



Learning and Growing with God by our Side



St Alban & St Stephen Catholic Primary School & Nursery

Welcome to Year 2

SEPTEMBER 2025

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.

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 2 Staff



Mrs Rose
Cherry Class
Teacher/
KS1 Phase Lead



Mr Carr
Cherry Class
Teacher/Phase
Lead



Mrs Pham
Willow Class
Teacher



Mrs Realmuto
Willow Class
Teaching
Assistant



Ms N
Kendell
Cherry Class
Teaching
Assistant

Ms Ruff
Willow Class
Teaching
Assistant

Other Staff Members

P.E and Music and will be covered by specialist teachers.



Mr D Byrne
P.E Specialist



Mrs Rees
Pastoral Mentor



Mrs Z Flatt
Music Specialist

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.

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.

KS1 PE Kit

Please ensure all items of clothing are clearly marked with your child's name.

Children need to have correct PE Kit in school for their PE days. Our PE days are Tuesday and Thursday. Children to come in their PE kits both days.

- Plain white T shirt (with or without school logos but no other logos)
- Plain dark tracksuit bottoms
- Red school zip up hoodie
- Plain trainers with non-marking soles
- No jewellery should be worn.

R.E.



Reading in Year 2

- Our school uses a phonics scheme called Little Wandle.
- Our reading scheme books are closely matched to your child's phonics ability. The reading book that each child brings home should be read with 95% accuracy which is why it is very important that the book matches their phonics ability.
- After Phase 5 Set 5, children will move onto coloured.
- Please make sure that books are brought into school every day..
- Children will start to bring home two books: one is a home reading book and one is a reading practice book.
- The new reading practise book will be given out each Thursday.
- Children will have the opportunity to visit our school library once every 2 weeks.
- The children will also be visiting the library once a week to choose a book to bring home and share with family members.



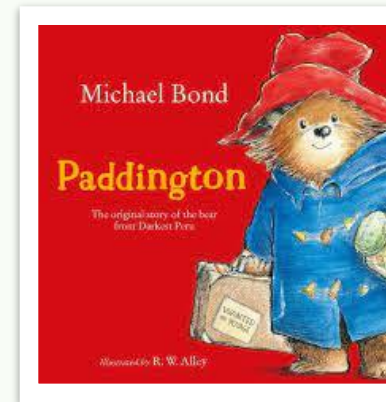
Writing in Year 2

- In year 2, children should learn a range of English language and literature skills, such as reading common exception words, recognising suffixes, spelling homophones and writing simple narrative stories. The main areas that are addressed in the year 2 English classroom include:

Transcription (Handwriting)

Writing Composition

Grammar, Spelling, Punctuation and Vocabulary



- The stimulus for writing comes from our whole class texts;

Paddington Bear and

Katie in London by James Mayhew



Maths in Year 2

➤ Daily Maths lesson/Maths fluency 3 x a week

➤ In Year 2, we cover:

- Place Value (up to 100)
- Addition and subtraction facts (up to 20)
- Multiplication and Division (including the 2, 3 and 5 times tables)
- Properties of shape – common 2D and 3D shapes
- Simple Fractions
- Measurement – Length and Height
- Position and Direction
- Time – up to quarter to and quarter past
- Money
- Problem Solving basics (both number problems and word problems)



➤ We aim to develop a strong visual awareness of number and so use a lot of practical equipment in the classroom such as a ten-frame until children can subitise these numbers fluently.

Science in Year 2

Healthy Me

Material
Monster

Squash, Bend,
Twist and
Stretch

Our Local
environment

Living things,
habitats and
food chains

Young
Gardeners

Plants

Little
MasterChef



Computing in Year 2

Computing systems and networks 1:

What is a computer?
Exploring what a computer is by identifying how inputs and outputs work and how computers are used in the wider world to design their own computerised invention.
E Safety

Programming 1:

Algorithms and Debugging -
Developing an understanding of; what algorithms are, how to program them and how they can be developed to be more efficient, introduction of loops.

