



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



# St Alban's Catholic Primary School

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Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Thank you those who joined us for the Year 4 class Mass and the Year 6 Buddy Celebration of the Word service. We enjoyed seeing the wonderful new Reception cohort making friends with children in Year 6. We hope they will form lasting friendships.**

We are delighted to formally welcome four new staff members to the St. Alban's family! We are excited to see the positive impact they will have on our pupils' learning and wellbeing. As they settle into their new roles, we look forward to supporting them and working together to continue fostering a nurturing and inspiring environment for all. Welcome aboard!

*Miss Lumsden has been formally appointed as Year 1 class teacher. Miss Tait, who was on placement with us last year, has been appointed as a Higher-Level Teaching Assistant. She will be working closely with Miss Colligan and other classes throughout the school. We have also appointed two teaching assistants - Miss Robson who will be working alongside our Year 1 pupils and Miss Kettle, who will be supporting in Early Years.*

**On Wednesday, we say a sad farewell to Mrs Johnson. On behalf of our community, we wish her a long and fulfilling happy retirement.**

## Monster Ball:

FRIENDS OF ST ALBAN'S  
PRESENT

# MONSTER BALL

2025

LIMITED AVAILABILITY!

THURSDAY <b>23RD</b> OCTOBER	PELAW SOCIAL CLUB	5PM- 7PM
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£3 PER TICKET  
AVAILABLE FROM SCHOOL OFFICE.

DETAILS ABOUT HALLOWEEN TREATS/COSTS WILL  
BE RELEASED CLOSER TO THE EVENT

ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN  
ADULT

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### Parental Workshops:

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



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.

On **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November**, we also hold a Numbersense workshop for Nursery and Reception parents. During the workshop, we will focus on the methods that we use to teach our youngest pupils including a summary of the Mastering Number programme and other pictorial methods and concrete resources.

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### 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.

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### After-school clubs:

Our afterschool clubs have been well attended and enjoyed this half term. We are pleased to continue to offer a range of activities for children to participate in after school.



After-school clubs for next half term are available to book now on Arbor and will commence from Monday 10th November! Clubs will continue to be £2 per session for after-school clubs (not Lexia and Reading Plus).

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before school		Lexia and Reading Plus Club			
Clubs 3:30pm – 4:15pm		Choir (KS2 only)  Craft Club (Year3 and Year4)  Grassroots – Gymnastics (Year 1 to Year 6)	No clubs due to staff training	French Club (Year 1 to Year 6)  Lego (Year2 and Year 3)  Mindful Colouring (KS2)	

Please note that we have reviewed our school's IT subscriptions, pupils' home usage of our packages and the IT resources that we are using across school. We are going to repurpose our Lexia and Reading Plus Club morning club and will use resources from different software packages and websites to help our children build secure literacy development. This does mean that we will no longer have access to these packages; however, we can signpost our children who use them to alternative websites.

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### **Halloween Carving Competition:**

As you will be aware, we have hosted a pumpkin carving competition in the past. However, due to the Monster Ball taking place on the evening of Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October, and Phototronics being in school for school photographs on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October, requiring use of our school hall, we have sadly decided that we are unable to host the event this year. Instead, every child will bring home a printed pumpkin to decorate, please return to school on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October and winners from each class will be announced in merit assembly. Thank you for your understanding.

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### **Parents' Evening:**

We look forward to welcoming you all to parents' evening on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November. Please book appointments on Arbor if you have not already done so.

#### **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***

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

Thursday 6<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 KSI Gymnastics Day

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

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Fair (after school)

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

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 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.