



# St. William of Perth Catholic Primary School

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## NEWSLETTER NO 3: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our Year R students have all completed their first week of full days in St John's class this week. I would also like to commend our Year 6 pupils on their excellent maturity as they undertook the Medway test this week. They all tried very hard and were very sensible.

### Curriculum Evening

This week also saw our curriculum introductory class meetings. We hope the parents that attended these found them useful in explaining the curriculum as well as the expectations for the year ahead.

### Year R Early Reading

This week Miss Dormedy led an Early reading workshop for Parents of Year R pupils to help them support their child with Early reading.

### Admissions

The Medway admissions are open for primary school applications 2026 / 2027. You can apply for your child to start school in year R (reception) if they were born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022. Please be aware that applying to St. William of Perth and other Catholic schools you also need to complete a Catholic supplementary information form. This can be found on our school website on the admissions page.

<https://www.stwilliamofperth.org.uk/Admissions>

[Dates for applying for primary school](#) | [Applying for a primary school place](#) | [Medway Council](#)

### New Parent Tours

We intend to start parental tours on a Tuesday morning starting from Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September for perspective new parents. Please contact the school office to book onto a tour.

The Medway admissions is also open for secondary school applications. You can apply for your child to start secondary school if they were born between 1 September 2014 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2015. For more information and key dates please see the following link: [Dates for applying for secondary school](#) | [Applying for a secondary school place](#) | [Medway Council](#)

### Future Events

#### Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September – School Photographs

Our school photographers, Kittle Photography will be visiting on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September, all children are to wear their Winter uniform please.

#### Year 6 Swimming Session 2 – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September

Year 6 swimming continues on a Tuesday. These lessons will take place at Sir Joseph Williamson Math's School's pool and Year 6 will be walking with their teachers to the sessions. Please make sure children come appropriately dressed and have a coat and umbrella as we will be attending the sessions even if the weather is inclement.

#### Beginning of the School Year Mass – Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September

We will be having our first Mass of the school year this coming Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 9:30 am at St John Fisher Church.

#### Author Visit – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October

We are delighted to invite Banji Alexander, an author made famous on Britain's Got Talent television show, into our school on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2025. During this day he will be sharing his passion for poetry, books and hats! He will be running assemblies taking part in book readings across the school and helping to create a reading buzz.





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After school on this day, he will be signing books. The books are £10 and can be pre-ordered from the office or purchased on the day. This visit is free, so if you are able to support this visit with a purchase, we would be grateful. To celebrate this, we invite all children into school wearing a hat. Please ensure normal school uniform is worn. I attach a copy of Banji's video:

New King lyric video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=grWMvZD9TII>

## **Through our Eyes (Year R Stay and Play Session) – Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October**

Our next "Through our Eyes" session will be taking place on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October (9 – 10 am) and (2 – 3 pm) for Year R parents and Carers. This gives parents an opportunity to learn about the Year R curriculum and also to take part in their child's learning.

**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](mailto: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.

**Absence:** If your child is absent from school, please contact the school office by telephone or email using [absence@stwilliamperth.medway.sch.uk](mailto: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.

**Attendance:** St. William of Perth is committed to ensuring all children achieve their full academic potential and believe that good attendance means good learning. The positive impact that regular attendance has on a child reaching their full academic potential and the benefits this brings to emotional and social well-being. The school's expectation for pupil's attendance is at least 96%. If your child is too unwell to attend school in the morning, it is encouraged that if they are able to and feel well enough, to come into school later in the day to attend for the afternoon session to reduce the learning missed. Likewise, if your child is unwell and you are unsure whether to send them in, please do so. The children tend to perk up during the day and if they get too unwell to be at school, we will contact parents / carers to advise to collect.

## **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.

**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](mailto: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:**





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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 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](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/>

## **Praise Assembly Celebrations!**

House Points. Team house winner this week: Blue

Walking boot: Year 1

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

Amelia Y 1, Lethabo Y 2, Skye Y 3, Kossi Y 4, Jude Y 5, William M Y 6

## **Week commencing 08.09.25**

### **Attendance Ted**

Well done to Year 1 who won our Attendance Ted for the week.

### **Punctuality Pup**

Well done to Year R who won our Punctuality Pup for the week.

Yours sincerely,

J. Willis

Mr J. Willis

Headteacher

| <b>Diary Dates – Subject to Change</b>               |                                                                                                       |                     |
|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>September 2025</b>                                |                                                                                                       |                     |
| Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>                             | Kittle Individual photographs – <b>winter uniform to be worn</b><br>Year 6 Swimming (Session 2)       |                     |
| Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>                           | Beginning of the School Year Mass                                                                     | 9:30am              |
| Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup>                            | Pupil Enrolment Assembly (selected parents have been invited)                                         |                     |
| Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>                              | Aylesford Priory – Beginning of the year mass<br>Macmillan Coffee Afternoon<br>Year 6 – Forest School | 2pm                 |
| Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup>                             | Year 6 Swimming (Session 3)                                                                           |                     |
| <b>October 2025</b>                                  |                                                                                                       |                     |
| Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>                               | PTA Colour Run (TBC)                                                                                  |                     |
| Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>                              | Author Visit - Banji Alexander<br>Year 6 Swimming (Session 4)                                         |                     |
| Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>                             | MYG Hockey                                                                                            |                     |
| Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup>                             | Year 6 Swimming (Session 5)                                                                           |                     |
| Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>                           | New Parents Lunch<br>Parents Evening                                                                  | 4pm – 7pm           |
| Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>                            | Celebration Assembly<br>Parents Evening                                                               | 2:15pm<br>4pm – 7pm |
| Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>                              | End of Term 1                                                                                         |                     |
| Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> –<br>Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> | Half term                                                                                             |                     |
| Monday 27 <sup>th</sup>                              | Start of term 2                                                                                       |                     |