



WEEKLY BULLETIN 23RD JANUARY 2026

Headteacher Message

Dear Parents/carers,

As always, this week has been busy at school with lots of exciting learning activities in all classes, clubs, school nurse clinic sessions for parents as well as our information session led by Matt Gaston from Primary Behaviour Service yesterday. This focused on our Relational Policy and how the language used when a child gets something wrong or finds something difficult can make a huge difference. Matt will be sharing his PowerPoint with me and I will ensure that the slides are available for everyone via the school website.

As a parent myself, I know it is a hard job especially with all the challenges social media brings us...and there is no parenting manual! Matt shared that, according to research, we only need to get 'parenting' right 66% of the time to enable our children to flourish as adults....isn't that we all want for our children?

It was a really positive session and the feedback from the parents who did attend was incredibly positive:

'I really wanted to say how brilliant the session was. It was warm, clear and genuinely empowering, and Matt from PBS delivered it in such an engaging and relatable way. Even though I am already familiar with this approach and have been using it at home for a while, I still took so much from it. Being able to hear it explained so clearly, ask questions and have things reinforced was hugely valuable.'

'Focusing on calm, regulation and connection rather than punishment has reduced stress at home and led to much more positive outcomes. Seeing this approach reflected so strongly in the session and knowing it already underpins what the school does so well day to day, was really reassuring.'

If you want to reduce your stress at home, please do get in touch and we can organise another session with Matt!

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...
- 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.

**Love, Courage and Fellowship
Inspired to make a difference in God's world
with excellence and love.**

You said, we did...

You asked for... **better communication for parents of children on the SEND register and to be involved in your children's progress!**

We now have...

- Further Parent Consultations to support communication and understanding (the first one of these this academic year happened last night)
- More detailed Support Plans
- Resources on the school website, including information about The Graduated Approach and Ordinarily Available Provision
- An Inclusion Lead/SENCO (4 days a week)
- More support from external agencies (PBS, School Nursing Team, Mental Health and Well-being)

Why not check out our SEND section on the website:
<https://www.stalbansprimaryschool.co.uk/send>

Reminders for food in school

Please be reminded that St Alban's aims to be a **nut free** site - including at Kidzone. Parents have a responsibility to ensure that they consider this when packing their child's snacks and/or lunch boxes.

This is to keep EVERYONE safe - including children at our school with life threatening allergies.

Please also note that fruit such as **GRAPES** or olives **MUST BE CUT LONGWAYS** as they can be a choking hazard.

Sweets are also **not** part of a healthy lunch and therefore should not be part of a packed lunch.

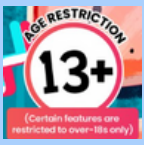
REMINDER:
We aim to be a **NUT FREE** school.

There should be **no nuts or items containing nuts** (such as hazelnut spread/nutella, trail mixes, peanut butter, snack bars, cereal, etc.) in school - this includes in lunch boxes, morning snack boxes, bird feeders, and staff areas.

This is to keep EVERYONE safe - including children at our school with **life threatening allergies**.

 St Alban's C of E Aided Primary School
Inspired to make a difference in God's world with excellence and love.

Love, Courage and Fellowship
Inspired to make a difference in God's world
with excellence and love.



Safeguarding: Wake Up Wednesday!



This week's #WakeUpWednesday focuses on ROBLOX.

Roblox is an online platform where users can play and create games known as 'experiences' made by other users. Roblox has a large UK audience. ITV news has reported that millions of people in Britain use the platform regularly, with children forming a significant proportion of its users. The sheer scale of it makes it difficult to moderate effectively, creating risks for unsupervised children.

This will be added to the website <https://www.stalbansprimaryschool.co.uk/onlinesafety> 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 - 94.3% (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) - 91.3%
- Rowan (2) - 96.5%
- Birch (3) - 94%
- Hawthorn (4) - 93.4%
- Lime (5) - 96.7%
- Alder (6) - 95.3%



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>

**Love, Courage and Fellowship
Inspired to make a difference in God's world
with excellence and love.**

Celebrations

Headteacher Awards go to: Lucy, Penelope, Sienna, Nada

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

- Year R - Oliver, Ciaran, Lily-Rose
- Year 1 - Beau, Autumn
- Year 2 - Josh, Theon, Lilli-Anna
- Year 3 -
- Year 4 - Martha, Reuben
- Year 5 - Dominic, Maddie
- 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.

Changes to PE days

Please note that from next week (week beginning 26.01.26) there will be changes to the PE days for some classes.

PE days can be found on our website here:

<https://www.stalbansprimaryschool.co.uk/the-school-day>

Parents of these classes should have also received an email today informing them of the change.

PE Days	
Year R / Oak Class	Wednesday
Year 1 / Cherry Class	Tuesday and Wednesday
Year 2 / Rowan Class	Monday and Tuesday
Year 3 / Birch Class	Monday and Friday
Year 4 / Hawthorne Class	Wednesday and Friday
Year 5 / Lime Class	Monday and Wednesday
Year 6 / Alder Class	Monday and Thursday

**Love, Courage and Fellowship
Inspired to make a difference in God's world
with excellence and love.**

Collective Worship

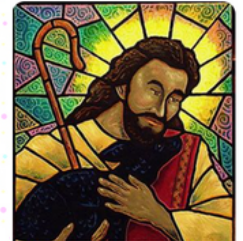
We are focusing on the **Words of Jesus** this half term and how these can influence our lives.

This week we looked at **“I am the good shepherd.” John 10:14**

We shared the story of The Lost Sheep and we explored how Jesus looks after everyone, even those who get things wrong or make mistakes. We also explored who guides us at school and how we can guide one another: that’s being a good friend!



Jesus,
Good Shepherd, help us listen for Your
guidance and show courage in our choices.
Amen



All of our Collective Worship 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.

Reminders for 26.01.2026

You’re all caught up!
No parent reminders for next week.

To plan ahead, why not check out our website calendar here:
<https://www.stalbansprimaryschool.co.uk/calendar>

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.

Headteacher:
Mrs Sarah Goldsworthy BA QTS NPQH

Love, Courage and Fellowship
Inspired to make a difference in God’s world
with excellence and love.