



Learning and Growing with God by our Side



St Alban & St Stephen Catholic Primary School & Nursery

Welcome to Year 4

SEPTEMBER 2026



Our School Prayer

Dear God,

Bless all the children and staff in our school.

Bless all our loving parents, our school community and parishioners.

Let us follow the shining examples of St Alban and St Stephen.

Help us to be the best that we can be and guide us as we stay connected to you and Jesus in all that we do.

As a school, we are learning and growing with God by our side.

Amen.

A vibrant, stained-glass-style illustration. The central text, "Learning and Growing with God by Our Side", is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font with a white outline, set against a blue, geometric background. Below the text is a large, open book. To the right, a white dove flies towards the left. The entire scene is surrounded by a dense border of colorful flowers, leaves, butterflies, and stars. The overall composition is bright and cheerful, with a religious and educational theme.

Our Values

Faith

Friendship

Determination

Respect

Unity

Our Golden Rules



We are gentle.

We are kind.

We listen.

We are honest.

We work hard.

We look after property
and our environment.

Our Senior Leadership Team



Mrs S. Lavelle
Murphy
Executive
Headteacher



Ms T. Hackett
Head of School



Mrs C. Smith
Senior Assistant
Headteacher &
SENDCO



Mrs J. Bates
Assistant
Headteacher

Year 4 Staff



Mrs Butterworth
Hazel Class teacher
Mon-Thurs

Ms Mannering
Hazel Class
teacher Friday

Mrs Rindfleisch
Beech Class
Teacher

Mrs LoBue
Beech Teaching
Assistant

Mrs Concialdi
Hazel Teaching
Assistant

Other Key Staff Members

P.E (KS1 and 2) and Music (KS1 and 2) will be covered by specialist teachers.



Mr D. Byrne
Sports Coach



Mrs Z. Flatt
Music Specialist



Mrs Rees
Pastoral Mentor

Drop Off and Pick Up

The doors open at 8.45am and close at 8.55am. There is a soft start to the day and when the children arrive, they start their SODA (Start of Day Activity) before lessons begin. Children arriving after 8.55 will be marked late.

Please help your child settle by allowing them to come into the classroom independently.

School finishes at 3.05 (Reception) 3.15 (KS1) 3.20 (KS2)

Other adults who regularly pick up your child should be added to Arbor. For one-off occasions, please inform the teacher or email into the office with the adult's name, their role, and whether your child is expecting to be picked up by this person or not. Children in Nursery to Year 4 can only be picked up by an older sibling who is aged 14+ (Year 10+)- you must inform the Office of this in writing or by email.

Lunches

Parents need to choose their child's meal options in advance using the Stir Food App.

This ensures that parents help their child to choose a meal they know that they will like. It also ensures that your child will get the meal option that they want.

Alternatively, your child can bring in their own packed lunch. No glass bottles, fizzy drinks or any food containing nuts are allowed.

KS2 School Stationery

Children may bring one simple pencil case labelled with their name containing:

- **A pencil and sharpener; 2 spare pencils**
- **A black handwriting pen (not black biro) and a purple pen**
- **A rubber**
- **Colouring pencils and felt tips**
- **A glue stick**
- **A ruler - 30cm**

Please ask your child to tell you when they need replacements. Stationery can be provided in school if your child does not want to bring their own pencil case.

Uniform

Please ensure all items of clothing are
CLEARLY MARKED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME.

- Black school shoes must be worn – no trainers.
- Long hair must be tied up with simple black, green or red hair ties.
- Jewellery – children may only wear simple stud earrings and a silent watch or Fitbit (no smartwatches allowed). No necklaces, bracelets, charity bands etc are allowed.
- A warm, waterproof coat must be provided as children play outside.
- Red caps must be worn on sunny days and during trips.
- Summer uniform can be worn for the first Autumn half term.

PE Kit

Ensure all items of clothing are CLEARLY MARKED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME.

- Our PE days are Monday and Wednesday.
Children should wear their P.E. kit to school on P.E. days.
- Plain white T shirt (with or without school logos but no other logos)
- Red shorts/ black leggings or tracksuit bottoms
- Red hoodie with NO DRAWSTRING (plain red or with school logo but no other logos) or school jumper/ cardigan
- Plain trainers with non-marking soles
- No jewellery should be worn.

Ask in the Office if you want to purchase cheap, pre-loved uniform- we have a wide selection.

Reading in Year 4

- Reading frequently is important so please aim to read daily at home – reading books and other reading material from a variety of genres (e.g. non-fiction, magazines, newspapers, recipes, poetry.)
- Develop Comprehension by questioning children (VIPERS – Vocabulary, Inference, Predict, Explain, Retrieval, Summarise)
- Guided reading sessions in school to teach skills of reading.
- Library books - please read and return for biweekly library sessions.

