



# St. William of Perth Catholic Primary School

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## NEWSLETTER NO 4: Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Beginning of the School Year Mass

This week Father Ki celebrated our beginning of the school year Mass. The children sang beautifully and it was nice to see so many parents join us in celebrating our faith. We pray for a successful and fulfilling academic year ahead of us.

### School Photographs

Children had their individual and family photographs taken on Tuesday by Kittle Photography. Each child will shortly be given a Kittle Photographic card bearing log in details and QR code to bring home.

### Aylesford Priory – Beginning of the year mass

Our Year 5 and 6 School Council members and prayer pilgrims attended the Kent Catholic Schools Partnership beginning of the school year Mass at Aylesford Priory. It was wonderful to come together as a family of Catholic schools to bear witness and show solidarity in our faith with neighbouring Catholic schools. The children enjoyed their picnic and visiting the beautiful grounds of the Priory.

### Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

Thank you to everyone who attended this afternoon, and also a big thank you as well to the PTA for organising this event and to the parents who very kindly donated cakes/biscuits etc which were thoroughly enjoyed by all. Everyone's generosity helped to make the afternoon such a success for this worthwhile cause. All money raised will be donated to Macmillan cancer support.



### Pupil Responsibilities

We enrolled our pupils into their responsibilities during our assembly this afternoon.

**School Council:** I am pleased to announce the members of our new School Council for 2025 – 2026.

|      |   |                                                       |
|------|---|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Yr R | - | St. John's class: Charlie & Tumelo                    |
| Yr 1 | - | St. Anthony's class: Zimchikachim & Amariah           |
| Yr 2 | - | St. Therese' class: Erin & Sienna                     |
| Yr 3 | - | St. Patrick's class: Amarachi & Harris                |
| Yr 4 | - | St. Nicholas' class: Ilinca & Euan                    |
| Yr 5 | - | St. George's class: Archie & Annie                    |
| Yr 6 | - | St. Francis' class: Chikanyima, Jacob, Aditi & Evelyn |

**Prayer Pilgrims:** We are delighted to announce our prayer pilgrims for this year. Our Prayer Pilgrims form a chaplaincy team within school to help their classes deepen their faith. They also lead prayers and help during assemblies and Masses. Well done to:

|      |   |                                           |
|------|---|-------------------------------------------|
| Yr R | - | St. John's class: Noah & Aubrey           |
| Yr 1 | - | St. Anthony's class: Adira & Sophia       |
| Yr 2 | - | St. Therese' class: Adebola & Nati        |
| Yr 3 | - | St. Patrick's class: Morireoluwa & Thalia |
| Yr 4 | - | St. Nicholas' class: Filip & Sophie       |





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Yr 5 - St. George's class: Enzo & Cezara  
Yr 6 - St. Francis' class: Celine & William M

**Eco Warriors:** We are also delighted to announce our Eco Warriors who will be working together to come up with ideas to help out the environment and be more eco-friendly. Well done to:

Yr R - St. John's class: Theodore & Mylah  
Yr 1 - St. Anthony's class: Theo & Cleopatra  
Yr 2 - St. Therese' class: Mattea & Liam  
Yr 3 - St. Patrick's class: Dylan & Jesse  
Yr 4 - St. Nicholas' class: Daisy & Freddy  
Yr 5 - St. George's class: Luke & Rosie  
Yr 6 - St. Francis' class: Adam & Ciara

## House Captains

Our Year 6 students have been campaigning to be elected as House Captains and Vice Captains for their respective team. This is a very important and prestigious position within the school which involves a number of pastoral responsibilities and being a role model to the younger children. Congratulations to the following children on their appointments

|                     | Yellow | Blue   | Green | Red    |
|---------------------|--------|--------|-------|--------|
| <b>Captain</b>      | Wilson | Eva    | Kiana | Midori |
| <b>Vice-Captain</b> | Lilla  | Lillia | Noah  | Perez  |

## 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 are running parental tours on a Tuesday morning at 10:15am 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](#)

**If you are planning to view secondary schools during the school day**, please confirm the date and time that your (Y6) child will be absent from St. William Perth and the school that you will be visiting to [absence@stwilliamperth.medway.sch.uk](mailto:absence@stwilliamperth.medway.sch.uk)

## Future Events

### Harvest Collection – Medway Food Bank Appeal

This year we will be supporting Medway Food Bank through our harvest appeal. A desired list of items has been sent via ParentMail today. All donations will be greatly received.

