

## Welcome to September 2017

Hello and welcome back to what already feels like a Magical start to 2017. At the end of the Summer term, we said goodbye to a number of Albemarlians. We wish them all the best on their new ventures and I am sure they will shine brightly.

This year already feels Amazing and I've got a feeling it's going to become even better. On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September at 8.30am, we opened the school gates and at 8.45am the school bell rang to welcome in the start of the new school year.

This term, I am sure you will join me in welcoming back the staff and in greeting the new team members of 2017. We also welcome a new addition; **Jade** class, which will sit alongside **Emerald** class as our new Year 3.

Tuesday marked the start of our whole school topic 'Once Upon a Time'. Across the term, the children will take part in magical adventures through stories and poems to help enrich their 'Love for Reading'.

In class, the children have already begun to explore the Magical adventure of 'George' in the story book 'The Egg' and today in assembly the 'Breaking News' was that three eggs had been found in our chicken coop.

Across the term, the children will also take part in drama workshops and venture outside of the school gates to extend their learning and uncover a whole new world of 'Once Upon a Time'.

I am sure that you are looking forward to the term ahead and the children have already shown that they are ready for learning.

### Times of the school Day

The times of the school day remain the same. School gates open at 8.30am and the school bell will ring at **8.45am**. At the end of the day, the school gates open 3.10pm and school will finish at **3.15pm**. \*Please note any children who arrive late will need to be signed in at the school office on either the 'Lower' or 'Upper' school site.

### On Line Payment Service-

After the huge success of previous years, we will continue to use 'Sims Agora', our online payment system which lets you make payments for lunch, clubs and trips from the comfort of your own home.

All **new** children to Albemarle have already been given log in details and instructions of how to pay using [WWW.PAYYOURSCHOOL.CO.UK](http://WWW.PAYYOURSCHOOL.CO.UK)

To pay for a lunch or book a place at an after school club please use link on the home page of our website or school app.

If you need help or have misplaced or forgotten your log in details, please contact the school office who will be happy to assist you.



'abc' runs from Monday to Friday, for children from Nursery through to Year 6. It is open from 7.45am to 8.45am each day and costs £2.00 per day and £1.00 for families on low income or receiving free school meals.

The menu consists of a varied selection of hot and cold healthy options. The children also get the opportunity to take part in a range of activities and games once they have eaten. To book a place at 'abc' please log on to the home page of our website or school app.

### 'What's on the Menu?'



At Albemarle, we recognise the value that meal times bring and take great pride in providing healthy nutritious meals which are cooked on site each day by our Catering team.

As a school, we are passionate in creating an ethos which is filled with laughter and our team of lunch time supervisors take every opportunity to ensure that the children have a happy lunch time.

Details of our menu can be found on our website and have already been emailed out to parents.



### Universal Free School Meals

All children in Reception (**Ruby** and **Jasper**) Year 1 (**Amber** and **Coral**) and Year 2 (**Topaz** and **Citrine**) class, are entitled to the **Government's Universal Free School Meals**. This means that you will save money and not have to spend endless hours preparing a packed lunch.

**Please note:** If you receive any of the 'qualifying benefits' you may also be entitled to a reduction in school uniform, class trips, breakfast club and Twinkling Stars to name a few. A letter about **Free School Meals** will go out on Monday.

### Twinkling Stars

Albemarle After School Care

'Twinkling Stars' is Albemarle's After School Care. It forms part of our commitment to provide wrap around care and caters for children from Nursery to Year 6, it runs from 3:15pm-6:30pm Monday to Friday.

It also provides a limited number of places for children who attend local schools. Please note places are limited. To ensure that your child has a place, please make sure you log on to the website and book online.

Please can we ensure that children are collected by 6.30pm prompt. If for any reason you are going to be late, please make sure you contact the Team on **07947 895 872**.

### After School Clubs

Today, at 5pm the list of clubs for the Autumn term will go live. Parents will be able to log on via Sims Agora' and select 1 club.

On Monday, we will spend time allocating places and will text you by 12 noon to confirm if your child has been allocated a space.

If you have any queries about the allocation of clubs, please do not contact the office **until after 1pm on Monday**.

**\*Please note**, places will be offered on a first come first serve basis.

### Dates for your Diary

On Monday, children will bring home the yearly school calendar which provides you with a list of the Inset days, parents meetings and holiday dates. While the reverse side will list key dates and events for the Autumn term.

**\*Please note;** the 5<sup>th</sup> Inset day will be announced soon.

Next week, children will bring home a class newsletter and curriculum overview providing an insight to the learning journey they will undertake this term

I hope that you have a great weekend and are looking forward to the Amazing term ahead.

### Attendance and Punctuality

For the past six years, each year the attendance target at Albemarle has risen and the children of Albemarle have made us proud by attending school each day.

The table below sets out the attendance at the end of last year.

<b>Ruby</b>	93.6%
<b>Jasper</b>	92.9%
<b>Amber</b>	95.2%
<b>Coral</b>	95.6%
<b>Topaz</b>	94.9%
<b>Citrine</b>	94.7%
<b>Emerald</b>	96.5%
<b>Sapphire</b>	96.6%
<b>Amethyst</b>	97.3%
<b>Diamond</b>	96.0%
overall school	95.2%



This year, we have made the decision to remain aspirational and try again to achieve our target of 97%. I am sure that with your support, we can achieve it and have another reason to celebrate.

See you bright and early on Monday morning.  
Yours  
**Theresa Moses**

