



WEEKLY BULLETIN

5TH SEPTEMBER 2025

Headteacher Message

Dear Parents/carers,

Welcome back to the start of the new school year. As we step into a brand-new school year, we are filled with excitement and hope for all that lies ahead. This is a wonderful opportunity for fresh beginnings, new learning, and growing together in fellowship as a community. Each child brings unique gifts and potential, and we look forward to seeing them flourish—academically, socially, and spiritually—through the months ahead. Together, with love and kindness; curiosity and courage, we will make this year a joyful and memorable journey of discovery and achievement.

An especially warm welcome is extended to all of our new families and children and we look forward to our new reception class starting next Tuesday.

Uniform

Earrings: all year groups, not just year 6

Many children have had their ears pierced over the Summer and whilst this is very exciting for them, it is also incredibly important that we are safe at school. Therefore, we ask that on PE days, no earrings are worn to school: children will be asked to take them out and the removal will be the responsibility of the child (no adult may assist with the removal or replacement of earrings). **Only small gold or silver studs or white gemstones may be worn:** any other earrings are unsafe and your child will be told to take them out.

Summer v Winter Uniform

The long range forecast is quite mixed and it doesn't look as if we will get an 'Indian Summer' this year. Therefore, please choose the appropriate clothing for your child - they can wear winter uniform if they are cold or it is wet.

Changes to Celebration Worships and Learning Quest Celebrations

After consulting with staff and numerous parents, we will be inviting parents to one celebration worship a half term instead of every week. We will continue to celebrate in school and I know that your children will be excited to bring their certificates and badges home.

Learning Quest celebrations will ONLY be held the week before October half term, February half term and May half term. Please check the school calendar for the dates for your child's class.

What's in this bulletin?

- Headteacher message
- Earrings: PLEASE READ
- Safeguarding: school grounds
- Staffing Update
- Uniform reminders
- A respectful community
- INSET days
- Reminders for next week

Safeguarding: school grounds

Fencing

I'm sure most of you will have noticed that there is new fencing around the perimeter of our school along St Alban's Road. Unfortunately, the old wooden 'pencil' fencing was condemned by Hampshire as part of their annual property visit so it needed to be replaced. Replacing fences is an expensive business and this fencing is a standard replacement for old wooden fences. It is more cost effective and will last much longer too. There is also a requirement that fences around schools are now at least 6ft high to ensure that all children are safe on the school site.

The School Site

Over the past year, we have spent a significant amount of our school budget on improving the safety of the school site. This includes the new fencing around the perimeter as well as an electronic sign-in system and an intercom gate entry system. At the beginning and end of the school day, there is always a Designated Safeguarding Lead (Mrs Goldsworthy) or a Deputy on the school gate (Miss Bond, Ms Brooks, Mrs Clarke, Mrs James or Mrs Welton). Any visitor to the school site must report to the office who have a clear line of sight to the gate. Your children not only have a large and beautiful school grounds to learn in but a safe one also. We have reminded our children today of how we keep them safe in school and we will continue to remind them as part of our Safeguarding Curriculum.

Staffing update

I am now able to confirm that Mrs Johnston will not be returning to St Alban's as a teacher. We all wish her well for the future and hope that she finds happiness in her new adventures.

Mrs James remains unfit for work and I cannot give an expected return date or any further information. A separate letter has been sent to year 2 parents which explain the necessary teaching arrangements.

Uniform Reminders

When purchasing new school uniform for next year, please consult the policy:

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

IMPORTANT

PE kits **MUST** be a **PLAIN NAVY TRACKSUIT** or **SHORTS**- no stripes or logos and **T-SHIRTS** must be a **PLAIN WHITE POLO STYLE**. This is especially important as we are now in our PE kits more frequently and all day. 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.

A Kind and Respectful Community

A Reminder for everyone

As we move into the new school year, we'd like to gently remind all parents and carers to continue using WhatsApp and other group chats in a way that reflects our school's values of love, courage and fellowship. **In particular, we ask that parents avoid discussing specific children's behaviour in group messages.** These conversations can be easily misunderstood and are best handled privately and directly with school staff.

Thank you for helping us maintain a supportive, inclusive community where every child and family feels safe and respected.

INSET DAYS 2025-2026

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

Monday 3rd November 2025
Monday 5th January 2026
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 w.c. 8.9.25

8.9.2025 YR Home Visits
9.9.2025 Y7 applications open for current Y6 pupils
9.9.2025 YR begin part-time
12.9.2025 Tea and Tissues Morning for YR parents - info to follow.

Please check the diary for **Meet the Teacher** dates/times:
<https://www.stalbansprimaryschool.co.uk/diary/grid/2025/09/>

Headteacher:
Mrs Sarah Goldsworthy BA QTS NPQH

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