



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



WEEKLY BULLETIN 4TH SEPTEMBER 2026

Headteacher Message

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back to a new school year. It was lovely to see so many familiar faces last week, to catch up on your news and to look forwards to the new school year together. It has also been heartwarming to hear about how successful our past year 6 pupils have been in their first few days of their secondary journey. We welcome many new families, both in Oak class (Year R) and across the school. We are incredibly pleased that you have chosen our happy and successful school for your child and we know that you will be made to feel very welcome by everyone.

We also welcome new members of staff: Mrs Vicki Smith (Y2 class teacher), Miss Lauren Bendell (Y2 LSA on a graduate placement from her Psychology degree at university), Mrs Jessica Parham (Y3 LSA), Miss Lacey Rapley-Mengham (Y1 LSA) and Ms Claire Payne (Y1 SCITT trainee teacher) to our team. We also congratulate Mrs Sarah Evetts (YR class teacher) on achieving her Qualified Teacher Status and we are delighted that she has chosen to pursue her teaching career with us.

The School Environment

If you follow us on Facebook, hopefully you will have seen the video of the transformation Oak class has been on over the past 6 weeks. Please share this post widely and look out for new photos and videos over the coming weeks showcasing the rest of the school. There are lots of changes around the school, both inside and outside; we are continuing to develop our spaces even further so that our school is the very best it can be for everyone. We look forward to welcoming you all into school in person over the coming weeks and months so you can see this in person.

Attendance

Already this year, families have taken annual holidays during school term and I have received leave of absence forms (LOAFs) for several families. This has had a negative impact on our whole school attendance which impacts everyone. Please remember that I cannot authorise holidays, or any period of absence, unless it is for an exceptional reason. You can find out more by reading our attendance policy which can be found on our school website:

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

Communication

We want to work in partnership with you, your child and your family. Where families have a positive relationship with the school, the impact on progress, attainment and positive well-being is significant. Please do share little worries or concerns with us as soon as you have them. This way they can be dealt with before they escalate into something more. We always prefer a conversation to an email so please contact the school office on adminoffice@st-albans.hants.sch.uk and ask for a meeting, initially with your child's class teacher.

I look forward to seeing you in school over the coming weeks for the 'Meet the Teacher' events.

What's in this bulletin?

- Headteacher message
- GIVE
- You said, we did...
- Wake Up Wednesday
- Attendance
- Uniform and earring reminders
- First Aid Friday
- Celebrations
- Collective Worship
- INSET days
- Reminders for next week

We aim to be a
NUT FREE
SCHOOL - Please
DO NOT include
ANY products that
contain **ANY** types
of **NUTS** in your
child's
lunch/snack.

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Give

Helping others, saying thank you or just giving someone a smile can improve your self-esteem and your emotional health



When "Give" is going well

- You will have a sense of purpose and achievement.
- You'll feel connected to your community.
- You'll make new friends / widen your support network.
- You'll be a good role model and support to those around you.
- You'll grow in confidence.
- You'll learn new skills.
- You'll improve your mental well-being.

When "Give" isn't going well

- You may feel distracted and disinterested.
- Feeling removed.
- Isolation - feeling completely alone.
- Becoming a bad influence.
- Lack of confidence.
- Boredom.
- Low self-worth.

Useful Links

getvolunteering.co.uk

www.gohenry.com/uk/blog/chores/age-appropriate-chore-list-for-kids

Give back to your community

- Litter picking.
- Helping in a local Charity shop, Hospital, care home or animal Charity. Volunteer days are one of the easiest ways to give back to your community.
- Volunteer in school E.g. listen to readers, or support the PTA.
- Start a class WhatsApp.
- Start a conversation with a parent / carer at the school gate.
- Help a neighbour
 - Pop their bin out for them.
 - Walk their dog.
 - Offer to clean their room / house
 - Help in their garden.
 - Be a listening ear for a chat.
- Join a church group.
- Encourage children to take on a household chore.
- Children could draw a picture, write a letter to a friend, relative or neighbour.
- Children (with your support) could offer to care for theirs or someone else's pet.
- Reach out to local groups or clubs for help and support. They can **GIVE** back to you.

