



St. William of Perth Catholic Primary School

Mr J. Willis
Headteacher

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NEWSLETTER NO 1: Friday 5th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back, we hope that you all have had a restful and relaxing summer holiday. It was lovely to see all the children back looking very smart in their school uniforms.

With the unfavourable weather this week, can we remind parents to send children in with a coat.

During the Summer Holidays we have been thrilled with the number of children who took part and completed the Medway Library Summer Reading Challenge. Congratulations to everyone who participated, we are very proud of you!

KCSP

As of the 1st September our school has formally completed our academy process joining the Kent Catholic School's Partnership. Next Thursday, our school will be formally enrolled as part of the Kent Catholic School partnership and we will be having a short prayer service to commemorate this important occasion in our school's history. We look forward to working collaboratively as part of this family of catholic schools to help our children grow and fulfil their full potential to the fullest as children of God.

Future Events

Clubs

Letters for clubs will be sent Monday. If you wish for your child to attend, please ensure the reply slip has been returned to the school office as soon as possible but no later than Wednesday 10th September. Please find the after-school club timetable below:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<u>15:20-16:20</u> Arts & Crafts Club: Year 4 & 5	<u>15:30-16:30</u> Drama club: KS2	<u>15:30-16:30</u> Choir: KS2	<u>15:30-16:30</u> Football club: Year 5 & 6
<u>15:30-16:30</u> Dance club: Year 1 & 2			

A reminder that our after-school wraparound club will continue Monday – Friday, with the first session running until 4:30pm and the second session continuing until 5:30pm. Please enquire with the school office for a session request.

Introductory Curriculum Talks for Parents in September 2025 (Years 1 – 6)

We have had a very enthusiastic response to these talks over the years and feel they are an important method of communication about expectations and arrangements at the start of the year. Letters have been sent home regarding dates and times along with a reply form confirming attendance. Please find all the dates and times in the table below.

Tuesday 16 th September		Wednesday 17 th September		Thursday 18 th September	
5pm	Year 1	5pm	Year 4	5pm	Year 3
5:30pm	Year 2	5:30pm	Year 5	5:30pm	Year 6

Year R – Early Reading Workshop

On Tuesday 16th September Miss Dormedy will be leading a workshop for Year R parents on how to support your child with Early reading. The session will start at 6:15 pm and last approximately 30 minutes. A letter has gone home explaining the details.

Year 6 Medway Test

Will take place within school on Tuesday 16th September and Wednesday 17th September.





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Medication at School: If applicable, medication i.e., asthma inhalers / epipens etc., should be returned to school immediately. Please check the expiry dates on all medication; it is the responsibility of parents to ensure that any medicines in school are within the recommended 'expiry by' date.

Monday morning SEN appointments: Should you wish to make an appointment to discuss any SEN related issues please speak with the office and they will arrange an appointment for a Monday morning after 9:30. Alternatively, you may email Miss Montgomery directly on sen@stwilliamperth.medway.sch.uk . Phone consultations are preferable.

Healthy Eating: May we politely remind you that chocolate bars / sweets etc. are not to be included in home packed lunches please. **SWOP is a NUT FREE ZONE:** Some of our children have severe nut allergies so it is very important that pupils' packed lunches **should not contain any nuts or nut products** – thank you.

Packed lunches

May we also remind you that if children are having grapes in their packed lunch that these need to be chopped up as whole grapes create a large choking hazard.

Absence: If your child is absent from school, please contact the school office by telephone or email using absence@stwilliamperth.medway.sch.uk before 9:30 am on the first morning of absence. Should your child continue to be absent from school on the third day, parents must re contact the school. When your child returns to school, if you have not already emailed their reason for absence, please also send a written note to school with your child giving the reason for your child's absence so that the absence can be authorised and the reason for the absence noted on your child's school record. Please do not put this information in the contact book.

Application for Leave of Absence / Exceptional Circumstances

As parents, you have a legal responsibility to ensure your child's attendance at school. Holidays should be taken during the school holiday period. During the academic year pupils are at school for 190 days and at home for 175 days. In order for our children to fully utilise their years in education, we believe it is vital that every message they receive reinforces the importance of school. Holidays in term time interrupt continuity of teaching and learning, disrupt the educational progress of individual children and create disruption to classes.

Please be aware that The Education (Pupil Registration) (England)(Amendment)Regulations 2013, state that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

All requests should be made well in advance, in writing. You will then be asked to complete an Application for Leave of Absence / Exceptional Circumstances form and will be invited to discuss your request with either myself or in my absence Mrs Tong.

Uniform: The children all look super in their school uniforms. Please remember that children must wear 'sensible' shoes for their own health and safety, not trainers, boots or heels. No open top / toe sandals for girls as these create tripping hazards. Please make sure that your child's sandals have a strap across the foot to prevent them from falling over when running on the playground.

Children may wear their summer uniform up until the end of Term 1; all children are to wear winter uniform from the first day of Term 2, Monday 27th October. Please note that sandals may not be worn with winter uniform.

A reminder that trainers or canvas shoes are not to be worn in school except for PE unless a letter explaining medical reasons is submitted and signed by parents.

Children must not wear jewellery other than watches and plain gold or silver ball stud earrings, and long hair needs to be tied back please. School hats are available from the office. Branded sunhats or fashion items may not be worn.

