St Alban's C of E Aided Primary School

Inspired to make a difference in God's world with excellence and love

WEEKLY BULLETIN
6TH NOVEMBER 2026

Headteacher Message

Dear Parents and carers,

It has been lovely to see everyone back safely after the half term.

This is such a wonderfully exciting half term for everyone, but it is also a half term where our children complete a lot of mini-quizzes and assessments. We do these so - as teachers - we know what we need to teach each child and what our priorities for teaching and learning need to be over the coming term. Although it is always important that children try their best, please reiterate to them that they shouldn't be worried about them and that if they do their best, that is all we can ask of them. Some children will have some 'reasonable adjustments' made for them, such as the benefit of a reader (not the reading paper though!), some extra time or a rest break. These are adjustments that we put in place everyday for these children as part of our Ordinarily Available Practice (OAP).

Parent Consultations and Other Events

We are looking forward to seeing all of our parents with children in Year 1 to Year 6 during our Parent Consultations on the 18th and 19th November. Please do look out for the email with details of how to get a time-slot booked.

There are lots of events planned for this half term so that we can all celebrate the joy of Christmas altogether...please do check the school calendar and make sure you make a note of the dates and times.

Religious Education in a Church of England School

As a Church of England school, it is really important that we educate our children about ***all*** religions. Learning about different faiths encourages curiosity, open-mindedness and critical thinking; while helping children recognise both the similarities and differences between communities. By exploring a range of religious traditions, values and practices, children can build empathy, challenge stereotypes, and develop the skills needed to live harmoniously in a multicultural society. A broad religious education enables children to make informed decisions, appreciate diversity, and become respectful and responsible citizens. As a Hampshire school, we follow both Understanding Christianity and Living Difference IV to help this learning. Further details of these, including links to the programmes of study and our school policy can be found on our website https://www.stalbansprimaryschool.co.uk topic/church-school-values

Following our SIAMS inspection last December, one of our development points was: ***to enhance opportunities for pupils to experience diversity within the religious education (RE) curriculum. This is to broaden pupils' experience of a range of global faiths and worldviews, beyond their own lives.*** As part of our focus on diversity and inclusion, I would welcome input from families with different faith backgrounds. If you would be happy to share your experiences and ideas, please arrange a time to meet with me. Your knowledge and perspectives will help us strengthen understanding, respect, and inclusion within our community.

Have a wonderful weekend.

What's in this bulletin?

- Headteacher message
- Reading
- Back to Basics
- 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 25th October

Across the school...

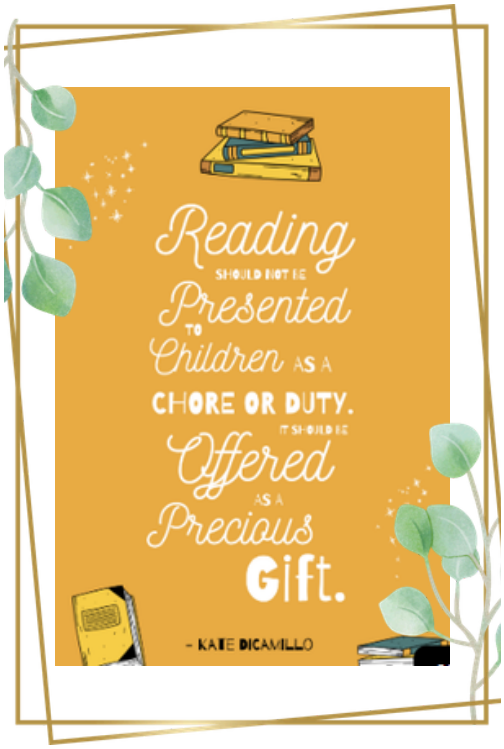
- 📖 **Books completed:** 176
- ⭐ **Books rated:** 165
- ✍️ **Books reviewed:** 7
- ⏱️ **Reading sessions logged:** 452 (average 57 per class)
- 👏 **Sessions acknowledged:** 96
- 📄 **Pages read:** 16446

PLEASE, please read with your child. It is the most important thing you can do to help them with their learning! Pageticker is so easy to use...the children can record their reading themselves!