Made by Ruth Downer, Maria Knight, Sonja Balmer, Ceri Kentish, Maddy Child, Leoni Hayes, Jo Dorans, Sarah Allen and Jo Ayres in conjunction with East Hants and Havant Heads

Back to Basics

Each half term we are focusing on a different petal. This half term we are exploring 'give'

Looking after your family's wellbeing is very important.

As a parent or carer, you can take small steps to help your child's wellbeing as well as your own. You can do this by starting with the basics.

Think about your home environment and what small changes you can make together as a family. I definitely like 'Encourage children to take on a household chore' and shall be doing more of this in my family home!



Watch the Back to Basics videos to help you support your family's wellbeing:

Take Notice

Give

Be Active

Keep Learning

Connect

You Said, We did...

You asked for reminders about the Meet the Teacher sessions closer to the time...

Don't forget!

Meet the Teacher sessions will start next week for parents of children in Year 1 to Year 6. They each take place in the school hall, so please come to the office to sign in first.

You can find all of the sessions in our calendar here:
<https://www.stalbansprimaryschool.co.uk/calendar>

These sessions are not only to meet your child's new class teacher, but to share important information and expectations with you - so please attend even if you know the teacher already!

'The Big Drop In' held by Hampshire CAMHS

World Mental Health Day is 10th October 2026. Join the series of free drop-ins across Hampshire - our local drop-in is on **8th October 2026**.

Mental health matters

BE KIND
TO YOUR
MIND

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THE BIG DROP IN

NHS
Hampshire Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

As part of World Mental Health Day, we are running a series of **FREE** drop-ins across Hampshire.

This drop-in location has a focus on learning disabilities as well as mental health

This is an opportunity for parents/carers, professionals or young people to come and chat to our CAMHS clinicians, ask questions, get advice and resources.
Bookable slots available via our website or just drop in.

FREE

8 October 2026 10am - 4pm
Meriden Shopping Centre (old Wilko unit)
Elm Lane, Havant PO9 1UN

For more information scan the QR code or visit:
<https://hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk/events/>



Safeguarding: Wake Up Wednesday



This week's **#WakeUpWednesday** focuses on supporting children's return to routine.

Returning to school after the holidays can be challenging for some children and young people, and both families and education settings can play an important role in helping them readjust. Consistent routines, clear expectations, and supportive communication can support children and young people's well-being, self-regulation, and academic success. There are practical tips that can help make the transition back to school feel manageable.

This will be added to the website

<https://www.stalbansprimaryschool.co.uk/online-safety> and shared on our school Facebook page each week.

Attendance and Punctuality

"Every day of school missed is a day stolen from a child's future,"

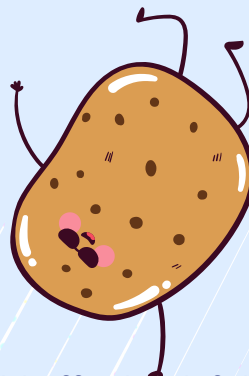
Bridget Phillipson (Education Secretary), August 2025

Whole school - 91.8% (national 93.9%)

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) -
- Cherry (1) - 94.5%
- Rowan (2) - 95.7%
- Birch (3) - 86.4%
- Hawthorn (4) - 89%
- Lime (5) - 97.6%
- Alder (6) - 88.2%



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>

PE Kit 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**.

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peep

Learn, play and
grow together.



Peep supports parents and carers to make the most of everyday moments, helping your child grow in confidence and get ready for school.

Fun, friendly sessions with songs, stories and simple ideas to try at home.

Peep Stay & Play for 3-4 year olds

Fridays 2, 9 and 16 October, 1:30pm-2:30pm
Best Start Family Hub in Leigh Park Library

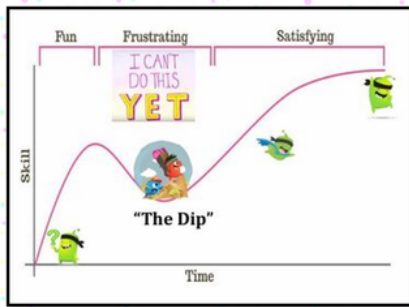
FREE, no booking required

Peep Learning Together course Wednesdays 4, 11, 18, 25
November and 2, 9 December 1:30pm-2:30pm
Booking required, available at stay and play sessions.

www.peeple.org.uk/parents-area

Celebrations

This half term we are focusing on the learning skill of 'Perseverance'.



