

Welcome to Mrs Davies'
weekly newsletter

The Voice

15th September 2017



Harpenden Academy
Education for a changing world

Dear Parents

The children in Aslan class have landed on the moon this week—it's all been rather exciting!

Below are some photos of children on the moon for evidence!

We have installed a 'green room' in school which allows the children to superimpose themselves on to any background. I will leave Grace from Aslan class to explain what they did.



Grace in Aslan class writes:

We went to the IT room. First we chose a picture. Then we went to the green screen and took a picture of us. Then we made the green disappear and made us smaller. Finally we saved it.



Talk Like A Pirate Day

Next week we will be celebrating **'Talk Like a Pirate Day'** on Tuesday 19th September. All members of staff will have a pirate name and will be wearing something to show their pirate nature.

If the children have an eye patch, a parrot toy, a pirate hat or a skull and crossbones bandana which they would like to wear on Tuesday that would be terrific. The teachers will be giving them pirate names too so hopefully it will be a fun day for all.



MacMillan Coffee morning, 29th September 2017

Last year we held a MacMillan coffee morning which was a huge success with approximately £800 raised. MacMillan is a charity very close to my heart and I'm sure the same is true for many of us.



I would very much like to make this year a huge success too with many cakes to sell on the day.

Last year tea/coffee and cakes were sold outside the school to catch parents before work and the library had a cake sale after assembly. If you would like to take part in helping organise this very worthwhile event please speak to FoHA who will be delighted with your help.

Talk for Writing

At the end of the Summer holidays many of our teachers spent a day with other Harpenden teachers learning about Talk for Writing - an exciting approach to teaching reading and writing. This week our teachers have put much of their training into practice as each class has started a new Talk for Writing unit - from engaging hook sessions to grab the children's attention and excitement to ping pong and babble gabble games to help us learn the texts orally, we've all had lots of fun. Here is a picture of Year 6 in their hook session - creating dance routines to match the mood of the music, linking to the importance of creating mood and suspense in adventure stories.



Lost Property

We are in week 2 and our lost property box is filling up! Please ensure that your child's school uniform is labelled so we can return the uniform to your child. At swimming today it was difficult to match the right trousers to the right child so please can we ensure all items of clothing are labelled clearly.

Moving on to Secondary School 2018

It does seem very early in the year to be thinking about secondary transfer but it is that time of year. The secondary schools have published their Open Day events which parents of Year 6 are invited to. If you have a Year 5 child you can also attend if you wish.

Schools in Harpenden & St Albans

Do you have a child who is 10 years old?

If your son or daughter is due to transfer to secondary school in September 2018, now is the time to make decisions about their future education. St Albans and Harpenden offer you a tremendous choice of state funded secondary schools. While each school has its own particular character and strengths, they all offer an outstanding education which is free. All the schools listed below will be delighted to assist you in making these important decisions. The St Albans and Harpenden secondary schools offer:

- an excellent all round education;
- teaching of a high standard by well qualified, enthusiastic and professional staff;
- learning in modern, well equipped premises;
- outstanding academic results (National Curriculum Tests, GCSE and A Level results well above national averages);
- a wide range of sports, cultural and recreational facilities;
- specialist support for any child with difficulties, and careers guidance;
- increasing involvement in vocational courses.

St Albans and Harpenden secondary schools cater for children from all backgrounds. The common approach is to regard each child as an individual and to deliver a first class education to meet the needs of that individual. To find out more, come to the Open Evenings which are listed below. The season is about to begin. You are welcome to write, telephone or fax individual schools for a prospectus and information pack. So come along and see the schools of your choice. You will be impressed at the developments which are taking place. Remember, all this quality is provided absolutely free. There are no fees, just an outstanding education waiting for your child.

Open Evening Dates:

