



St Alban's Catholic Primary School, Walker

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Headteacher: Mrs C Yeoman

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now into Week 5 of this term, and the final preparations for our Christmas performances are well underway, with dress rehearsals taking place. Some of our Year 6 children attended parish Mass on Tuesday to invite our local parish members. They have also written letters of invitation to our school governors, trust members, and the diocese. Year 5 attended the cathedral for an Advent performance with other Newcastle schools. The behaviour of the children was excellent, and they thoroughly enjoyed their Metro trip and adventure into Newcastle.

Thank you all for your generous donations for the Christmas Fayre. The fayre will take place next Thursday, the 11th, from 3:30 to 4:15pm. There will be a variety of stalls to enjoy, from *Name the Elf* to *Make Your Own Hot Chocolate* and *Reindeer Dust*. We ask that you collect your children from the yard as usual and then make your way to the school office. Light refreshments will be available to purchase. Please note that school clubs will be cancelled; however, After School Club will still run. Please bring change with you to the fayre, as there will be no card facility available. **All money raised will be used to help develop our outdoor area**

Our Christmas performances take place next week, with shows at **9:15am** and **2:00pm**. If you would like to take your children home after the 2:00pm performance, please feel free to do so. Children will be dismissed through the usual doors, and you will be asked to sign them out as this is before the end of the school day.

Chess Club had a visit from Michael Riding this week, who is a chess master and runs a local group. He will continue supporting us throughout the year.

Christmas Jumper Day takes place on **December 11th**. Children are welcome to come to school in a festive jumper. We have a great selection of pre-loved Christmas jumpers available for families to take from the school reception—please just ask. We are **not** asking for donations.

Aspirational Campaign:

In January, we will be taking part in St Alban's first Aspirational Campaign. It will be based on the book *The Dot* by Peter Reynolds. This initiative will help raise aspirations and support children in recognising how amazing they are.

EYFS Newsletter:

We will be sending out a monthly EYFS newsletter, which will be shared separately. Please take a look at the fantastic things that have been happening in our Early Years.

Arbor Lunch Reminder

Please ensure your child's lunch choices on Arbor are completed at least **24 hours before each Monday**. The school office is currently having to contact parents for meal choices, which is taking a significant amount of time. Completing selections in advance helps us ensure lunches are ordered correctly and on time. Scheduled reminders have now been set up on Arbor. If you need help, we are happy to guide you, and a step-by-step guide will be added to the website. We will also be holding an Arbor drop-in session in January for parents. More details to follow.

Attendance Policy Update

The updated Attendance Policy is now available on the school website. All unauthorised absences that fall within the policy will be referred to the Local Authority. As a result, parents may be issued with a warning letter or a penalty notice. This will be implemented from **Summer Term 2026**.

For further information, please see the link: *School Attendance and Absence*.

Book Swap

We are delighted to announce that we will soon be launching a Book Swap in the school entrance! We now have a dedicated cupboard where children can borrow a book and swap it for another. If you have any books at home that are in good condition and would like to donate, we would be very grateful. Happy reading!

Christmas Jumper Swap

This year at St Alban's, we will be hosting a Christmas Jumper Swap! The swap will be located in the main office. If your child needs a jumper, please feel free to come and pick one up. Likewise, if you have any outgrown Christmas jumpers in good condition, we would be grateful for donations. Let's spread some festive cheer and give these jumpers a new home!

Football Success

Well done to the boys who competed on a very wet Thursday. They represented the school brilliantly and won the majority of their games. A great team effort and thank you to Mr. Marshall for his continued support.

Upcoming Dates

- Christmas Fayre – Thursday 11th December – Children may wear Christmas jumpers for National Christmas Jumper Day
- Christmas Dinner Day – Thursday 18th December - Children may wear Christmas jumpers
- Christmas Play Performances – 9:15am (morning AM) and 2:00pm (afternoon PM)

	Monday 8th Dec	Tuesday 9th Dec	Wednesday 10th Dec	Thursday 11th Dec
AM	Year 5 and 6	EYFS	Year 3 and 4	Year 1 and 2
PM	EYFS	Year 3 and 4	Year 1 and 2	Year 5 and 6

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Yeoman