



ABOYNE LODGE

CREATIVE • CURIOUS • CARING

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Friday 20th September '24



Dear Parents/Carers,

Term seems to be moving on quickly already. This week we have welcomed some Sixth form students from St Albans Boys school, who will be supporting some of the classes in the afternoons on a Friday.

I have a few house keeping messages this week and notices to share. Sometimes children are poorly and they need to stay at home. If your child is going to be absent, please contact the office directly. It saves them giving you a call directly.

Please remember that we are a nut free school. We have a number of children with severe nut allergies and we want to keep them safe.

While I have no issue with children playing in the grounds after school, there are times when parents and children are staying quite late. Please vacate the playground by 3:30pm, so that after school club can go outside and use the playground.

I would also ask that children stay off the climbing frames after school.

We have booked tickets for the panto in Harpenden this year. It is a lovely way to lead up to Christmas that the children really enjoy. For this trip to take place we do depend upon your support. Insufficient contributions may mean that the activity is not viable and may not be able to take place. Please consent on Gateway if you would like a ticket for your child.

Last week the children had their photos taken. If you would like a copy please get your orders in. Please email the office if you don't have a code.

The School Immunisation team will be coming into the school to deliver the Flu vaccine on the 27th Sept. The consent form was emailed to parents on Wednesday. If you would like your child vaccinated, please complete the online form. <https://eastanglia.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2023/hertfordshire>

Rumour is it is going to rain next week. We do try to get children outside in all weather so please make sure they have a named coat...

Best wishes, Mr Smithard

HOT CHOCOLATE FRIDAY

Alyssa, Reuben, Emma, Rae, Ralph, Nathaniel

EFFORT CERTIFICATES

Minuki, Henry, Charlie, Aryana

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon 23rd Sept—Music Bass Assembly

Wed 25th Sept—Y5 Football vs SASS (H)

Thur 26th Sept—Cross Country at Colney Heath

Fri 27th Sept - Flu Vaccines

Mon 30th Sept—Open the book Assembly

Weds 2nd Oct - Crash the curriculum morning.

Weds 16th & Weds 23rd Oct—Parent Consultations

*****ALSA notices*****

ALSA is a registered charity that is looking for new ways to raise money for the school. If you have fundraising ideas or would like to volunteer for an event, please contact your year rep. They are:

YR: Kira and Lucy

Y1: Mairead and Katie

Y2: Lizzie and Gini

Y3: Liz and Charly

Y4: Cat and Kate

Y5: Jess and Serpil

Y6: Sal, Raquel and Nicky

Call for donations

The back to school quiz night is fast approaching, followed soon by the Halloween disco. ALSA appreciates any donations for prizes for the raffle on quiz night. Please bring these to the school office by Thursday the 26th September.

We need volunteers to help set up, run and tidy up after events. If you are interested in volunteering, please speak to your year rep. **We particularly need volunteers for the for the disco. To find out more, why not come along to ALSA's meeting on 30th September (see below for info).**

Key dates for your diaries in 2024:

27th September: Quiz Night, 7pm-10pm £10pp, teams up to eight people, book via Gateway

30th September: ALSA meeting and AGM, 7.30pm-9pm, school office

24th October – Halloween disco

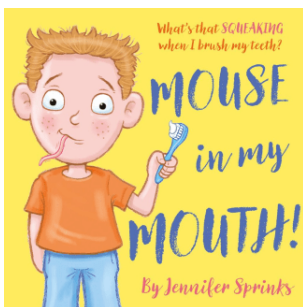
3rd December – Wreath making

6th December – Christmas Fair

And finally, one small ALSA fundraiser:

Aboyne mum Jennifer Sprinks has her second book Mouse in my Mouth! being published next week. It is primarily for the 0 to 3 age range and is written to encourage good oral hygiene and toothbrushing.

Books cost £8.99 and Jennifer will donate 20% of each sale to ALSA. Copies can be purchased via jennifersprinks.co.uk



To flag that you're an AL parent, please use discount code **AL2024** at checkout and get your copy for £8.49 with free shipping (though Jennifer will donate 20% of the full price to ALSA).

Statutory Attendance Support Team Penalty Notice Fines – Sept 2024



Helping Parents understand Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance

From 19 August 2024, there is a National Framework for Penalty Notice Fines being issued for unauthorised absences recorded by schools.

National Threshold

A single consistent national threshold for when a Penalty Notice **must** be considered by **ALL** schools in England, this is:

- 10 sessions (usually equivalent to 5 school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period.
- These sessions do not have to be consecutive and can be made up of a combination of any type of unauthorised absence.
- For example, a 5-day unauthorised leave of absence would meet the national threshold.
- The 10-school week period can span different terms or school years.

Who may be fined?

- Penalty Notice Fines are issued to each parent who allows their child to be absent without authorisation from school.
- For example, 3 siblings absent for unauthorised leave during term-time would result in each parent/carer receiving 3 separate fines.

Definition of Parent

- Section 576 of the Education Act 1996 states that, in relation to a child or young person, a 'parent' includes any person who is not a parent (from which can be inferred 'biological parent') but who has parental responsibility for or care of the child.
- Parent refers to a person who typically has care of a child or young person if the child lives with them either full or part time and they look after them, irrespective of what their biological or legal relationship is with the child.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence, the fine amount will be:

- £80 per parent, per child if paid **within 21 days**.
- If **not paid within 21 days**, the fine will increase to **£160 per parent, per child**, payable between the 22nd and 28th day.

Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence, a reduced rate is not available. The amount therefore will be:

- £160 per parent, per child – payable within 28 days.

Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed, a Penalty Notice WILL NOT be issued, and the case will be presented **straight to the Magistrate's Court**:

- **Prosecution** can result in **criminal records** and **fines of up to £2,500**.
- Cases found **guilty** in a **Magistrates Court** can show on the parent's future DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) certificate (Disclosure and Barring Service) due to a **'failure to safeguard a child's education'**