



# WEEKLY BULLETIN 16TH JANUARY 2026

## Headteacher Message

Dear Parents/carers,

It's Friday! I'm not sure who is more happy that the weekend has finally arrived...the children, or the staff! It has been an eventful, but incredibly successful week and something that the team have been working incredibly hard towards.

### OfSTED

I really do urge you all to read the next page of information regarding 'Understanding OfSTED' and also to remember that the overall grade from the last time OfSTED visited St Alban's (September 2021) was **good**, *not* outstanding as many of you keep telling me!

With every change in OfSTED framework, the criteria changes and the expectations become greater. This time, there is no overall grade for a school, instead we will be given separate grades for each inspection area. The wordings of each grade have also changed significantly - there is no longer a 'good' or 'outstanding.' As communicated yesterday, the final report should be published in approximately a month. We are excited to share this with you and will do so as soon as we can.

### Relational Practice

On Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January at 9am in the school hall, Matt Gaston - the Team Manager from Hampshire's Primary Behaviour Service will be in school to share some behaviour strategies for parents to use at home. He will be talking about our Relational Policy and The Empowerment Approach in more depth and giving you some more insight into how these strategies can support a consistent approach between us - at school - and home. I do hope that many of you can make it.

### Smart watches

Smart watches - that quite a few children were given at Christmas - are a safeguarding concern for us at school. This is because children and families can call each other - including video call- during the school day and children can also take photographs of others that they do not have permission to take. Please do not allow your child to wear theirs to school. If they do, it will be given to the school office where it will be kept safe and can be collected at the end of the day.

### Earrings

Please remember that the only earrings that are safe for school are small, round studs, like these:



### **IMPORTANT:**

Please remember that there should be no nuts or items with nuts in your child's packed lunch. Please help us to keep EVERYONE safe - we aim to be a NUT free school.

### What's in this bulletin?

- Headteacher message
- Understanding Ofsted
- You said, we did...
- Food review - new menus!
- Wake Up Wednesday
- Uniform Reminders
- Check your details!
- Attendance
- Celebrations
- Collective Worship
- INSET days
- Reminders for next week



# Understanding Ofsted

From November 2025, parents in England will receive new, detailed Ofsted report cards with a five-point grading system, highlighting strengths, areas for improvement, and a focus on inclusion and well-being.

## Understanding Ofsted report cards and grades

This page explains Ofsted report cards, including a video and guidance on what's changed from the old system. We recommend that all parents read this as we head into our Ofsted inspection window.



## What the new Ofsted grades tell you

The **'expected standard'** is just that – it means the school or other provider is doing everything that it should be doing, so you'll see the green colour coding on the report card. **It's a high standard, to make sure your children are receiving everything they need and deserve.**

Moving up the scale, **'strong standard'** marks out excellent, consistent work that's making a real difference for children and learners.

And finally, there's **'exceptional'**. We only award this grade when we see practice that is among the very best nationally, which should be shared with other schools or providers to help them improve.

**'Needs attention'** is an indication that there is work to be done to reach the 'expected standard'. It's not a 'fail' but it highlights where issues can be addressed before they become bigger problems that need **'urgent improvement'**.

You may see a mix of grades across a report card: it's perfectly possible to achieve highly in some areas, and require a little more focus in others.

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# You said, we did...

## External Clubs

Parents asked for more clubs, especially for KS1... However, due to lack of uptake/interest the KS1 football club that was offered by Better Edge Coaching has been cancelled, and there is no alternative sports club for KS1 at this time.



The KS2 football club run by CM Sports is still running and is **open to new sign ups** throughout the term.

For more information visit: <https://www.stalbansprimaryschool.co.uk/extra-curricular-activities>

## Food review - new menus...

Bessie and Tiffany Y6 said ***“the veg is so much nicer than before”***



Miss Bond-Lynch has been checking in with children at lunch times since last week to gather feedback about the new menus. Wednesday is the new 'roast dinner' day!

Oakley (Y1) said ***“I haven't had a veggie cottage pie before... it's really good!”***

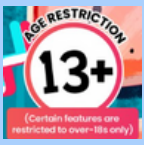


Sienna and Fraya (Y6) said ***“our favourite desert is the flapjack, but they're all nice”***

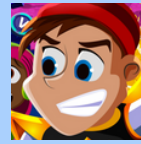
Charley (Y5) said ***“the roast dinner is the best”***



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## Safeguarding: Wake Up Wednesday!



This week's **#WakeUpWednesday** focuses on digital devices and wellbeing.

Children aged 7 to 14 now spend roughly 3 to 5 hours a day on phones, tablets, consoles, and computers. That much screen time has parents and educators worried - not just about the hours logged, but about online safety and the knock-on effect on mental health. This week's guide brings together practical, expert-backed strategies so adults can nurture healthier digital habits and help young people thrive both on and offline.

**This will be added to the website <https://www.stalbansprimaryschool.co.uk/online-safety> and shared on our school Facebook page each week.**

## Uniform Reminders

When purchasing new school uniform, please consult our uniform policy:

**<https://www.stalbansprimaryschool.co.uk/policies/>**

### **IMPORTANT:**

PE kits **MUST** be a PLAIN NAVY TRACKSUIT or SHORTS - no stripes or logos. T-SHIRTS must be a PLAIN WHITE POLO STYLE.