### Year 6 Swimming Session 3 – Tuesday 30<sup>th</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.

### Build-A-Burger – Special Menu – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October

Contract dining will be serving a special build a burger menu next Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Children will get to choose either a beef burger or veggie burger along with the following toppings; lettuce, tomato, onions, sliced cheese & ketchup. For dessert the children can also decorate their own ice cream.

### Prayer Club – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October

During this month of October, the school, led by our Prayer Pilgrims, will continue to share the Rosary before school on a Friday. All welcome.





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## 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.

## Harvest Mass – Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October

Our Harvest Mass will take place on **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October** in St John Fisher Church. All parents and Carers are welcome to join us.

## Parents Evening – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October & Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October

For this academic year, will be on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2025 when you will be able to meet individually with class teachers. Parents are asked to make arrangements for the care of their children on this evening. Children may not be left on school premises unattended. Letters will be sent with the eldest child / only child next week. We ask that you forward your completed appointment slip and return it to your eldest (or only) child's class teacher on or before but no later than next Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2025, thank you. You will receive notification of your allotted meeting time via your eldest (or only) child's book bag on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October.

**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.





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**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 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/>

## **Charity Events:**

We are very proud of our children and their understanding of others needs both in our school and the wider community. As such, we would like to support various charities throughout this academic year. To help you budget for any charitable donations; may we take this opportunity to let you know of our plans so far.

**Harvest Collection** – we are collecting tinned and dried items of food etc. for the Medway Food Bank

**Poppy Appeal** – In support of the Royal British Legion. We hope to be able to offer paper poppies and assorted merchandise to offer for sale leading up to Armistice Day on the 11<sup>th</sup> November.

**Children in Need** – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November further details nearer the date.

**Love in a Box** – We will be supporting the Love in a Box mustard seed appeal. More information will be sent home in due course.

**Medway Food Bank** – Chocolate Advent Calendar collection

**PTA Christmas Fair** – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November, further details nearer the date.

## **Praise Assembly Celebrations!**

House Points. Team house winner this week: Blue

Walking boot: Year 2 & Year 6

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

Noah Y R, Amariah Y 1, Mattea Y 2, Nolly Y 3, Gabriella Y 4, Lennon Y 5, Connie Y 6

## **Week commencing 15.09.25**

### **Attendance Ted**

Well done to Year 6 who won our Attendance Ted for the week.

### **Punctuality Pup**

Well done to Year 2 who won our Punctuality Pup for the week.

## **Drop-off / Collection Request**

Can we please ask that if dogs are walked to school that they remain on the church side pavement of canon close. For some of members of our school community dogs can cause distress due to allergies or anxieties. Also, the pavements can become quite crowded during drop off times immediately outside the school so this will help minimise anxiety for the dogs as well. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

J. Willis

Mr J. Willis

Headteacher





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|                                                      | Diary Dates – <i>Subject to Change</i>  |                     |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>September 2025</b>                                |                                         |                     |
| Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup>                             | Year 6 Swimming (Session 3)             |                     |
| <b>October 2025</b>                                  |                                         |                     |
| Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>                              | Year 6 Swimming (Session 4)             |                     |
| Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>                            | EYFS Through our Eyes                   | 9-10am or 2-3pm     |
| Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>                             | Harvest Mass<br>MYG Hockey Competition  | tbc                 |
| 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                         |                     |