Computing systems and networks 2:

Word Processing –
Developing touch typing skills, learning keyboard shortcuts and simple editing tools.
E Safety

Programming 2:

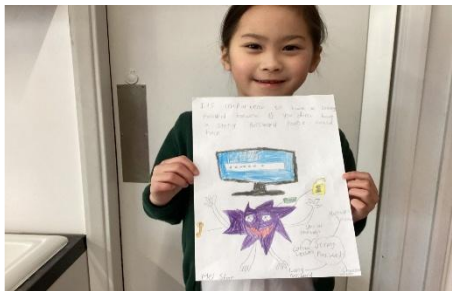
Scratch Junior –
Exploring what 'blocks' do' by carrying out an informative cycle of predict > test > review. Programming a familiar story and make a musical instrument.

Creating Media:

Stop Motion -
Learning how to create simple animations from storyboarding creative ideas.
E Safety

Data Handling:

International Space Station
Learning how data is collected, used and displayed and the scientific learning of the conditions needed for plants and humans, to survive.



History and Geography in Year 2

London today
Big Question:
Why is London
an important
city?

London in the
past: The Great
Fire and
Gunpowder
Plot
Big Question:
Why and how
do we
remember
these events?

The World and
Me:
Asia (Hong
Kong)
Big Question:
How is Hong
Kong different
to the place
that I live?

Castles
Big Question:
Why don't
people live in
castles
anymore?

Oceans
Big Question:
Why do we
need to
protect our
oceans?

Local history of
our school: The
Orchid King of
St Albans
Big question:
What
happened here
in the past and
how do we
know?



Assessment in Year 2

- There will not be any formal SATs assessments in Year 2.
- Instead, we will conduct informal assessments to inform any areas for further teaching.

Home Learning

- Maths homework in Year 2 is sometimes set on 'My Maths', sometimes TT Rockstars and sometimes on paper. It goes out on a Wednesday and is due in on Monday.
- Times tables will be available and the children can achieve rewards for the amount they practice.
- Additional maths will be available on Numbots. This will be monitored for participation.
- Spellings will be given out on a Wednesday for a 'check' on Mondays.
- All children should read for 10 minutes a day. Please record this in their Reading Journals.
- The children are also given a grid of topic-based activities for home learning at the start of the term. We ask that they complete at least 3 pieces across the whole term. (This system is currently under review. Pending parental feedback this is subject to change later in the Autumn term)
- We will send out reminders of logins.

How you can help at home

- Ensuring your child maintains a high level of attendance and is punctual
- Maths games - (dice games, card games, online e.g. Topmarks)
- Practise Times Table Rockstars / Numbots.
- Play My Maths games
- Practise times tables and mental maths regularly
- Cooking and baking
- Telling the time
- Problem solving at the shops
- Reading



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 refer to phones that are able to 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 SAS primary-aged pupils should not have smartphones.

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



What does this mean for you?

From September 2025, no SAS child will be able to bring a smartphone to school when they walk to and from school. From September 2024, only our current Year 6 pupils who walk to and from school by themselves have been allowed to bring smartphones (as this was already allowed for them last year).

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 eg 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.

Parent Helpers (and other adults)



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

We can now invite parent volunteers back to help in school. If you are interested in becoming a 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.)

PTA

Parent Teacher Association

SSAS's PTA organize events to raise money for our school. During the last academic year the PTA raised over £28,000! Money raised by the PTA helped to fund new phonics reading books for EYFS/KS1, an environmental tutor, anti-bullying workshops, a swimming coach and much more.

But.. we need you!

Please join us for the PTA's AGM is on the 17th October 7pm.

PTA chairs: Colette, Ruth, Valeria, Sara

Email: ssaspta@gmail.com

Or drop us a note into the school office.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Any Questions?

If you have any further questions after the welcome meeting, please email the office:


admin@ssas.herts.sch.uk

We will try to get back to you as soon as possible.

A decorative border at the top of the image featuring a variety of autumn leaves in shades of yellow, orange, and red, some with green still visible. The leaves are scattered and overlap, creating a natural, textured edge.

Thank you for your support.

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

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