**Check out the new designs - available from Skoolkit!**

We want to continue to look smart and if we all follow the uniform guidelines, we will. Please also remember trainers should be BLACK and with discrete, or preferably, NO LOGO.

## Attendance and Punctuality

*"Every day of school missed is a day stolen from a child's future,"*  
Bridget Phillipson (Education Secretary), August 2025

**Whole school - 94.2% (national 94.7%)**

**PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD IS IN SCHOOL EVERY DAY UNLESS THEY ARE REALLY UNWELL; if your child feels under-the-weather, please send them into school and we can see how they go!**

Average attendance by class to date:

- Oak (R) - 92%
- Cherry (1) - 91%
- Rowan (2) - 96%
- Birch (3) - 93%
- Hawthorn (4) - 93%
- Lime (5) - 96%
- Alder (6) - 95%



If you are unsure whether to keep your child off school if they are unwell, please look at this page on our website:

**<https://www.stalbansprimaryschool.co.uk/attendance>**

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# Celebrations

Headteacher Awards go to: Lucy, Ava-Grace, Eli

This half term we are focusing on the learning skill of **CREATIVITY**.

**ALL children were celebrated this week and everyone had a non-uniform day for showing our school off to its' very best this week!**

- Year R - Ciaran, Lily-Rose, Oliver
- Year 1 - Beau, Dexter, Peyton
- Year 2 - Josh, Lilli-Anna
- Year 3 -
- Year 4 -
- Year 5 - Lucy, Cora
- Year 6 -

## Check your details!

**Did you get a new phone for Christmas? Has your mobile number changed?**

**Maybe you have you moved house recently?**

If so, please remember to let the office know!

If you would like to check that your details are up to date or if you need to make any changes, please email the office and these details can be checked and updated for you.

## Food review (continued)

Cooked meals are prepared in our kitchen by a Hampshire catering company – **Chartwells** – which operates independently of St Alban's School. For more information or to view the **new menus** please visit our website here:

<https://www.stalbanprimaryschool.co.uk/food-at-st-alban>

School lunches now cost **£2.75** per day. All KS1 (Year R, 1 and 2) children are entitled to a free meal under the government's Universal Free School Meal scheme. Some pupils may be eligible for income-related free school meals.

		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT DISHES	OPTION 1	Cheese and Tomato Pizza	Beef Bolognese	Roast Gammon	Chicken and Vegetable Pie	Fish Fingers
	OPTION 2	Potato and Lentil Curry	Vegetarian Bolognese	Roast Quorn	West African Rice	Quorn Dippers
	OPTION 3	Tomato Pasta	Jacket Potato	Tomato Pasta	Jacket Potato	Tomato Pasta
		HOT DISHES ARE SERVED WITH TWO VEGETABLES AND FRESHLY BAKED BREAD				
DESSERT		Crunchy Apple Slice	Strawberry Shortcake Mousse	Homemade Oat Cookies	Apple Crumble and Custard	Chocolate Ice Cream

AVAILABLE DAILY: Fresh fruit, salad, yoghurt and water

Vegetarian • Vegan • Oily Fish • Fruity! • Wholegrain

Chartwells

Next week we are on **Week 3**, and there are lots of new additions to the menu - roast gammon, chicken pie, West African rice, and Quorn dippers!

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# Collective Worship

We are focusing on the **Words of Jesus** this half term and how these can influence our lives.

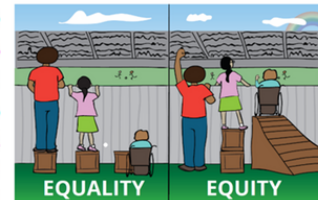
This week we looked at **'Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.'** **Matthew**

**7:12/Luke 6:31**

We linked this to our 'door moments'. These are one way to explore our own spirituality and how this relates to our relationships with others. This reflection focuses on serving others as an outworking of our spirituality, understanding our place in creation as part of a community and the importance of treating one another with respect and compassion.



Loving God,  
Teach us to treat others with the same love  
and respect we hope to receive.  
Amen



All of our Collective Worshipps can be found on our website  
<https://www.stalbansprimaryschool.co.uk/collectiveworship>

## INSET DAYS 2025-2026

The remainder of the INSET days for this academic year are:

**Friday 1st May 2026**

**Friday 3rd July 2026**

Please make a note of these. The website will also be updated and we will continue to remind you on bulletins throughout the year.

## Parking Reminders

We remind parents to please park considerately. We continue to receive reports of cars parked in a way that blocks St Alban's Road - please be mindful and consider parking further away to keep access free for large vehicles such as buses and emergency services.

## Reminders for 19.01.2026

**19.01.2026**

School Nurse Clinic All Day

HSA Meeting at 9am

**22.01.2026**

Primary Behaviour Service (PBS)  
Empowerment Workshop for  
Parents at 9am

Parent Consultation for Children  
with SEN 3.45pm to 6.15pm

Headteacher:

Mrs Sarah Goldsworthy BA QTS NPQH

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