Albany Primary School

Newsletter – February 2024

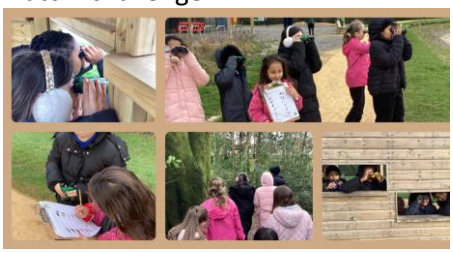
'Develop every child, every day in every possible way'

Please find a copy of our latest newsletter. It's been a very busy start to 2024 at Albany and we wanted to share some of the different things that have being going on across the school so far. We have also introduced a new pupil voice group who will be creating their own regular newsletter sharing learning experiences from a child's viewpoint. Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Howlett

Environment Committee visit Llanishen Reservoir

Our Environmental Committee enjoyed their visit to Llanishen reservoir to participate in birdwatching from the hides there. Children across the school have participated in a range of activities as part of the 'RSPB Big schools bird watch' challenge.



Safer Internet day

To promote safer internet day our Digital Leaders led a range of activities across the school. This included leading an assembly for pupils in Progress steps 1 & 2 (Reception-Year3). The Digital Leaders recruited and trained their own E-Safety team who ran learning sessions in class for children from Year 3 to Year 6.

NSPCC Number day

Our Curriculum Committee led the school in participating in the NSPCC number day. They used this day to launch TT Rock Stars at Albany (an online maths challenge to help children develop their understanding of multiplication tables).

As a group the children had been trialling TT Rockstars and had pitched the idea to Mr Howlett who was persuaded to get it for the school. The children had lots of fun participating in number based challenges throughout the day.

Expressive Arts Training at Albany

We recently hosted a professional learning session for staff at Albany and form other schools. The focus was on developing ideas for delivering the expressive arts area of our curriculum. As we have worked to develop our Curriculum for Albany over the past few years we want to ensure that it provides a broad range of learning opportunities for the pupils. It was a very 'hands on' session and staff will be able to incorporate some of these ideas in their teaching.

Football Tournaments

We have been very proud of the children who have represented Albany in recent football tournaments.

We entered a team in a mixed tournament and also a girl's tournament. The children showed great teamwork and competed brilliantly against teams from across Cardiff.

Acorn Antics

During autumn term groups of pupils went out collecting acorns as part of their outdoor learning and as part of an after school club. The acorns are collected and given to Natural Resources Wales to help them plant new trees. Our school won the Digital Award for capturing their Acorn Antics in a video. They also receive a £150 prize in addition to the £70.84 they were awarded for collecting 16kg of acorns.

Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru
Natural Resources Wales

Dangerous driving and parking at the back of school

Please can you ensure you do not park on the zig-zag lines at the back of school.

These lines are there to make it safe for your children to cross before and after school. We are working with the council and police to enforce this to make the school safer for your children***. Also parking opposite them causes the same issue so please keep the whole area clear.***

Can I also ask that when driving in the area please drive carefully. There have been a number of occasions recently where members of our school community have been driving very fast in the roads around the school which increases the risk of serious accidents.

Remaining INSET Days 2023-24

Monday 22nd July 2024.

School Attendance & Punctuality

Improving school attendance is a priority area for us this year. If your child is not able to attend school please contact us on the first day of absence and let us know why your child is not able to attend.

The school is legally obliged to follow up on absences and will be calling to follow up any absences.

Currently our overall school attendance has improved slightly and is 91%. This is still significantly below where we would like it to be and also our pre-pandemic level of 94%.

Some points to think about....

90% attendance sounds quite high but means that on average the child misses one day off school every 2 weeks.

80% attendance is equivalent to one day off per week.

It is also important that children arrive on time for school. A child who arrives 30 minutes late each day will miss over 20 days of school in a year.

Universal Free School Meals now available Reception-Year 4 (Year 5 hopefully coming soon)

We are now able to offer pupils in Reception-Year 4 a free lunch in school which is funded by Welsh Government. ***We are hoping to have information soon about when this will be rolled out for year 5 pupils.***

Please ensure you order your child's meals in advance using ParentPay

Pupils in other year groups may be entitled to free school meals if their family receives:

- Income Support
- Income Related Employment Support Allowance
- Income Based JobsSeeker's Allowance
- Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit, or
- Child Tax Credit with an income less than £16,190
- Universal Credit if the net household earnings is less than £7400.

To find out more or apply click this link;
Free School Meals (cardiff.gov.uk)

HEALTHY SCHOOLS CARDIFF NETWORK
RHWYDWAITH YSGOLION IACH CAERDYDD

Eco - Schools

RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS
unicef UNITED KINGDOM
SILVER – RIGHTS AWARE

INVESTORS IN FAMILIES
BUDDSODDWYR MEWN TEULUOEDD

School Website
www.albanyprm.co.uk
Email address
albanyprm@cardiff.gov.uk
Twitter
@albanyprm
Schoop – download app
School code 2704

School Visits

Children across the school have regular outdoor learning sessions
Reception – Visits to pet shop
Year 3 – Plantasia
Year 6 - Swimming course (2 weeks) at Maindy Pool

Visitors to school

Reading Café sessions
Year 1 & 2 - Parental engagement afternoons to share learning.
Year 4 – Community Police visit
Year 6 -Cycling sessions. Flourish Course. Ted Richards – Local historian
Staff training- Expressive Arts ,Central South Consortium

Community Partnerships

Albany Road Baptist Church – Ongoing support including reading volunteers.
Vineyard Church Roath Food Co-op – Every Tuesday afternoon in the Gate Arts Centre. Providing access to affordable food for 1-2.30pm every Tuesday.
Little Live Projects – Providing music opportunities for the pupils – Year 2 and 3
Urban Crofters Church – Flourish Transition Project for Year 6 (Spring term)