STEP Awards go to:

Below is a list of children that received merits this week (*to be given at the next worship if not this week*):

- Oak (R) -
- Cherry (1) -
- Rowan (2) -
- Birch (3) -
- Hawthorn (4) -
- Lime (5) -
- Alder (6) -

Health and Wellbeing: First Aid Friday

This weeks #FirstAidFriday focuses on Asthma.

Would you know what to do if someone was having an asthma attack?

Asthma attacks can be life-threatening, so acting quickly is important:

- Sit upright and try to remain calm
- Use a reliever inhaler if available
- Follow the person's asthma action plan if it gives specific instructions
- Call 999 if symptoms worsen, the maximum dose does not help or no inhaler is available.

More information can be found on our website:

<https://www.stalbanprimaryschool.co.uk/wellbeing-support>.

Choir Church

Children in Years 4, 5 and 6 will have the chance to sing, make friends, explore faith and discover a place to belong at **Choir Church** which will be starting at **St Alban's Church** this autumn.

Parents, do attend the information session at St Alban's Church on the 22nd if you think your child might be interested! Everyone is welcome!

ST ALBAN'S • WEST LEIGH

CHOIR CHURCH

IS COMING TO ST ALBAN'S

DISCOVER THE JOY OF SINGING,
EXPLORE FAITH, MAKE FRIENDS AND BELONG.

WHO IS IT FOR?
Children in Years 4, 5, & 6
from St Alban's Primary, Sharps copse Primary
and children who are home educated

COME AND FIND OUT MORE
22 SEPTEMBER • 1 PM
St Alban's Church
Information for families and anyone who might like to help

Tuesday afternoons after school • beginning this autumn

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Outside School Celebrations

Celebrating the clubs, activities and achievements children take part in outside school is an important way to recognise their growing confidence, talents and interests.

Whether it's a sports team, dance class, arts group, scouts, music lessons or a special celebration within their community, these experiences help children develop new skills, build friendships and feel proud of who they are.

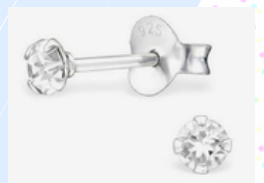
By sharing and celebrating these moments together, we create a school community that values every child's uniqueness and encourages them to keep exploring the things they love.

Please send in a
picture and a
short
explanation if
you would like
your child to
appear on our
school bulletin!

Reminder - Earrings in School

Following several reminders about the style of earrings that are suitable for school, if children are wearing any earrings other than simple round studs, they will now be asked to remove them. **These are the only style, colour that are acceptable: small studs that are either silver or gold or have a clear coloured gem.**

We want to continue to look smart and stay safe, and if we all follow the uniform guidelines, we will. If children continue to wear earrings that are not suitable for school, we will revert to only Year 6 being allowed to wear them.



Collective Worship

This half term we are focusing on the value of '**perseverance**'.

We have already considered many of the things that we would be showing in class if we are persevering with our learning. In Collective Worship, we will be learning about perseverance through various stories and activities that highlight the value of staying committed to their goals and overcoming obstacles.

'So then, let us rid ourselves of everything that gets in the way, and of the sin which holds on to us so tightly, and let us run with determination the race that lies before us. Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, on whom our faith depends from beginning to end. He did not give up because of the cross!'

Hebrews 12:1



All of our Collective Worship
can be found on our website:

www.stalbansprimaryschool.co.uk/collective-worship

INSET DAYS 2026-2027

The INSET days for the next academic year are:

Monday 30th November 2026

Monday 4th January 2027

Friday 30th April 2027

Monday 7th June 2027

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 07.09.2026

07/09/2026

YR Tea and Tissues Sessions, 9am and 1pm in the Green Room

08/09/2026

Y1 Meet the Teacher Session 9am

09/09/2026

Y2 Meet the Teacher Session 9am

10/09/2026

Y3 Meet the Teacher Session 9am

11/09/2026

Y4 Meet the Teacher Session 9am

Please check your details!

Please inform the office if you (or another emergency contact for your child) move house or changes mobile number.

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.

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Ofsted



Read our report ↗

Headteacher:

Mrs Sarah Goldsworthy BA(Hons) QTS NPQH NASENCo