

# Newsletter



## Newsletter 1

9<sup>th</sup> September, 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! It has been lovely to see everyone again, and to have a 'normal' start to the school year. I am very grateful to the staff for working so hard to get the school ready for the start of term, amidst all of the building work which was going on. The children have settled really well into their new classes, and are a joy to have in the school. We have been excited to plan events for the school year, including class assemblies, and look forward to seeing you, as the term continues.



### Welcome!

A very warm welcome to the new families who have joined the school. We have new children in Nursery, Reception and Year 5. We hope that they, and their families, feel part of our school community very quickly.



### Year 6 Leavers

Thank you very much to our generous Year 6 families, who kindly donated a beautiful outdoor clock as a leaving present. We look forward to seeing our 'Year 7s' visit us in their new uniforms and hope they enjoyed their first few days of term.



### Last term...

We were all delighted to be able to hold our usual end of term events and were very impressed with the children's fantastic attitude and enthusiasm at Sports Day. We are very grateful to Mel for organising the event so well. Thank you to all of the staff for their help and support and to our families for giving the children such great encouragement. The final results for Sports Day were: in reverse order: Mimram: 4<sup>th</sup>, St. Giles: 3<sup>rd</sup>, Bury: 2<sup>nd</sup> and Lodge: 1<sup>st</sup>!

The John Clements House cup was a very close with Lodge and St. Giles finishing as joint winners!



## Staff

Welcome to Mr Pyle, who is teaching Year 3, to Miss Churchill, Miss Doran (Mel) and Mrs Frost who are now class based teachers. We also welcome Mrs Smith to our fantastic lunchtime team. The children's teachers and I are always pleased to speak to you regarding any issues or concerns which we can help you with. In addition, there are other members of staff who will be able to answer a range of queries. All of these people can be contacted via the School Office.

Role	Member of Staff
<b>Office Manager</b>	Mrs Jen Martin
<b>Office Admin</b>	Mrs Sheila Bundy
<b>School Cook</b>	Mrs Elaine Martin
<b>Caretaker</b>	Mr Andy Blackwell
<b>Head</b>	Mrs Liz Pollard
<b>Deputy Head</b>	Mr Kevin Browne
<b>Senior teacher</b>	Miss Kate Grainger
<b>Special Needs Coordinator</b>	Mrs Emma Gloyn
<b>326 After School Club Coordinator</b>	Mrs Sue Mansell
<b>Chair of Governors</b>	Mrs Debbie Williamson

Jen Martin is usually the best person to help with any general queries, and can liaise with class teachers for email communication, and/or to organise a mutually convenient time to meet with you. Communication is treated confidentially. Her email address is:

[admin@codicote.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@codicote.herts.sch.uk)

For anything I can help with, my direct email address is: [head@codicote.herts.sch.uk](mailto:head@codicote.herts.sch.uk)



## School Expansion

It has been a very busy time, over the school holidays, with the school expansion. Outside, the work has been progressing well. We are still on track to be ready to move into the new building for the summer term. Mr Browne has been recording time lapse films of the building project as it progresses – these will be posted on the school website.

In the main school building, all works in the classrooms have been completed, including moving the mobiles and re-roofing these to make sure they are watertight, even in the heaviest of downpours! The wall between the hall and the mobile has been removed, so the space can be used more flexibly, and the climbing frame has been re-positioned. The stock cupboard has been turned into two additional toilets. Unfortunately, progress in my office has been much slower, but I hope to get a roof, ceiling, walls, a floor and electrics soon. Meanwhile, I can be located at the back of the staffroom!

Thank you to our neighbours, too, for their patience and support – particularly on Monday, when a truck with a 40 foot container, which should have been going to the Wimpey site, took the wrong turning and got stuck! After some negotiations, we managed to get the staff off the site, and got the driver to park in the school entrance to keep everyone’s drive clear. It was quite an adventure!



### Clubs

Most clubs will start the week beginning 12<sup>th</sup> September. Netball will start a week later, on 19<sup>th</sup> September, and Christmas Creative Club will start after half term.

Day	Before School	Lunchtime	After School 3.15 – 4.15
<b>Monday</b>	8.15 a.m. Cross Country Years 5 & 6 up to half term	Maypole & Country Dancing	School Newspaper – Years 3-6 Netball - Years 5 & 6
<b>Tuesday</b>	*8.00 a.m. Multi Sports: KS2	*Tennis – Years 1 & 2	
<b>Wednesday</b>		Choir – Years 1, 2 & 3 Choir – Years 4, 5 & 6	Girls Football – Years 5 & 6 Christmas Crafts - Years 2 & 3 <i>starts after half term</i>
<b>Thursday</b>		*Tennis – Year 3 Mindfulness Club – Years 5 & 6	Football – Years 4, 5 & 6
<b>Friday</b>	*8.00 a.m. Multi Sports: KS2	Gardening Club Years 1 & 2	Dodgeball - Years 5 & 6

\*clubs run by external providers. All other clubs are free, as they are run by school staff.

Cross Country Running will take place on the Recreation ground, off St. Albans Road. Children need to be wearing PE kits, and can change when they get to school. We will meet them there, and walk to school together, in time for the start of the day.

Both Football Clubs will also take place at the Recreation Ground. The children will be escorted there directly from school and need to be collected by parents/carers, at 4.15. After School Club children will be brought back to school by staff. Year 3 will be able to join football club in the Spring Term, or potentially sooner, depending on numbers coming to training, and when the new field is ready. We have 65 children in Years 4 to 6 and because we will be offsite, we need to ensure we have sufficient appropriately qualified staff for the numbers involved.



