



St. William of Perth Catholic Primary School

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NEWSLETTER NO 6: Friday 10th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Through our Eyes (Year R Stay and Play Session)

It was wonderful to see so many Year R parents join us for our first stay and play session. This is a great opportunity to learn about the Year R curriculum and how to support learning at home. We hope to have more stay and play (Through Our Eyes) sessions throughout the year.

Harvest Mass

The whole school celebrated Mass at St John Fisher Church with Fr David. We welcomed Fr. David into our school family and appreciate his homily about helping people and showing this with kind actions. This common good could be shown when we help our grown-ups at home. The mass had wonderful readers, a beautiful choir, altar servers and clear responses to our prayers. Fr David thanked the children for their wonderful behaviour in church.

MYG Hockey Competition

A team of Year 5 and 6 pupils represented the school at the MYG hockey competition on Thursday at the Holcombe Hockey Club. Well done to – Rosie, Jude, Enzo, Riley, and Olivia from Year 5, and Jacob B, Cece, William H and Ella from Year 6. Ella said: “It was great to be back in the sun at the Mini Youth Games. We had a slow start to the day but in the afternoon we won two games and Mr Humphrey promised sweets if we won or drew. So when we won our first game, we were rewarded with sweets.”

A big well done to our MVP's; Olivia for persistent tackling, William H for great game play and skills, Riley for calm goal scoring.

Year 3 Class Assembly

The Harvest Festival Assembly was led by Year 3 and enabled the whole school to thank God for their blessings and think about what we can do for those who have none. As a school we have been donating to a local food bank and considering the Common Good for those around the world in need of our love, charity and prayers.

We also shared the inspiration work of Saint Oscar Romero a modern-day saint who recognised the need for aiding the poor and giving them a voice. He worked to ensure people across the world were treated fairly and following the example of Jesus. The children worked hard to sing. As a school we are working on the Oscar Romeo Award and know this will help us on our journey towards gaining this award.

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 31st 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](#)





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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. Please can you also inform the school of your child's meal option if they are missing registration and returning before lunch.

Future Events

SEND & Friends – Coffee Morning – Monday 13th October

On Monday 13th October at 9am we will be holding a coffee morning. We will have a visitor from Fortis Trust joining us, they provide support and advice for families whose children are either pre or post diagnosis or displaying behaviours of Autism and/or ADHD. They work together with families and support them to build on their own resilience and reach positive outcomes. We engage families, both children and parents, with direct work and programmes within Fortis Trust and with wider partners.

Year 6 Swimming Session 5 – Tuesday 14th October

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.

Parents Evening – Wednesday 15th October & Thursday 16th October

We look forward to our parent consultation meetings next week - **Wednesday 15th October and Thursday 16th October 2025**. Parents are asked to make arrangements for the care of their children on this evening. Children may not be left on school premises unattended. Notifications of appointment times have been sent home this week.

Please note, for Year 5 only, parents evening will be held on Tuesday 14th & Thursday 16th October.

On Wednesday 15th October, we will have a visitor from Family Solutions who will have a table within the hall, she will be available to offer any support.

Celebration Assembly – Thursday 16th October

Will be held next Thursday 16th October, at 2.15pm. The parents of 6 children from each year group have been sent personal invitations to join us as we celebrate their children's achievements. Please check your ParentMails.

Harvest Collection – Medway Food Bank Appeal

This year we are supporting Medway Food Bank through our harvest appeal. Thank you for all the donations so far. Medway Foodbank will be collecting all the kind donations on Wednesday, 15th October. If anyone wishes to donate to the cause then please ensure donations are received before Tuesday, 14th October.

Prayer Club – Friday's

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.

Clubs – Week commencing Monday 27th October

Letters for Term 2 clubs have been sent this week. 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 15th October. Please find the after-school club timetable below:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<u>15:20-16:20</u> Arts & Crafts Club: Year 4, 5 & 6	<u>15:20-16:20</u> Drama club: KS2	<u>15:30-16:30</u> Mrs New's Choir: KS2	<u>15:30-16:30</u> Football club: Year 5 & 6	<u>15:20-16:20</u> MYG club: 4, 5 & 6

A reminder that our wraparound after-school club will continue Monday – Friday with the first session until 4:30pm, and the second session until 5:30pm.

New Year R Parent Lunch – Wednesday 29th October

Yr. R parents / carers have been invited to attend lunch with their child on Wednesday 29th October. If you wish to attend you **must** book this via ParentPay along with the attendee details / meal choice / dietary requirements. No bookings can be accepted after 3:30pm on Wednesday 15th 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.





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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.

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.

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 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 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.mscc.org.uk/>

Parish link

For information about the parish of St. John Fisher including newsletters and Mass times click on the link below.

<https://stjohnfisher.me.uk/>





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Family Solutions – Parent / Carer Internet Safety talks

Taking place on a Monday on the following dates; 17th November, 24th November, 1st December, 8th December. We will have a visitor from Family Solutions offering Parents/Carers an Internet Safety talk (the DICE programme) from 9am until 11am. The DICE programme has been devised by Barnardo's following feedback from parents where they stated they felt alone, worried and powerless in relation to dealing with the modern-day risks faced by families such as grooming and digital dangers. DICE was given its name as parents have said that parenting teenagers is like the luck of a roll of the dice. The DICE programme aims to help parents develop their skills, build knowledge, and increase confidence to meet the needs of their children as they grow up in the modern world whilst using the internet. All are welcome to attend the sessions, it is a 4 week talk and is more beneficial when able to attend all the sessions, we do ask that you inform Miss Gray in the school office of your attendance as we will need to be informed of numbers.

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 11th November.

Children in Need – Friday 21st 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. We welcome donations following the October half-term.

PTA Christmas Fair – Friday 28th November, further details nearer the date.

Praise Assembly Celebrations!

House Points. Team house winner this week: Red

Walking boot: Year 3

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

Adeola & Mabel Y R, Paddy & Alyssia Y 1, Erin & Micah Y 2, Amarachi & Ashton Y 3, Bruno & Vienna Y 4, Chris & Olivia Y 5, Adrian & Beau Y 6

Week commencing 29.09.25

Attendance Ted

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

Punctuality Pup

Well done to Year 5 who won our Punctuality Pup for the week.

Volunteer Request

We love reading at SWOP. To help the children to become even more fluent and share even more wonderful books we are looking for volunteers who are happy to share a couple of hours of their time to come into school to hear the children read. This will require a DBS check and will be subject to the needs of the school. If you feel you would be able to help in this volunteering role, please contact the school office.

Yours sincerely,

J. Willis

Mr J. Willis
Headteacher





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	Diary Dates – <i>Subject to Change</i>	
October 2025		
Monday 13 th	SEND & Friends – Parent Coffee morning	9am
Tuesday 14 th	Year 6 Swimming (Session 5) UCM Visit Parents Evening – Year 5 ONLY	
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	
Wednesday 29 th	New Parents Lunch (Year R)	11:20am
November 2025		
Wednesday 5 th – Wednesday 12 th	Scholastic Book Fair	
Thursday 6 th	MYG Basketball Competition	
Friday 7 th	Year 6 – Remembrance Service	
Thursday 13 th	Whole School Flu Immunisation	
Friday 14 th	Road Safety Talks	
Friday 21 st	Children in Need	
Thursday 27 th	MYG Badminton Competition	
Friday 28 th	PTA Christmas Fayre	3:30pm – 6:00pm

Prayer Pilgrims – Medway Foodbank Harvest Appeal