Reading engagement by class:

Class name	% of pupils with 3+ reading logs last week
Daisy Chain	0%
Oak	36%
Cherry	29%
Rowan	32%
Birch	27%
Hawthorn	45%
Lime	34%
Alder	47%





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Be Active

When "Being Active" is going well, your child may:

- Sleep better at night or fall asleep quicker.
- Talk about things they enjoy doing. It is important to encourage your child in the hobbies they choose to pursue.
- Eat well. If your child is being active regularly, this may encourage them to eat a varied, healthy diet.
- Feel less anxious. Being active encourages the 'feel good hormones' to be produced
- Be more social and want to make real life connections with people.
- Concentrate well for a period of time.
- Be open to talking about anything that may be worrying them.
- Be keen to go outside and move away from the screen.
- Be energetic.

When "Being Active" is not going well, your child may :

- Find getting to sleep or sleeping well tricky at night
- Not talk willingly about how their day has been or how they are feeling.
- Snack too much and not eat regular healthy meals.
- Feel anxious about everyday things.
- Want to stay at home all the time and not make friends.
- Find concentrating for any amount of time difficult
- Be withdrawn.
- Become obsessive about a computer game, phone or console.
- Be either lethargic or over tired which may result in becoming 'big and physical' in presence. They may also tire easily after gentle exercise.

Being outside

- Find an open space, somewhere around you there is space to 'walk and talk'. Nature has a positive impact on our mental wellbeing.
- 'Grow your own' – even with a limited amount of space you can grow herbs or flowers.
- Contact local gardening/walking or volunteering groups. This is a great way to encourage your child to also take part in new things.
- Volunteer to walk a neighbours/friends/grandparent's dog.
- Make a mud kitchen. An old saucepan, old spoon, somewhere they can dig some mud and a jug of water. That's it!
- Build a den! You can use sheets and pegs, or the sofa or under the bed.
- Go on a treasure hunt for everyday things in nature. For example, find a feather, twig, road sign etc.
- Have a look at the National Trust website for ideas on walks.
- Create a bug hunt.
- Try geocaching - this has really taken off over the past couple of years and is great fun. Or Pokemon Go!

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 'be active'.
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 our final **Back to Basics** coffee morning of the term in the Green Room on the following date:

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 next one will be 'be active'.

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.



Food Habits Survey (Hampshire County Council)

Hampshire County Council, in partnership with the Hampshire Food Alliance, are looking for people to complete their survey on food and cooking habits.
The results of this survey will be used to inform their work around access to food and sustainability. It should take about 10 minutes to complete and will close on **Monday the 30th November at 11:59pm**.
Please follow this link to complete the survey:
https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations/ow-food-management
Smart Living is Hampshire County Council's waste prevention initiative, engaging and enabling residents in ways to save money while helping the environment. They provide information and tools which are freely available to residents to help manage their food in the home.
To find out more, please follow this link:
https://www.hants.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling/smartliving
For any questions, please contact us at Waste.Prevention@hants.gov.uk



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Safeguarding: Wake Up Wednesday



This week's **#WakeUpWednesday** focuses on advertisements aimed at children.

Children are particularly vulnerable to the persuasive effects of advertising because of their still-developing critical thinking and impulse control skills.

Children are regularly and passively exposed to advertising online, whether through influencers, paid advertisements, or sponsored content. Although 92% of 12-17- year olds felt confident recognising online advertising, only 37% correctly identified sported adverts in seach results.

This will be added to the website https://www.stalbansprimaryschool.co.uk/onlinesafety and shared on our school Facebook page each week.

