



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



WEEKLY BULLETIN 9TH OCTOBER 2026

Headteacher Message

Dear Parents and carers,

One of the best parts of my job as Headteacher is having the privilege to regularly visit every child's class, join in with the learning and talk to the children. This week, Mrs Clarke and I have visited every class and seen a range of engaging, exciting and challenging lessons. These have ranged from Drawing Club in Oak class (the teaching of writing and its' special code!) to non-routine problem solving in maths to finding an elephant in the school grounds and ringing the zoo! I have enjoyed every moment and I am incredibly proud of the hard work and dedication that the teachers and Learning Support Assistants show every single day. There is a huge amount of work that goes on behind every single lesson that is prepared for your children and I know that we are lucky to have such a great team who are always willing to go the extra mile.

Parent Consultations for Pupils on the SEND register

For those of you with children on the SEND register, thank you if you came to your appointment this week. It makes such a difference to your child when they see home and school working together to help them be the best they can be. Many of you spent some time completing our short questionnaire. It has been heartening to read how much you value the support we try to give every child with additional needs and how much you value the journey we have been on over the past few years to make sure we do everything we can to support all children as best we can.

Inappropriate comments posted on Facebook groups are upsetting for everyone concerned and can have a lasting impact on members of the school community. They can cause hurt, damage trust, and detract from the positive, supportive relationships that we work hard to foster. If you have concerns, or are not happy with the provision in place for your child, please do speak to us - either Mrs Clarke (as Inclusion Lead/SENCo) or me.

Learning Quest Celebrations (Year 1 to Year 6)

These are fast approaching (week commencing 19th October) so please remember to clear your diary and make every effort to come and support your child during these celebrations. They really do love seeing you at these events and enjoy sharing their learning journeys with you. There are often creative activities for you to get stuck into as well! Have a wonderful weekend.

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 are a school that has adopted a 'culture of allergy awareness and education', please remember we still aim to be a nut free school!



Weekly Reading Update- Pageticker week ending 27th September

"READING IS A PASSPORT
TO COUNTLESS ADVENTURES."
-MARY POPE OSBORNE



Across the school...

Last week's reading at St Alban's Church of England Aided Primary School
Week of Mon 28 Sep to Sun 4 Oct



226 books completed



259 books rated



9 books reviewed



21931 pages read



687 sessions logged



104 sessions liked

Reading Tips for decoding

If you are stuck on a word, try this...

If the word starts with a capital letter, it is the name of a place or a person. Don't worry if you can't pronounce it properly—move on.

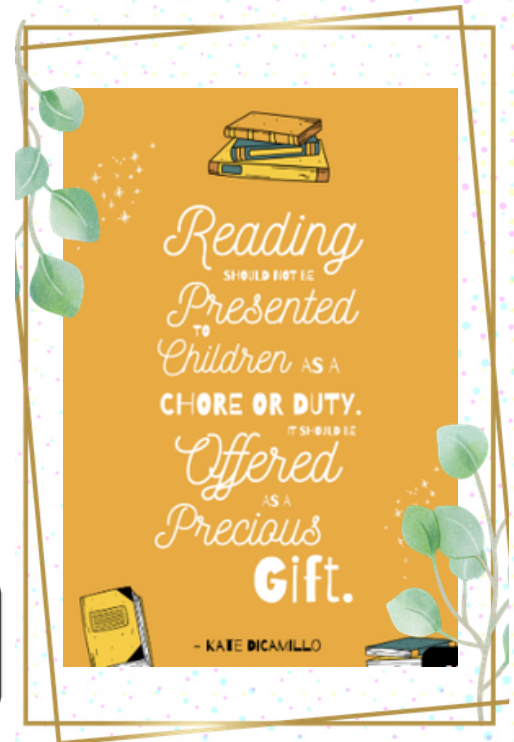
Meet another word that you are not sure of? Read the sentence before and after again and look for clues. Then keep going.

Look for clues in the text. Try reading the whole sentence and miss out the word you don't know. Then re-read the sentence with a word that it could be. Does it make sense?

Use a line-guide finger / ruler / spare paper if you need one to keep you in place and help you to concentrate.

Do you recognise any groups of letters from other words? 'igh' in *sigh*, *high*, *light*

'Turn on the TV inside your mind' whilst reading. This will help keep you focused and make some of the images within the text more memorable.



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



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!



You Said, We did...

Back to Basics Coffee Mornings



We are planning to run **Back to Basics** coffee mornings in the Green Room on the following dates:

Wednesday 4th November - 09:00-10:00

Wednesday 2nd December - 09:00-10:00

We will be using the petals from the Back to Basic flower at each coffee morning and our first one will be 'Give'. We will be sharing and giving each other recipes we use. Coffee and biscuits (and sometimes cakes!) will be provided and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible. There will be an area set up for younger children to access toys and games.

