



Learning and Growing with God by our Side



St Alban & St Stephen Catholic Primary School & Nursery

Welcome to Year 3

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.

A vibrant, stained-glass style illustration. The central text reads "Learning and Growing with God by Our Side" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The background is a mosaic of blue and white geometric shapes, resembling a stained-glass window. A white dove with outstretched wings is positioned on the right side. Below the text, an open book lies flat. The entire scene is surrounded by a dense border of colorful flowers, leaves, and butterflies. In the bottom corners, there are small red books with white text that reads "© 2015 by [illegible]".

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 3 Staff



Mrs Tennant
Hazel Class
teacher & Phase
lead



Ms Noonan
Rowan Class
Teacher



Mrs Lobue
Teaching
Assistant



Mr Taylor
Chestnut Class
Teacher



Mrs Concialdi
Teaching
Assistant

Other Staff Members

P.E (KS1 and 2), Music (KS1 and 2) and French (Key Stage 2 only) will be covered by specialist teachers.



Mr D. Byrne
Sports Coach



Mrs Z. Flatt
Music Specialist



Mrs A. Harvey
French 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 3.05pm (Reception) 3.15pm (KS1) 3.20pm (KS2)

Other adults who regularly pick up your child should be added to Arbor. For one-off occasions, please inform the teacher or email 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

We encourage parents to discuss school lunches with their child and to book their lunch choices in advance using Arbor.

This ensures that parents help their child to choose a meal they know that they will like and also means a quicker start to the school day .

- Red: Meat/Fish option
- Green: Vegetarian option
- Yellow: Roll or sandwich
- Blue: Jacket Potato

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

Please 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.

R.E.

Autumn Term

Creation and Covenant
Prophecy and Promise

Spring Term

Galilee to Jerusalem
Desert to Garden

Summer Term

To the ends of the Earth
Dialogue and encounter



Reading in Year 3

- 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 weekly library sessions

Spelling in Year 3

- Weekly spelling patterns taught and homework given
- Prefixes e.g. re- and dis-
- Suffixes e.g. -ly and -ic
- Spelling and reading Year 3 and 4 words from memory.

Writing in Year 3

- Children use pencils until they achieve their pen licence
- Cursive (joined handwriting)
- Writing for a range of purposes e.g. non-chronological reports, narrative, explanations, persuasion, biography, letter writing
- Reading widely will benefit children in their writing ability

Maths in Year 3

- Place value, rounding numbers
- Written addition & subtraction.
- Multiplication & division – facts and formal written layout
- Fact families and applying the inverse.
- Multiplication – 3, 4 and 8 times tables
- Division – 1, 2, 3, 5, 4 and 8 times tables, long division
- Multiply & divide by 10
- Measures – measuring and problem solving
- Angles, right angles and estimation. Perpendicular and parallel lines, vertical and horizontal lines.
- Perimeter
- 3-D and 2-D Shape – drawing 2D shapes, building 3D shapes and identifying the properties of both
- Place value and decimal numbers - estimation, comparing and rounding, Regrouping, ten times greater and ten times smaller
- Fractions - ordering and comparing fractions, adding and subtracting Fractions and problem solving
- Time – analogue & digital clocks, telling the time
- Statistics – pictograms and bar charts, including interpreting bar charts and tables
- Roman numerals

Science in Year 3

- Rocks and soil
- Forces and friction
- Animals including humans
- Light
- Magnets
- Plants

Other curriculum topics in Year 3

- History: The Stone Age, Ancient Egyptians, Victorians
- Geography: Volcanoes and Earthquakes, Mountains, Changing St Albans
- Computing: Computing Systems and Networks, Programming, Data Handling
- Art and design: Prehistoric art, drawing
- Design and Technology: Christmas trees, collage
- PSHE: Circle Times, Behaviour focusses, Allergy lessons
- PE: Invasion Games, Health, Wellbeing and Fitness, Striking and Fielding
- Music: Composition (The Stone Age), Ukuleles, Singing Playgrounds
- French: Phonics, Les animaux, Les instruments, Je peux

Home Learning

- Daily reading – 20 minutes a day is preferable
- Times tables practice – particularly 3, 4 and 8
- Weekly Maths and Spellings
- Termly Home Learning grid – 6 pieces including 2 RE Following staff and parent feedback, we are reviewing our homework system. Parents will be asked to contribute their views. For this term, homework will remain the same
- Times Tables Rock Stars & Numbots

How you can help at home

- Reading and asking questions about books
- Real life Maths, e.g. telling the time and cooking
- Encourage children to complete homework and to present neatly
- Having named equipment in school
- Talking to your children about what they have been learning to encourage oracy skills



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 asocial 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. 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.

Year 5 and 6 parents will need to complete the walk home from school form which was sent to you.

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, please email the office:

admin@ssas.herts.sch.uk

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

Lots of information can be found in the new parent and pupil handbook which was sent out to all parents before term started.

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.

A decorative border at the bottom of the image, similar to the top one, featuring autumn leaves in yellow, orange, and red. The leaves are scattered and overlap, creating a natural, textured edge.