



"Where together we learn to live
life to the full"
(John 10:10)



St Alban's Catholic Primary School

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

Thursday 16th July 2026

Dear Parents & Carers,

*Give us the rest and refreshment we need this summer.
Let our efforts of this past year bear fruit.
Bring all of our plans to a joyful conclusion,
And bless us, according to your will,
With the fulfilment of our summer hopes and dreams.
Watch over us in the weeks of rest ahead,
And guide each day as you have done this past year.
Help us return to school with a new spirit and a new energy.
May we continue to grow
In age, wisdom, knowledge and grace
All the days of our lives.
Amen.*

School Mass:

We will come together on Thursday 16th July at **10:00am** for Year 6 to lead us in our Leavers' Mass. We would be delighted to welcome you as we come together in prayer, reflection, and thanksgiving as a whole school community.

Catholic Social Teaching Link: In joining together to celebrate Mass, we live out the Catholic Social Teaching principle of **community and participation**, recognising that we are called to belong, support one another, and grow together in faith.

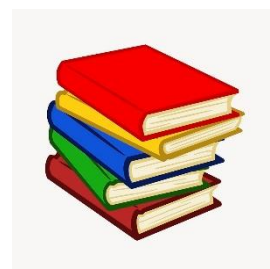
FUN-draising – Summer Fayre:

We had superb weather for our summer fayre! A huge thank you to all those who volunteered their time and energy to support with raffle prizes, donations, stalls, tombolas, catering and general fetching and carrying on the day. Our fayre is a wonderful show of how our community pulls together and Year 6 pupils rose to the challenge of helping to man their stalls. We raised over £500. We will work with our school council to discuss how best to use the funds raised.

Catholic Social Teaching Link: Solidarity – showing we care by working together

Bag for Life:

Please may we ask that all children bring a strong 'bag for life' to school in the next couple of days, **with their name written on it**, to enable them to bring their exercise books and other bits and bobs home at the end of the week.



Announcement:

Nursery and Reception - Early Years Open Days for September 2027 tours **Monday 28th September 9:30am – 11am**. We'd love to welcome to you to our setting! To make a booking please visit: info@stap.bwcet.com

PE Days for September:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Nursery			Little Movers (PM session)		
Reception			Little Movers (PM session)	PE	
Year 1	PE				PE
Year 2		PE		PE	
Year 3		PE		PE	
Year 4				PE	PE
Year 5	PE	Swimming (PM session)			

Catholic Social Teaching Link: Participation

School Uniform:

Details of our school uniform can be found in the parent section of our school website and if you wish to buy branded items, you will find them online at Tots to Teams:

[Buy St. Albans Catholic Primary School \(Pelaw\) Uniform for from Tots To Teams](#)

We look forward to seeing everyone dressed smartly in September!

Flu Vaccinations:

You will have received an email on 16th June, asking you to consent for your child/ren to have the flu vaccination in school, during the Autumn Term (next academic year). The online consent can be accessed via any device. Please click on the following link <https://www.northumbriaimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu> This will direct you to the online consent form. Please complete using the entire school code **NB148410**

Please complete the consent form at the earliest opportunity. If you have any issues please contact the team on the above numbers and a member of staff will contact you in due course.

School Meals Service:

Gateshead Schools Catering Service currently works with our schools, providing nutritious lunchtime meals that meet Government food standards. They're always keen to hear from primary aged pupils and parents/carers, as your feedback plays a vital role in shaping our future service and look for ways to improve.

Their survey is now open **until 24th July** to children who have school meals as well as children who bring packed lunches (and their parents). Please take a few minutes to share your feedback www.gateshead.gov.uk/PandPsurvey



Children should be supported by an adult when completing the survey. Thank you for helping to make school meals even better!

Important: Please be reminded that there are changes for free school meal entitlement from September, so we will shortly be renewing this for those children who are current eligible. **All families in receipt of universal credit** should now be eligible, so if you would like us to check this for you, please email us or populate your Arbor guardian profile with your date of birth and National Insurance number and we will complete the check on your behalf.

Educational Visits 2026 / 2027



We are in the planning stages for our educational visits programme for next academic year. Please note that we work hard to achieve the best possible prices for admission and travel and school will subsidise the cost as far as possible; however, we do rely on parental contributions, to allow the visits to go ahead and appreciate your support with this. Payments will be taken via Arbor, at the time of parents/carers giving their consent.

Please note that our Year 5 pupils will be attending Kynren on Tuesday 8th September.

Join the free Summer Reading Challenge at any Gateshead Library!

Dear parents and carers,

We're excited to invite your child to take part in this year's [Summer Reading Challenge](#) – Read to the Beat! - completely free at your local library!

What is the Summer Reading Challenge?