Maths in Year 4

- Place value, rounding numbers
- Revision written addition & subtraction.
- Multiplication & division – facts, formal written layout
- Factor pairs, integer scaling & correspondence problems
- Multiply & divide by 10/100
- Measure – conversion of units
- Discrete and continuous data, including scales.
- Area & Perimeter
- Properties of shape - angles, properties of triangles
- Symmetry
- Calculating with decimal numbers
- Measure – money
- Fractions – add & subtract, fractions of quantities & measures, equivalent fractions
- Time – analogue & digital – 12 hour & 24 hour clocks
- Statistics – interpret continuous & discrete data
- Roman numerals to 100 and 0
- Negative numbers
- Geometry – Geometry – coordinates & translations.

Writing in Year 4

- Children use either pencil or black handwriting pens
- Cursive (joined handwriting)
- Writing for a range of purposes e.g. non-chronological reports, narrative, explanations, persuasion, biography, diary writing.
- Proof reading and editing their writing.
- Reading widely will benefit children in their writing ability.

R.E.

Autumn Term

- Branch 1: Creation and Covenant
- Branch 2: Prophecy and Promise

Spring Term

- Branch 3: Galilee to Jerusalem
- Branch 4: Desert to Garden

Summer Term

- Branch 5: To the Ends of the Earth
- Branch 6: Dialogue and Encounter



Other curriculum topics in Year 4

- Science
- History
- Geography
- Computing
- Art and design
- Design and Technology
- PSHE
- PE
- Music
- French

Year 4 MTC

- In June, all Year 4 pupils will complete a National Times tables check.
- 6 seconds per question
- All tables up to the 12 times table.
- Please practise at home as much as possible – this will really help the children.
- TTRS (Times Tables Rockstars) will produce a heat map to show accuracy and speed of recall.

Home Learning

- Daily Reading
- Online maths and spelling practice
- Years 4-6 written homework in CGP books.
- Termly oracy task:
 - Autumn- Poem
 - Spring & Summer- Speech
- Optional home learning activities (creative and linked to school learning)
- Homework is set on Tuesday and must be completed/ returned by the following Monday

More information is available on the Home Learning Policy

How you can help at home

- Make sure your child is in school on time, every day.
- Reading and asking questions about books
- Real life Maths e.g. telling the time and cooking
- Encourage children to complete homework and present neatly
- Regular practise of multiplication facts and weekly spellings
- Ensure that equipment is in school and clearly named
- Talk to your children about what they have been learning



Smartphone-Free School

A significant number of St Albans primary schools have agreed to support the 'Smartphone-Free Childhood initiative. <https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>
<https://delaysmartphones.org.uk/>

By “smartphones”, we mean phones that can access the internet, as opposed to old-fashioned mobile phones that can only text and make phone calls.

After consulting with staff, parents and governors, we have agreed that at SSAS, primary-aged pupils should not have smartphones.

Primary-aged pupils should not be on any social media, including WhatsApp, Snapchat, Instagram or TikTok (all have a 13+ age restriction).



What does this mean for you?

No SAS child will be able to bring a smartphone to school when they walk to and from school. Year 5 and 6 children who walk to and from school by themselves can, if parents wish, bring a tracker or an old-fashioned phone which does not connect to the internet, e.g. a Nokia.

All phones must be handed into the class teacher at the start of the day and will be returned at the end of the day.

We ask parents not to buy their child a smartphone while in primary school. We ask that parents do not allow their child to access age-inappropriate social media and join WhatsApp groups.

Parents on school grounds are not allowed to use mobile phones unless outside the school gates. This is a safeguarding issue. It also sends a message to our children that they are more important than our phones and sets a positive example.

Year 5 and 6 parents will need to complete the walk home from school Google form.

Parent Helpers



The support of parents is of enormous benefit to the children and we warmly welcome it.

We already have a team of fantastic parent volunteers who read with children and help in the library every week. If you are interested in becoming a regular volunteer, please notify the office and further information will follow.

(Please note that in line with Hertfordshire County Council, all parents working in school will be asked to apply for police clearance.)

Any Questions?

If you have any further questions, email the office: admin@ssas.herts.sch.uk

We will get back to you as soon as possible.

Lots of information can be found on the website on Learning/Year-group Information and in the parent and pupil handbook.

<https://www.ssas.herts.sch.uk/Parents/Letters-and-Forms/>

Watch out for the Friday Diary Dates sent out with information for the week ahead.

The news page on our website also has weekly blogs with school news.



Thank you for your support.

We hope that you found this information useful.
We are looking forward to getting to know your
families and children this year.