



Where we live 'life to the full'  
John 10:10



# St Alban's Catholic Primary School

Rothbury Avenue, Pelaw, Gateshead, NE10 0QY

Telephone: 0191 4693251

Email: [info@stap.bwcet.com](mailto:info@stap.bwcet.com)

Website: <https://stalbanspelaw.bwcet.com/>

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you all had a wonderful summer and enjoyed the superb weather. The children have settled beautifully into school, and it has been a delight to see them looking incredibly smart in their new school uniform.

Please find below a few notices to keep you informed of some important updates.

### PE Slots:

On Tuesday, we communicated our Grassroots PE slots with you and organised the timetable so that those pupils who needed to, could come in, ready in their PE kits, for their first day back.

Each class will receive two PE slots – please see below for the updated timetable **which explains when the second PE slot and/or swimming will take place.**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Nursery		Little Movers			PE
Reception		Little Movers			PE
Year 1		PE Grassroots		PE	
Year 2		PE Grassroots			PE
Year 3		PE Grassroots		PE Grassroots	
Year 4		PE			PE
Year 5		Swimming		PE Grassroots	
Year 6	PE			PE Grassroots	

### After-school clubs:

These will commence from next week – our provision is as follows and we hope to grow this as the year progresses.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Before school Clubs</b>		<b>Lexia and Reading Plus Club</b>			
<b>3:30pm – 4:15pm</b>	Mindful Colouring	Rugby (KS2 only)  Lego (KS1 only)  Grassroots – Gymnastics (Year 1 to Year 6)	No clubs due to staff training	French Club (Year 1 to Year 6)	

Please note that there will be a small charge £2 per session for after-school clubs (not Lexia and Reading Plus) to support the continuation of the clubs as we move forward. Clubs are bookable on

Arbor app and will commence from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September. Thank you for your understanding and support.

### Retirement:

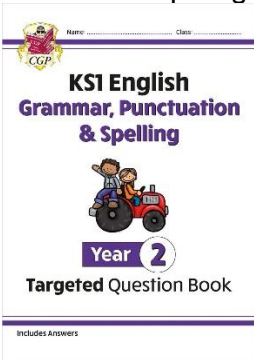



At the end of October, Mrs Johnson will sadly be retiring from school. We will miss her dearly and thank her for her many years of service to our school. She has looked after hundreds of pupils in her time with us, and has been faithful and loyal member of the St. Alban's community.

We will shortly be recruiting for her replacement. Please keep an eye on BWCET vacancies should you be interested in applying.

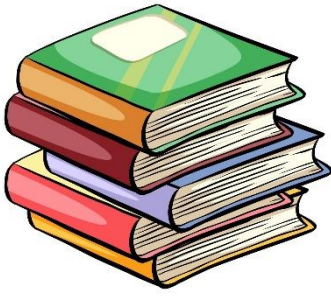
### Homework and reading:

In order to try and keep things simple for our families, we have organised spellings and homework so that they are sent home on the same day across the school and returned on the same day. We believe that this will be easier for everyone, particularly for those families who have more than one child in our school.

With this in mind, our homework will be sent home on the following days:

Monday	Friday	Number bonds and Times Table Tests																																																																																				
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Spellings</b></p> <p>Sent home on a Monday – pupils will be required to write out spellings three times in their spelling homework book, and return it the following Monday.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="129 965 596 1518"> <thead> <tr> <th>Word</th> <th>Look</th> <th>Cover</th> <th>Write</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>accident</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>accidentally</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>actual</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>address</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>answer</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>appear</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>arrive</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>believe</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>bicycle</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>breath</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>breathe</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>build</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>busy</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>business</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>calendar</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>caught</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>centre</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>century</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>circle</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>complete</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Word	Look	Cover	Write	accident				accidentally				actual				address				answer				appear				arrive				believe				bicycle				breath				breathe				build				busy				business				calendar				caught				centre				century				circle				complete				<p><b>Week a)</b> English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling task</p>  <p><b>Week b)</b> Mathematics</p> 	<p>Each class will need to remember key facts linked to the national curriculum objectives. e.g. Number bonds to 20 in Key Stage 1 and times table and division facts in Key Stage 2.</p>  
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<p><b>Pupils will receive new spellings each Monday.</b></p> <p><i>In Reception and Key Stage 1, these will link to the phonic spellings that they are being taught in class.</i></p> <p><i>In Key Stage 2, spellings will be taken from the English national curriculum document.</i></p>	<p><b>Pupils will take home either their CGP book or Target your maths homework book on a Friday. The book will need to be returned on a Tuesday, so that it can be marked and turned around in time for Friday.</b></p>	<p><b>Each Friday, we will complete a very short test – usually 10 number bonds or times table questions (in a random order).</b></p> <p>This will help to prepare us for the Year 4 multiplication times table check and to keep our number facts at the forefront of our minds.</p> <p><b>NumBots is specifically for KS1 pupils – log in details will be sent out in due course.</b></p>																																																																																				