The Summer Reading Challenge is a fun, free way for children aged 4–11 to stay motivated to read during the summer holidays. Children set their own reading goal and can read anything they enjoy – all books count!

Why should my child sign up?

One in four children hasn't reached the expected level of reading by the age of 11 and many will struggle to keep up at secondary school, despite reading for pleasure being one of the single biggest indicators of children's development.

The Summer Reading Challenge helps your child to:

- Build confidence and self-esteem
- Stay prepared to return to school in the autumn
- Settle into a new year group
- Access free books and fun family activities all through the summer at your local library

Your child will be part of a UK-wide programme developed by The Reading Agency, delivered in partnership with the public library network, and this year powered by Universal Music Group UK – whose artists will be championing the joy of reading and sharing their own stories of creative expression. All brought to life with wonderful illustrations by award-winning author and illustrator Harry Woodgate.

“We've joined the reading challenge for the past 4 years and every year it has inspired and encouraged a deeper joy for reading. For a young dyslexic boy the challenge helps make reading fun.”
parent/carer of 6–7-year-old boy

How can my child take part? (Library or online)

At the library:

- Visit any Gateshead library to sign up – the first 500 children to complete the challenge will be able to choose a book to keep, so hurry we only have 500 books to give away!
- Set a summer reading goal and choose from books, eBooks, or audiobooks. Check out the [Read to the Beat Collection](#) for suggestions
- Receive a special sticker booklet and collect rewards for reading

Or online

- Visit summerreadingchallenge.org.uk
- Sign up, set a reading goal, and get book recommendations
- Unlock digital badges and earn a printable certificate

When does it start?

- At all Gateshead Libraries from Saturday 11 July 2026.

Don't miss out – head to your local library and sign up this summer!

WhatsApp/Text Messaging

 Read to the Beat! Summer Reading Challenge - free at all Gateshead Libraries!

Dear parents and carers,

Your child (age 4–11) can join the Summer Reading Challenge this summer. It's fun, free and helps keep up reading skills over the holidays!

- Set a reading goal
- Read whatever they like – books, eBooks, audiobooks
- Earn stickers, rewards and even a certificate

Available in libraries or online: summerreadingchallenge.org.uk At all Gateshead Libraries from Saturday 11 July 2026. It's a great way to boost confidence and make reading fun!

Dates for the Diary

(Please note that these dates are subject to change)

Thursday 16th July – Leavers' Mass in Church 10am

Thursday 16th July – Whole School – World Cup Final Special Lunch

Friday 17th July – School Closes at 3.30pm

Autumn Term:

Tuesday 1st September – INSET Day

Wednesday 2nd September – Children are welcomed back to school

Tuesday 8th September – Year 5 Visit to Kynren

Wednesday 16th September – Year 6 Celebration of the Word – 3.00pm

Friday 18th September – Flu Immunisation

Tuesday 22nd September – Half-day Bikeability Year 4

Wednesday/Thursday/Friday 23rd/24th/25th Bikeability – Year 5 3-full days

Wednesday 23rd September Year 2 Celebration of the Word – 3.00pm

Friday 25th September – Whole School Class Mass in Church

Wednesday 30th September – Year 5 Celebration of the Word – 3.00pm

Wednesday 7th October – Year 1 Celebration of the Word – 3.00pm

Friday 9th October – Year 4 Class Mass – 10:00am in Church

Wednesday 14th October – Year 4 Celebration of the Word – 3.00pm

Wednesday 21st October – Reception Class Celebration of the Word – 3.00pm

Friday 23rd October – Last Day in school - half term holiday

Monday 2nd November – Return to School

Monday 2nd November Individual and Sibling Photographs

Monday 2nd November – Parents' Evening

Wednesday 4th November – Parents' Evening

Friday 13th November – Year 6 Class Mass 10.00am in Church

Wednesday 18th November - Year 2 Celebration of the Word – 3.00pm

Wednesday 25th November - Year 6 Celebration of the Word – 3.00pm

Wednesday 2nd December – Year 1 Celebration of the Word – 3.00pm

Friday 4th December – Year 5 Class Mass in Church

Friday 11th December – Reception & KS1 Nativity in Church 9.30am & 2:30pm

Wednesday 16th December – KS2 Carol Service in Church 2:00pm

Friday 18th December – Last day before the Christmas Holiday

Spring Term:

Monday 4th January – INSET Day

Tuesday 5th January – Children are welcomed back to school

Designated Safeguarding Lead for the school:

Mrs K Swaddle and Mr S. Keys

Deputy Leads: *Miss Colligan, Mrs Dellow, Mrs McAtominey and Mrs Hall*

Visit: [News – St Patrick's RC Church, Felling](#) for more information