



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



# St Alban's Catholic Primary School

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**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

**Dear Parents/Carers,**

We are very excited to hold our Year 6 and Reception buddy Celebration of the Word service at 2:45pm on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October. All Reception and Year 6 parents are invited to school for this wonderful celebration.

Additionally, our Year 4 pupils will also be leading us in the 10am class Mass on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October, too. We look forward to seeing you all then.

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### **First Holy Communion:**

All those in Year 4, 5 and 6 who have not made their First Holy Communion are invited to attend information evening will be held at St Alban's Church on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October 6.30pm with Fr. Martin. He writes to say:

*'If you want to enroll your child to prepare for these sacraments, I invite you to collect an application form which is available at Masses on Saturdays and Sundays. They will be available for collection until the 12<sup>th</sup> October.'*

A separate email is being sent to parents/carers of Years 4/5/6, which includes a more detailed version of the invitation.

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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.



**Read Write Inc.**  
Phonics

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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### **Change to the school timetable:**

We are writing to inform you of a small adjustment to the daily schedule for our Key Stage 2 pupils. Governors have agreed to extending lunchtime from 45 minutes to one hour and to remove the afternoon break. This change has been made following careful consideration of how best to support pupils' wellbeing, social development, and learning. By increasing lunchtime, children will have more time to eat, relax, and engage in meaningful play and social interaction. It also allows us to better structure the school day to maximise learning time and minimise transitions.

**LUNCH  
TIME**

We understand that routine changes can raise questions, and we want to reassure you that this decision has been made with the best interests of our pupils in mind. Staff will continue to monitor the impact of this change closely and ensure that children are well-supported throughout the day.

Please note that Key Stage One pupils already have a one-hour lunch break and an afternoon playtime and this will remain. Thank you for your continued support.

## **SEND Termly Pupil Support Plan review meetings:**

To ensure that our SEND pupil support plan reviews are as meaningful and well-informed as possible, we have decided to move these meetings from October to December. This adjustment takes into account the timing of our parents' evenings in early November, which will provide valuable insights into pupil progress and parental feedback - and avoids duplication.

By holding the reviews later in the term, we can ensure that plans are updated with the most current information, are better aligned with each child's needs and can be held with the class teacher, SENDCo and parents/carers present, together. These will be scheduled for December 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. We will communicate appointment times with you, after the half-term break.

**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 due course***

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October – KS2 Archery Day

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October – Year 4 Class Mass

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

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November – Year 6 Class Mass

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

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November – Year 4 Visit to Vindolanda

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November – Year 6 Visit to Safetyworks

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November – Year 5 Bikeability (Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri)

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

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November – Year 4 Bikeability

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

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November – EY and KS1 Gymnastics Day

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November – Year 5 Visit to Jarrow Hall

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December – Year 5 Class Mass

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December – KS1 Performance – 2pm

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December – KS1 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 Advent Carol Service in Church – 2pm

### **Return to school on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January – Whole-School Mass led by Year 4 for Epiphany

*INSET Day – Pupils not at school - Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January*

**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.