Once we have updated pupils' login details for Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) and Numbots, we will send details home in pupils' reading diaries.



return books on a daily basis.

We ask that pupils' reading diaries are sent into school alongside their reading book each day, so that where necessary, we can read with the children and record this in their diaries.

•For pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, we will change reading books on a Monday and Friday, but ask that they read each day.

•For pupils in Key Stage 2, we will change books as and when is necessary, particularly, those who are 'free reading'. For this reason, we ask you to

### Free School Meals:

Every child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes is now entitled to a free school meal under the government's universal infant free school meal scheme. This is not means-tested. **If you qualify for Free School Meals, it is important that you apply – even if your children are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2.** For every valid application, we can claim extra funding for resources such as extra tuition, teaching assistants or after-school clubs.

Your children may also qualify for means-tested free school meals if you meet the following criteria:

- You or your partner receives child benefit (for the child you are applying for), and
- The child is in full time education, under 19 years of age, and
- The child attends a local authority school or sixth form.

You and your partner must be in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance (JSA – IB)
- Guarantee Pension Credit
- Employment and Support Allowance (ESA Income Related)
- Child Tax Credit – but not Working Tax Credit – and your income for Tax Credit purposes must be less than £16,190.00 (details are shown on your Tax Credit award notice)
- Working Tax Credit Run-on
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Universal Credit

Children who receive a free school meal are not singled out in any way. If you meet the above criteria, please apply online using the link below.

[Gateshead Council - Apply for free school meals](#)

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### Induction for Reception and Year 1:

We are delighted to invite our Nursery and Reception parents into school to find out more about our phonics strategy.



Please keep **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October** free and our EY Phonics Workshop for parents in Nursery and Reception will start (as close to 9am start as possible, once we have completed our register. You will be able to see a phonics lesson and learn more about the resources we use and how best to help your child at home with their 'magnet eyes' on our lovely texts.

Year 1 Parents/Carers – please keep **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November** free (we will again start as close as possible to 9am) so that we can explain what happens during the Phonics Screening Check test and what we intend to do to help you to support your child reach the threshold, throughout the course of the year.

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Please see below some key dates for you for forthcoming term. As always, some dates may be subject to change.

**Dates for the Diary**

***(Please note that these dates are subject to change) – please note that educational visits are being confirmed and dates will be released in September***

**INSET days:**

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October – EY Phonics Workshop for parents in Nursery and Reception (as close to 9am start as possible)

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October – Whole-school Mass – Reception to Year 6 – 10am (To be confirmed)

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October – Reception and Year 6 Buddy Welcome Service – 2:45pm

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October – School photographs all day

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October – Half Term

Tuesday 04<sup>th</sup> November – Parents' Evening – 3:40pm – 6pm

Thursday 06<sup>th</sup> November – Parents' Evening – 3:40pm – 6pm

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November – Anti-bullying week

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November – Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Parental Workshop (as close to 9am start as possible)

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November – Nursery and Reception Numbersense Workshop (as close to 9am start as possible)

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December – KSI Performance – 2pm

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December – KSI Performance – 10am

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Pantomime visit to Tyne Theatre for Year 1 to Year 6

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December – EY Christmas Performance – 10am and 2pm

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Key Stage 2 Carol Service in Church – 2pm

**Visit:** [News – St Patrick's RC Church, Felling](#) for more information relating to the parish to St. Patrick's RC, Felling and St. Alban's, Pelaw.