



Great Alne News

Friday 9th December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well another incredibly busy week, including a performance with Aled Jones MBE, a book fair, a Nativity, a choir performance at the Huff Cap, a Christmas quiz and so much more. You just wait until you see what is in store next week!

Illness

You will no doubt be aware by the coverage in the press that we are seeing an increase in viral infections in children. There are persistently high incidences of scarlet fever and invasive group A strep above seasonally expected levels.

Group A Strep - Invasive GAS (iGAS) infection levels remain high in England for this time of year with 395 reports in October and November to date. Scarlet fever cases are also higher than usual for the time of year. As expected, several scarlet fever outbreaks in nurseries and schools are being reported, of which a number involve co-circulation of respiratory viruses. The role of other circulating viral infections may be contributing to the increased severity and complications reported through co-infection.

It is likely that the unusual seasonal pattern of scarlet fever and Group Strep A infection will continue. We are also seeing an increase in Covid cases.

With an increase in disease activity, it is important to:

- be extra vigilant and mindful of the [symptoms of these infections](#)
- make sure children wash their hands properly to help to reduce the spread.

Christmas Choir

On Sunday evening the school choir performed at Great Alne Retirement Village with none other than Aled Jones MBE. The children were absolute superstars and a credit to the school. A big thank you to Mrs Brereton and Mrs Banks for accompanying the children and for everyone else who went down to support.



As if singing with Aled Jones MBE wasn't enough, last night they played to a packed house at the Huff Cap. I had the pleasure of seeing the first few songs and I thought they were fantastic. Well done everybody, it made me feel very Christmassy!

PE Kit reminder

A reminder that children are expected to be wearing school PE kit on the days when they have sport. If you have any difficulties with this, please speak to the school office and we can see how we can support you.

School Website

It is finally up and running, sorry for the delay! www.greatalneprimary.org

Christmas Decoration Competition

Thank you to everyone who participated in the competition. What a creative bunch you are! There is still space on the tree for a few more if anyone still wants to create something!

Great Alne Christmas Quiz

Well done to everyone who took part in the Christmas Quiz, an extra special well done to 'Lets Get Quizickle', 'Under Pressure' and 'Merry Quizmas Everybody' for taking the top three spots. Shall we do another next week?

Great Alne Church

On Monday we were lucky enough to have a visit from representatives of Great Alne Church who led our assembly. They were thrilled to be back in school after their Covid enforced absence.

On Christmas Eve Great Alne Church are doing a very special 'Children's Carol Service' at 3pm, everybody is welcome and it sounds like a lovely way to get into the Christmas spirit.

Christmas Performances

KS2 "Carols around the tree" Performance- 6.00pm Tuesday 13th December.

Christmas Jumper Day/ Christmas Party Day

We will be holding a Christmas jumper day on Thursday 15th December, with any donations going to the Shakespeare Hospice.

<https://www.theshakespearehospice.org.uk/>

Christmas Cards

Our school post box will be returning this year so the children can post their cards to their school friends. Please ensure the receiving child's name and class/ year group in on the envelopes to ensure the right cards make it to the right children.

This will run from Monday 5th December- Monday 12th December to ensure we have time to distribute the cards.

Safeguarding

- Warwickshire Welfare Scheme - www.warwickshire.gov.uk/localwelfarescheme
- Bereavement support - helpline@cruse.org.uk or 0808 808 1677
- www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/coping-with-bereavement/
- Family Information Service - www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies
- Domestic Abuse Helpline - www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk
- Citizens Advice Service - www.citizensadvice.org.uk
- Young Carers - 02476 217740
- Samaritans Helpline - 116 123 or email jo@samaritans.org
- Childline - 0800 1111
- School office 01789 488247 or email admin2024@welearn365.com

At Great Alne we fully support the Operation Encompass initiative. The objective of Operation Encompass is to help schools provide support to children who are affected by incidents of domestic violence and abuse. More information can be found here - <https://greatalneprimaryschool.eschools.co.uk/web/safeguarding/630420>

If you have concerns for someone you know, or are a victim of domestic violence yourself, there are people out there who can help you. www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk

Next Term

We are looking forward to welcoming Mrs Rossiter back to Great Alne in January. She will be returning to Reception class alongside Mrs West and resuming Head teacher duties. Thank you for making me feel so welcome during my time here.

WCC SEND Consultation

This week, Warwickshire County Council (WCC) has launched two public consultations in relation to the support that we provide for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Please see the attached letter.

ParentPay Reminder

Thank you to all of you that have set up ParentPay and are actively using the system. Please can we encourage people to be paying for trips and meals in advance. If you are having any issues with this please speak to Mrs Goode in confidence.

FOS

Santa Walk Round

We are scheduled to help Santa out tonight (9th December) with the Round Table. A number of parents/children have confirmed they would like to help but we still have a few places left. Everyone who did it last year had so much fun, it really gets you in the

Xmas mood. If you would like to volunteer then please either email greatalnefos@hotmail.com or let a member of FOS know

And finally

I hope everybody has a restful weekend. I am sure many of you will be eagerly watching the football on Saturday evening, wouldn't it be wonderful if we could get into another semi-final! I am hoping to find time to do some Christmas shopping and I might even be embarking on a spot of Christmas busking around Stratford.

See you on Monday,
Regards,

Mr J Wright

Important dates for the diary

On going
Key Stage 2 swimming every Tuesday (see exception date below.) P.E Reception, Class 1/2 every Tuesday and Thursday P.E Key stage 2 every Tuesday and Friday Multisport club every Tuesday 3.15pm-4.15pm Choir club every Wednesday 3.15pm-4pm KS2 Football club every Friday 3.15pm-4.15pm
Upcoming Events
13.12.22 - KS2 Carols 'Round the Tree'
14.12.22- "Ali Baba" Pantomime in School
14.12.22- School Christmas Lunch
15.12.22 - Christmas Party Day
15.12.22 - Christmas Carols @ Great Alne Park
16.12.22 - LAST DAY OF TERM
19.12.22 - 2.1.23 - Christmas Holidays (School Closed)
3.1.22 - INSET DAY (School Closed)
4.1.22 - Start of Spring Term 2023
20.1.22 - INSET DAY (School Closed)