Let's get moving this Walktober!

Travelling actively and sustainably can make a difference to our wellbeing, our community and our planet. It helps us stay healthy, reduces traffic around our school and lowers air pollution.

That's why our school is taking part in Walktober and encouraging pupils, families and staff to walk, wheel, cycle, scoot, use Park and Stride or travel by public transport more often.

More information will be shared with parents soon!

You can also stay updated on our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/StAlbansCEPri/>



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 pupil wellbeing conversations.

It can feel difficult to know how to start a conversation with a pupil about their wellbeing, either because you do not feel equipped with the information you think you need, or because you do not feel confident opening it up. You do not need to be a specialist. This guide covers how to start, what to say about confidentiality, and what to do with what you hear.

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,"

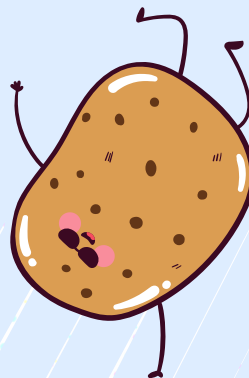
Bridget Phillipson (Education Secretary), August 2025

Whole school average - 95.9%
(national average 95.6%)

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) - 99%
- Cherry (1) - 96%
- Rowan (2) - 95%
- Birch (3) - 96%
- Hawthorn (4) - 95%
- Lime (5) - 96%
- Alder (6) - 96%



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!

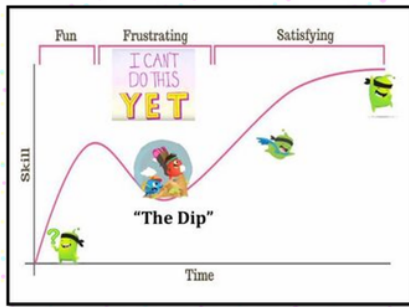
We want to continue to look smart and if we all follow the uniform guidelines, we will. Please also remember trainers should be **BLACK** and with discrete, or preferably, **NO LOGO**.

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



Celebrations

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



Headteacher Awards go to: Elsie, Isabelle
STEP Awards go to: John, Leah, Lilli-Anna, Ruby
Merits go to:

- Oak (R) -
- Cherry (1) -
- Rowan (2) - Aminah, Esme
- Birch (3) - Ella, Zeb
- Hawthorn (4) - Megan, Freddy
- Lime (5) - Milo, Olivia
- Alder (6) - Ellie-Lu, Charley

Health and Wellbeing: First Aid Friday

This weeks #FirstAidFriday focuses on meningitis.

Tuesday was #WorldMeningitisDay.

Meningitis is an infection of the protective membranes around the brain and spinal cord. Symptoms can include a high temperature, severe headache, stiff neck, vomiting, confusion and being very sleepy or difficult to wake. Not everyone gets a rash.

More information can be found on our website: <https://www.stalbansprimaryschool.co.uk/wellbeing-support>.

Rotary Shoe Box Appeal 2026

We are pleased to be supporting the Rotary Shoe Box Appeal for another year! If your child would like to take part in the appeal this year, please come to the school office after school to collect a shoe box. So far, only 5 boxes have been collected... Please check your email for more information!

All shoe boxes must be returned to the school office no later than **Friday 16th October 2026.**

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

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.



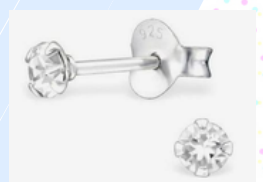
Congratulations to Liam, and the CM Sports Team, for achieving a 5 in their food hygiene 'spot-check' yesterday afternoon!

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 Bible stories and activities that highlight the value of staying committed to goals and overcoming obstacles. This week, we explored how we are encouraged to trust Jesus and persevere, even things go wrong or are too tricky! We shared the story of Peter walking on water in Matthew 14:22-27. The disciples were in the middle of a storm—and then they saw something even more surprising: Jesus walking on water. Fear can cloud our ability to see God clearly. But Jesus always brings courage into the chaos. Faith starts with hearing Jesus say, "Don't be afraid."



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.

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.

Reminders for 12.10.2026

12/10

Y2 Weald and Downland 'Fire in the Bakehouse' Workshop at school

15/10

Y3 Egyptians Workshop at school with performance to parents at 3pm

16/10

Y5 external trip to RHS Wisley

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

Ofsted



Read our report ↗

Headteacher:

Mrs Sarah Goldsworthy BA(Hons) QTS NPQH NASENCo