### Allergies, Asthma, Medical Conditions and Epi-pens

If your child has a medical condition, of which staff need to be aware of, please can you complete and return the form at the foot of this letter as soon as possible. All necessary arrangements are put into place and children’s names and photos are displayed in each room, so

that staff can ensure they have the information close at hand to respond to their needs immediately. Under GDPR laws, we need your expressed permission to be able to share this information. Thank you in advance for your help.



### Diocesan Harvest Service

We will be taking 30 choir members to participate in the Diocesan Service at St. Albans Cathedral on 5<sup>th</sup> October – leaving after lunch and returning at approximately 4.30 p.m. We will travel by coach and there will be no cost involved to parents, as the children will be representing the school. Letters will be sent out nearer the time with further details, to the choir members involved.



### Events

Dates arranged so far for the term are shown below. I thought it might be helpful to highlight the following, as their organisation is slightly different from usual.



#### Harvest Festival Service

To limit the amount of walking the Reception children have to do for the first Church service of the year, we will be meeting at St. Giles, at 9.00 a.m. on 30<sup>th</sup> September for the Harvest Service. This year, there will be two collections for families to choose between, if they wish to make a donation. We will collect food donations for the Codicote Food Bank, or money for the Bishop of St Albans' Harvest Appeal will help change the lives of people in Mozambique who have been traumatised and displaced by conflict.



#### Evening Carol Service with Year 2 & 6 and Parents

At the Carol Service, on the evening of the 19<sup>th</sup> December, Year 2 will be performing their Nativity Play. Year 6 will be singing carols, giving readings.

Thank you for reading this newsletter. Please remember I am always happy to discuss any issues with you.

Liz Pollard  
HEADTEACHER

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**Allergies, Asthma, Medical Conditions and Epi-pens**

**Child's Name:**

**My child has:**

<b>An epi-pen</b>	<b>Asthma</b>	<b>Medical condition</b>
<b>Inhaler</b>	<b>Allergy</b>	<b>Other</b>

(please tick and provide details as appropriate)

**I give permission for their photograph and allergy details to be included in a poster displayed in relevant locations around the school – e.g. classrooms and dining room**

**Signed:**

**Date:**

## Dates & Events Autumn 2022

Dates Fixed	Time	Event	People involved
13.9.22	7.00	PTFA AGM	Parents & staff
15.9.22	7.00	Governors' Meeting	Governors
29.9.22	TBC	Year 5 & 6 Cross Country	Selected teams & staff
30.9.22	9.00	Harvest Festival – meeting at St. Giles	Children & Staff
5.10.22	1.15	Diocesan Harvest Festival	Choir & staff
6.10.22	All Day	Poetry Day - Environments	Children & Staff
6.10.22	TBC	Year 3 Tennis	Selected teams & staff
15.10.22	7.30	St.Giles Concert – choir singing	
18.10.22	TBC	Year 5 & 6 Rural Schools Football Tournament	Selected teams & staff
19.10.22	8.30 – 9.30 5.00 – 7.00	Parent Consultations	Parents & staff
20.10.22	3.30-6	Parent Consultations	Parents & staff
24.10.22		<b>Half Term</b>	
3.11.22	7.00	Reading Information Evening for Parents – Year R & Year 1	Parents & staff
7.11.22	TBC	Year 4 & 6 Dodgeball	Selected teams & staff
10.11.22	TBC	Year 5 & 6 Basketball Tournament	Selected teams & staff
15.11.22	TBC	Year 5 & 6 Rural Schools Netball	Selected teams & staff
24.11.22	7.00	PTFA Christmas Shopping Evening	Everyone
24.11.22	TBC	Year 2 Balance Festival	Selected teams & staff
25.11.22	All Day	Occasional Day – school closed	Everyone
13.12.22	10.30	Nursery Play	Children, Parents & Staff
14.12.22	p.m.	Reception Dress rehearsal	Children & Staff
14.12.22	p.m.	Year 1 Dress rehearsal	Children & Staff
14.12.22	a.m.	KS 2 Dress Rehearsal	Children & Staff
15.12.22	10.30	Reception Play	Children, Parents & Staff
15.12.22	2.30	Year 1 Play	Children, Parents & Staff
15.12.22	7.00	KS 2 Plays	Children, Parents & Staff
16.12.22	7.00	KS 2 Plays	Children, Parents & Staff
19.12.22	10.00 6.30	Year 2 & 6 Service with School Year 2 & 6 Service with Parents	Children & Staff
19.12.22	12.00	Christmas Lunch	Children & Staff
20.12.22	a.m.	Panto!	Children & Staff
21.12.22	a.m.	Nursery Party	Children & Staff
21.12.22	1.15	Term ends	Everyone

\*Parties will be arranged when Christmas rehearsal timetable is agreed. These will take place in school time.

## Term Dates

<u>2022 - 2023</u>	<u>2023 - 2024</u>
<b><u>AUTUMN TERM 2022</u></b>	<b><u>AUTUMN TERM 2023</u></b>
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2022 – Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2022 (Half term – Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> October)	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2023 – Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2023 (Half term – Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October – Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October)
<b>Inset Days: Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September</b>	<b>Inset Days: Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September</b>
<b>Occasional Day: Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Occasional Day: Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November</b>
<b><u>SPRING TERM 2023</u></b>	<b><u>SPRING TERM 2024</u></b>
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2023 – Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023 (Half term Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February)	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2024 – Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024 (Half term Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February)
<b>Inset Days: Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Inset Days: Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January</b>
<b><u>SUMMER TERM 2023</u></b>	<b><u>SUMMER TERM 2024</u></b>
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2023 – Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2023 (Half term Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June) May Bank Holiday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2024 – Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2024 (Half term Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May) May Bank Holiday 6 <sup>th</sup> May
<b>Inset Day: Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Inset Day: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June</b>
The above dates equate to 190 school days	The above dates equate to 190 school days