Please ensure all items are named as we will be checking within class next week.

PE: All children must have a P.E. kit, named in a school plimsoll bag to be left at school until the end of term. Children cannot do P.E. if wearing earrings so please make sure they are removed for their P.E. day or are able to remove them without adult assistance. SWOP P.E. tops and plimsoll bags are available to purchase from the school office.

Please ensure all PE kits are in school as PE is very important in helping us promote healthy lifestyles!!

To avoid congestion at the school office, we ask that all uniform orders are placed via email to office@stwilliamperth.medway.sch.uk We will advise by return of email, stock availability and the cost of your order.

Phoning Home for Forgotten Items: Please remind your child that usually the office will not be phoning parents if they forget to bring items such as, swimming kit, book bags, musical instruments etc., so they need to check they have everything ready for school before they leave home!

Safeguarding:

Members of the public and professionals can use a referral and contact form to report any safeguarding concerns about a child or a young person to Medway's First Response service. Once the form has been submitted, it will be reviewed and assessed and action will be taken. Please use the following link: Report a child safeguarding concern | Concerned about a





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child | Medway Council You can also phone 01634 334466 or use the 24-hour emergency number 03000 419 191. You can also call NSPCC on 0808 800 5000, Child Line on 0800 1111 or Medway Police on 01622 690 690.

https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200170/children_and_families/600/concerned_about_a_child/2

Please find below useful links to help keep children safe.

<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>

<http://www.msrb.org.uk/>

Fr Ki - Donations

We are delighted to welcome Fr Ki into our school and parish, whilst Fr Neil is away for a short and well-deserved break. Fr will be visiting a different class every Friday and sharing lunch with the children and staff. During these visits he will be helping to deepen our understanding of the Gospel readings and helping our children to learn more about the universal church. Fr Ki has asked if anyone is able to donate new packs of pens and pencils for his parish children back in Uganda he would be most grateful, as he will be able to bring these back when he returns at the end of September. Please drop any possible donations into the office. Thank you.

K.D Greaves Children's Book

At SWOP, we absolutely love reading—and we're thrilled to share that some of our talented students have been featured in KD Greaves' latest children's book, What If? This imaginative and thought-provoking picture book invites young readers to explore endless possibilities through fun and meaningful questions. We're incredibly grateful to the author, KD Greaves, who has kindly gifted us a copy for our school library. Everyone is welcome to enjoy it during library time! If you'd like your own copy to read at home, you can purchase What If? from Blackwell's Bookshop or Amazon

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/What-If-K-D-Greaves/dp/1068476400>

Let's keep celebrating creativity, imagination, and the joy of reading!

Praise Assembly Celebrations!

House Points. Team house winner this week: Yellow

Merit Award Well done to the following children who received a merit award certificate in today's Praise Assembly.

Theo Y 1, Harrison Y 2, Yash Y 3, Orla Y 4, Freya Y 5, Evelyn Y 6

St. John's Class

We have come to the end of our first week of the new school year and I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new pupils and their families. We warmly welcome the following children in St. John's Class (R):

Adeola	Nainsi	Lewis	Lenny
Lottie	Noah	Willow	Nadia
Sophie	Theodore	Tumelo	Lucas
Iremide	Ariel	Mylah	Tonye
Leo	Lexi	Nylah	Mabel
Charlie	Luke	Harper	Mia
Jidenna	Maya	Sreema	Aubrey

We also welcome Lathabo who has joined Year 2, Morireoluwa and Bonolo who have joined Year 3, and Arlo who has joined Year 5. We also welcome Miss Charge who has joined Miss Everett as our Year 1 teacher.

Have a great weekend and enjoy the weather.

In Memoriam – Jack Denness

Over the summer holidays I learned of the sad passing of our former caretaker Jack Denness. Jack worked as a caretaker for our school for 18 years, retiring in 2018. He was very passionate about the school and also was very active in the wider community raising a lot of money for charity. He was recognised for his service and received an MBE from the Queen. We thank God for Jack's life and service to our school. I am sure you will join me in offering condolences to his family. May he rest in peace.

Yours sincerely,

J. Willis

Mr J. Willis
Headteacher





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	Diary Dates – <i>Subject to Change</i>	
September 2025		
Thursday 11 th	KCSP Welcome Visit Presentation	10:30 am
Monday 15 th	Clubs restart	
Tuesday 16 th	Medway Test – Year 6 Year 6 Swimming (Session 1) Year 1 Curriculum Workshop Year 2 Curriculum Workshop Year R Early Reading Workshop	5pm 5:30pm 6:15pm
Wednesday 18 th	Medway Test – Year 6 Year 4 Curriculum Workshop Year 5 Curriculum Workshop	5pm 5:30pm
Thursday 19 th	Year 3 Curriculum Workshop Year 6 Curriculum Workshop	5pm 5:30pm
Tuesday 23 rd	Kittle Individual photographs – winter uniform to be worn	
October 2025		
Wednesday 15 th	Parents Evening	4pm – 7pm
Thursday 16 th	Celebration Assembly Parents Evening	2:15pm 4pm – 7pm
Friday 17 th	End of Term 1	
Monday 20 th – Friday 24 th	Half term	
Monday 27 th	Start of term 2	

Pope's September Prayer Intention: For our relationship with all of creation

Let us pray that, inspired by St Francis, We might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.