

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please see a message below from St Columba's College.

St Columba's College Open Morning: Saturday 24 September 2022

St Columba's College School is a co-ed Independent Catholic day school in St Albans, Hertfordshire, and we welcome children of all faiths and those of no particular persuasion. In 2021, girls joined the Lower Sixth Form and this year girls were also welcomed into Year 7. This will be followed by a phased transition, which will eventually see St Columba's offering its unique holistic education to both boys and girls from ages 11-18.

Prospective families are warmly invited to **St Columba's Open Morning on Saturday 24 September from 9:00am – 12: 30pm**. During this event, there will be an opportunity to take tours of the school and meet with members of staff, and students.

Families can register for this event by going to the '[Visit Us](#)' page on our website, clicking on '[Whole School Open Morning](#)' and completing the online registration form, or contacting admissions@stcolumbascollege.org .

School Applications: Parents of children due into Reception in September 2023, will need to apply for a place this term. The on-line application system opens on **1st November 2022 and closes on January 15th 2023**. Anyone applying to St Adrian's must also complete our own SIF form. Although a certificate of Catholic practice is preferable, it is **NOT** essential for securing a place. Please contact the office if you have any enquiries. Could I also ask for you to spread the word to other families that are not part of our St Adrian's community to come to the open mornings to have a tour of our great school.

Secondary Transfer: Year 6 parents should have received information about secondary school open evenings. All applications must be made initially through the online admissions system. If anyone does not have access to an online application please let me know. On-line applications opened on **September 1st 2022 and must be made by October 31st 2022**. Voluntary aided schools (eg Loreto, St Michael's, Nicholas Breakspear, Townsend) will also have their own Supplementary Information Form (SIF) which must be completed and returned to the individual school. I am happy to see anyone who wishes to discuss their application or needs assistance with completing the forms. Please contact the office for an appointment.

PTA Update

Many thanks to the new parents who joined us at our PTA Meeting last week, and the new reception parents that we have since welcomed onto the committee – we are so pleased to have you on board! If anyone missed the meeting but would be interested in volunteering in any capacity, we are always available on the PTA email address: stadrians.herts.pta@gmail.com and you can also find out lots more here: <https://stadrians.herts.sch.uk/category/pta/>

We will be sending out a full calendar of PTA events for the school year soon, but in the meantime, please make note of these:

- Junior parents, please save **Friday 7th October** in your diaries for our **Junior Movie Night**. More info to come!
- *We will no longer be running the Quiz night on 14th October - this will be rescheduled in due course.*
- Infant parents, please save **Friday 11th November** in your diaries for our **Infant Movie Night**.
- Please note the correct date of our **Family Christmas Disco** for children and parents: **Saturday 3rd December, 4pm - 7pm**.
- We have an **Odyssey Cinema St Adrian's Takeover** for our school to enjoy a private festive movie showing on **Saturday 10th December, AM**.

50 Club has started again in earnest, thanks again to all the parents taking part – be lucky! September's winners were Caroline Pickering (1st place - £100), David Donnellan (2nd place - £50) and Paula Borowska (3rd place - £25).

Would you like to star in 'The Voice Kids?' See the message below!

'Hello there,

My name is Hester and I'm currently working on the next series of *The Voice Kids*.

The Voice Kids will be returning to our screens on ITV in 2023 and we're looking for super talented singers and duos aged 7-14* who have what it takes to take over The Voice Kids stage.

I was hoping to touch base to see if you know of any exceptional young singers that would be interested in taking part in the next series?

Parents are welcome to email me directly to chat further or they can submit an application form via this link; itv.com/beontv/articles/thevoicekids. Please note that we cannot consider any child for participation unless we receive an application form from a parent or duly authorised legal guardian – please do not include any details of any child in any response you send.

Applications must be submitted by a parent/legal guardian and auditions are taking place in October and November 2022.

I have also attached our flyer if you're happy to share on your social media'

Open mornings

There will be several open mornings in the school over the coming months for new parents to come and visit St Adrian's and have a tour of the school. Please encourage friends and other family members to attend the tours as it will give a real flavour of what the school is like and they will get to meet our great team and wonderfully welcoming children. The dates for open mornings are listed below. If you would like to come for a tour, please contact the office to book an appointment.

Open morning dates:

Thursday 3rd November @ 9.00am

Friday 4th November @ 9.00am

Wednesday 30th November @ 9.00am

Friday 2nd December @ 9.00am

Thursday 12th January @ 9.00am

Friday 13th January @ 9.00am

Healthy Snacks

In school, we are trying very hard to encourage children to have healthy snacks as part of their school lunches and morning break time snacks. Please can we only send in fruit / veg sticks or cereal bars (No nuts, houmous or sesame seed products). A number of children are regularly eating crisps and chocolate biscuits which don't form part of a well balanced diet. Please be reminded that drinks for class should be water only and no juice.

SAVE THE DATES!!!!

On **Wednesday 5th October at 10.30am**, we are going to hold a very special Mass in school. This year marks the 95th anniversary of the Sisters of Mercy coming to St Albans and as a mercy school, we are going to commemorate it with a tree planting ceremony and a special Mass celebrated by Bishop Paul McAleenan and some of the Sisters of Mercy. I thought it could also be a special time to remember the school's 60th anniversary which fell in 2020 during the pandemic. I hope that you are able to join us as we celebrate this momentous occasion.

Normally, we would have the Mercy Mass on a Friday and have a family picnic but unfortunately Bishop Paul has other commitments on a Friday so we are unable to have the family picnic this year. The children will however have a party in their classes to celebrate in the afternoon. More information will follow. No doubt with the King's coronation later in the year, we will have an opportunity for a family picnic to celebrate.

Don't forget also that on **Sunday 16th October**, there will be a special children's celebration for St Bartholomew's 60th anniversary, where the children of St Adrian's will lead the Sunday Mass. They will also have a procession from school to the church. More information regarding this event will follow in due course. I hope that all the children can attend this lovely celebration.

Congratulations**Headteacher's Awards**

This week's awards go to:

Year 6: Yuhang Zhang and Keeva Hanbury

Year 5: Lucy Cox and Henry Madders.

Year 4: Gabriel Watson and Livia Feistner.

Year 3: Henry Horwood & April Fenwood

Year 2: Yuhang Zhang and Keeva Hanbury

Year 1:Ellis Carroll & Orlagh Donnellan

Reception: Georgie McEvoy and Barnaby Dodd.

Have a great weekend everyone.

Many thanks,

Mrs Porter