	Sandringham School Head: Mr A Gray The Ridgeway, St Albans, AL4 9NX. Tel: 01727 799560 Fax: 01727 759242 Email: admin@sandringham.herts.sch.uk Website: www.sandringham.herts.sch.uk	■ Tuesday 11 July 2017 5.45pm – 8.45pm
	The Marlborough Science Academy Head: Ms A Thomson Welling Street, St Albans, AL1 2QA. Tel: 01727 856874 Fax: 01727 856286 Email: admin@marlborough.herts.sch.uk Website: www.themarlboroughscienceacademy.co.uk	■ Thursday 21 September 2017 6.00pm – 9.00pm
	Loreto College Head: Mrs M Lynch Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 3RQ. Tel: 01727 856206 Fax: 01727 823794 Email: admin@loreto.herts.sch.uk Website: www.loreto.herts.sch.uk	■ Tuesday 26 September 2017 6.00pm – 9.00pm
	Townsend Church of England School Head: Mr A Wellbeloved High Oaks, St Albans, AL3 6DR. Tel: 01727 853047 Fax: 01727 824523 Email: admin@townsend.herts.sch.uk Website: www.townsend.herts.sch.uk	■ Wednesday 27 September 2017 6.00pm – 9.00pm
	Roundwood Park School Head: Mr A Henshall Roundwood Park, Harpenden, AL5 3AE. Tel: 01582 765344 Fax: 01582 461404 Email: admin@roundwoodpark.co.uk Website: www.roundwoodpark.co.uk	■ Thursday 28 September 2017 5.30pm – 8.30pm
	Samuel Ryder Academy Head: Mr M Gauthier Drakes Drive, St Albans, AL1 6AR. Tel: 01727 896382 Fax: 01727 810189 Email: admin@samuelryderacademy.co.uk Website: www.samuelryderacademy.co.uk	■ Thursday 28 September 2017 6.00pm – 9.00pm
	Verulam School Head: Mr P Ramsey Brampton Road, St Albans, AL1 4PR. Tel: 01727 766100 Fax: 01727 766256 Email: admin@verulam.herts.sch.uk Website: www.verulamschool.co.uk	■ Saturday 30 September 2017 9.00am – 12.00pm
	Beaumont School Head: Mrs E Hitch Oakwood Drive, St Albans, AL4 0XB. Tel: 01727 854726 Fax: 01727 732982 Email: admin@beaumont.herts.sch.uk Website: www.beaumontschool.com	■ Wednesday 4 October 2017 5.45pm – 8.45pm
	Sir John Lawes School Head: Ms C Robins Manland Way, Harpenden, AL5 4QP. Tel: 01582 760043 Fax: 01582 463170 Email: admin@sjl.herts.sch.uk Website: www.sjl.herts.sch.uk	■ Wednesday 4 October 2017 6.00pm – 9.00pm
	Nicholas Breakspear Catholic School Head: Mr D Linnane Colney Heath Lane, St Albans, AL4 0TT. Tel: 01727 860079 Fax: 01727 848912 Email: admin@nbs.herts.sch.uk Website: www.nbs.herts.sch.uk	■ Thursday 5 October 2017 5.30pm – 8.30pm
	St Albans Girls' School Head: Mrs M Chapman Sandridgebury Lane, St Albans, AL3 6DB. Tel: 01727 853134 Fax: 01727 831157 Email: admin@stags.herts.sch.uk Website: www.stags.herts.sch.uk	■ Thursday 5 October 2017 6.00pm – 9.00pm
	St George's School Head: Miss H Barton Sun Lane, Harpenden, AL5 4TD. Tel: 01582 765477 Email: admin@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk Website: www.stgeorges.herts.sch.uk	■ Friday 6 October 2017 6.15pm – 9.30pm
	Katherine Warington School Head: To be confirmed Rothamsted Research Centre, Harpenden, AL5 2JQ. Website: KWSchool.co.uk	■ Saturday 14 October 2017 10.00am – 3.00pm

FoHA

There will be a FoHA meeting on Thursday, 21st September at school. All new and existing parents are invited to attend. The FoHA work incredibly hard for the benefit of our children and would appreciate some new members to help with their exciting plans for 2017-18.

FOHA UPDATE

Welcome back parents from Friends of Harpenden Academy.

We have an exciting year ahead planned with Autumn activities below, as well as writing applications for playground bit and bobs – hooray!

Why not be part of the decisions around spend, and help to plan the type of events you want attend by coming to our meetings. First one is this coming Thursday (21st) 7.30 at the school with a trip to the Harpenden Arms to finish.

And so far, we have planned:

Save these dates!

Friday 29 September

Macmillan Coffee Morning - 8.30 am
Coffee to go or coffee + cake after assembly

Sunday 1 October

Autumn Family Walk - 2 pm
Welcome new families with a short walk + drink

Sunday 5 November

Harpenden Rugby Club Fireworks (% of ticket to FoHA)

Friday 10 November

Family Barn Dance - 5.30 pm
Drink, eat, dance and be merry in the school hall

Weekend of 8-10 December

FoHA fresh, locally-grown Christmas Trees arriving in school

Sunday 10 December

FoHA Christmas event for the whole family - 4 pm
Get into the festive spirit with Father Christmas, singing & mulled wine

Wed-Thurs 13-14 December

Annual panto trip! Aladdin at the Alban Arena - 7 pm

More information coming soon!

PE Kits and KS1 Uniform

All PE kits and KS1 uniforms have now arrived and have been distributed. We are working to complete any missing order items. If you have not collected your KS1 uniform order please visit the office who have the orders. As of Monday, 18th September ALL KS1 children should be in uniform and all children doing PE should be in the correct kit and that does include plimsolls.

KS2 knitted jumpers and cardigans are still expected between 18th September—22nd September. We will inform parents when these arrive and distribute accordingly.