Attendance and Punctuality

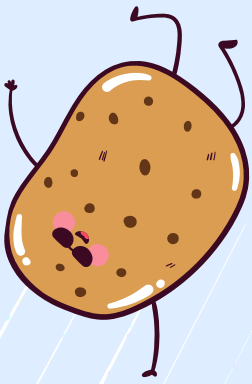
"Every day of school missed is a day stolen from a child's future,"
Bridget Phillipson (Education Secretary), August 2025

Whole school average - 95.4%
(national average 95.4%)

PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD IS IN SCHOOL EVERY DAY UNLESS THEY ARE REALLY UNWELL; if you 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) - 98%
- Cherry (1) - 95%
- Rowan (2) - 95%
- Birch (3) - 95%
- Hawthorn (4) - 96%
- Lime (5) - 96.5%
- 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

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.

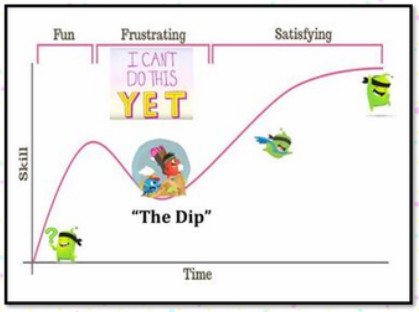
Check out the new designs - available from Skoolkit!

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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Celebrations

This half term we are focusing on the learning skill of





Headteacher Awards go to: Roman, William, Elijah, Willow, Arnie, Cornelius

STEP Awards go to:

Merits go to:

- Oak (R) - William, Ricky-Royce
- Cherry (1) - Rylie, Ciaran
- Rowan (2) - Quinn, Orlando
- Birch (3) - Jaxon, Eli
- Hawthorn (4) - Ave-Grace, Jesse
- Lime (5) - Charlie
- Alder (6) - All of Alder class for their amazing workshop!



Health and Wellbeing: First Aid Friday

This weeks **#FirstAidFriday** focuses on chickenpox. Chickenpox is a common infection that spreads easily and mostly affects children. It usually gets better on its own after 1 to 2 weeks, but can be serious in some people. The main symptom of chickenpox is an itchy, spotty rash. It can be anywhere on the body. Before or after the rash appears, you might also have: a high temperature, aches and pains, and generally feel unwell, loss of appetite. Infected people should stay away from school until 5 days after the rash first appears.

Poppy Appeal 2026

We will be supporting the **Royal British Legion Remembrance Appeal** this year by offering poppies to pupils in school for a minimum donation of 50 pence (ideally send donations in a sealed envelope with 'Poppy Appeal' written clearly on the front). Students from Year 6 will be offering poppies to pupils in school during break times from Monday 2nd November.

For more information about the appeal, or to donate online, please visit: https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/donate

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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!



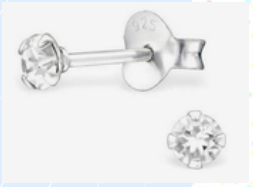
Willow achieved swimmer of the week - well done!



**Jude celebrated his achievement of being awarded 'Trainer of the Week' at football last term.
He received this award in recognition of his excellent listening skills and footballing ability. Well done Jude!**

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 trust. Our Collective Worships this half term will develop children's understanding that trust is at the heart of all healthy relationships: with God, with others and within ourselves. The worships build from everyday experiences of trust, through biblical examples, and culminate in Advent and Christmas as children discover that God can be trusted because He always keeps His promises.

This week we started to explore people that we can trust and what that means. We explored the verse from John 14:1 "Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. We also discussed Harry Kane's Ballon d'Or win as his story is one of perseverance which was our value last half term.

All of our Collective Worships 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 09.11.2026

10/11

Y4 Trip to Winchester Science Centre

13/11

Children in Need - Pyjama Day

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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Headteacher:
Mrs Sarah Goldsworthy BA(Hons) QTS NPQH NASENCo

Ofsted
Read our report