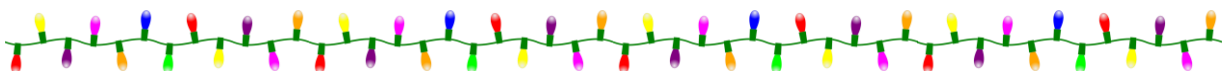
The most common symptom of Norovirus is vomiting. Diarrhoea tends to be short-lived and less severe than with other causes of gastroenteritis. Other symptoms include nausea, abdominal cramps, headache, muscle aches, chills and fever. The illness is usually self-limiting in nature and gets better without antibiotics, which are not appropriate for viral illnesses. Symptoms usually last between one and three days.

Those reporting diarrhoea and vomiting should exclude themselves from school until 48 hours after the vomiting and/or diarrhoea have stopped. This is an important control measure which aims to limit the spread of this infection to others.

*We have received this advice from Public Health England. Generally we allow children back in after sickness when they have been clear of symptoms for 24 hours but given this advice, and the increase in sickness we are currently seeing in school, we feel we must follow the advice for children to be clear for **48 hours** before returning to school. Hopefully this will prevent the spread of any unpleasant sickness bugs across the school.*

CAROL SINGING IN LISCARD

Well done to all the children who sang at the switch on of the Christmas lights in Liscard last Friday, and to all the parents and families that came along to watch. They were fabulous!





“Bambinelli Sunday”

Sunday December 8th 9.30am Mass

At our mass on Sunday at St. Alban’s we will be celebrating both the second Sunday of Advent and “Bambinelli Sunday”.

Bambinelli Sunday is an Italian tradition when the children bring their figure of the baby Jesus from their nativity sets at home to be blessed in church.

We would like to join in with this and invite all our children to **bring their baby Jesus figures from any nativity sets to church with them** and the Priest will bless them all. It would be wonderful if all the children who have our travelling cribs this weekend could come along with the baby Jesus from our travelling cribs.

Please do join us at church if you can as we prepare for Christmas in this special way.

REMINDERS – REMINDERS - REMINDERS

END OF TERM

We usually have a 1.45 finish at the end of the Christmas term and the Summer term.

This Christmas however, we have so much to pack in on the last day (my last day!)

we will finish at our usual times of 3.20pm and 3.30pm.

Please note however, that there will be **no after school club on that day.**



Y1 and Y2 Nativities

We have had a few queries about the two dates for the Y1 and Y2 Nativities on **December 10th** and **December 11th**. If you cannot attend on the date designated for your child’s class, you can attend on the other date. We divide it up just to try and spread the numbers. **It is however, one date OR the other, not both!**

There is usually a big audience at all our performances and sometimes there are not enough seats; your understanding is appreciated – it’s a school hall not The Floral Pavilion! At the moment we do not issue tickets but we can only accommodate 2/3 people per child – even then, we will not be able to seat everyone so please do not arrive with a crowd or we may have to review this in the future and just issue two tickets per child. I hope that clarifies the arrangements and I’m sure each event will be a delight to start your Christmas off with joy. We will be collecting for The Ark and the Charles Thompson Mission in Birkenhead, both charities that work with the homeless, at the end of every concert. Parents are always most generous with this so thank you in advance.

Absence from school

If your child is absent from school please ring school on the first day of absence to let us know why they are off. Any absences that are not explained with a phone call or letter are recorded as “unexplained absence” until we are given a reason. It would really help save office staff valuable time if parents can help us with this and let us know.

Thank you

Wednesday December 18th

Party afternoon in school

The children do not need to bring anything for the Party Afternoon. They do not need to wear uniform on Wednesday 18th but must be back in uniform on Thursday 19th please.