



St. William of Perth Catholic Primary School

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NEWSLETTER NO 6: Friday 9th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Weather

As we come into the colder months, please can you ensure your child comes into school with a waterproof jacket.

Year 4 Class Trip Kent Life Roman Day

Year 4 had an excellent trip to Kent Life, where they learned about the Romans and enjoyed exciting hands-on activities together. The weather was glorious also allowing them to visit the farm animals and birds of prey. Harris said, 'it was really fun, I especially liked the Roman Solider'. Morire shared, 'we saw how the Romans impacted Britain. We also saw a real Legionary. It was amazing!'

Year 4 & Year 6 History Workshop

The Guildhall Museum curator Jeremy visited the school to share a fascinating collection of Roman artefacts with Year 4, including pieces of Roman armour and replica weapons. He also led an engaging Ancient Greek workshop for Year 6, helping pupils explore life, culture, and history through hands-on learning experiences. Niall enjoyed seeing the 'sword, which is called a gladius and the leather caligae, which are Roman shoes'. We also learnt about the early history of Rochester as one of the first Roman forts.

Harvest Mass

The whole school celebrated Mass at St John Fisher Church with Fr David on Thursday. It was delightful to see some of the children help to make the very special Harvest festival display for our church. We were blessed with beautiful music, singing, excellent readers and altar servers. We are very proud of the children's contributions, and it was also very wonderful to see so many parishioners. Thank you!

MYG Hockey Competition

A team of 6 pupils represented the school at the MYG hockey competition on Thursday at the Holcombe Hockey Club. Well done to – Gemima, Jude, Enzo, Riley, Sofia, Jahaziel, Olivia, Emma, Aaron and Annie. All the children played amazing and were commended for their good behaviour.

Year 3 Class Assembly

Today, Year 3 led us in prayer in their Harvest Festival Assembly. They 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 preferential treatment for the poor and those around the world in need of our love, charity and prayers.

Admissions

The Medway admissions are open for primary school applications 2027 / 2028. You can apply for your child to start school in year R (reception) if they were born between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023. 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 continue our parental tours on a Tuesday morning at either 10am or 11am for perspective new parents. Please contact the school office to book onto a tour.





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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](#)

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

Harvest Collection – Medway Food Bank Appeal

Thank you all for your kind donations towards our harvest appeal supporting Medway Food Bank. Donations are being collected next Tuesday, if anyone wishes to continue to support all donations will be greatly received.

Future Events

Year 6 Swimming Session 5 – Tuesday 13th 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.

Year R and Year 6 Height & Weight Check – Friday 16th October

On Friday 16th October, the school nursing team will undertake Height and Weight checks for Year R & Year 6. Full information has been sent via ParentMail.

EYFS Through our Eyes – Wednesday 21st October

Our next "Through our Eyes" session will be taking place on Wednesday 21st 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. Please ensure you have returned your reply slip to Miss Dormedy.

Parents Evening – Wednesday 21st October & Thursday 22nd October

For this academic year, will be on Wednesday 21st October and Thursday 22nd October 2026 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. 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 13th October 2026, thank you. You will receive notification of your allotted meeting time via your eldest (or only) child's book bag on Thursday 15th October. Please note, for Year 3 only, times slightly differ.

EYFS & KS1 Grandparents Lunch – Tuesday 10th November

In celebration of all Grandparents, together with Contract Dining our school meals provider, we would like to invite a Grandparent (or if they are not available, a surrogate Grandparent) of children in years R, 1 and 2 to join their child / children for lunch on Tuesday 10th November 2026. If you wish for someone to attend, please ensure the meal choice, attendee details, dietary requirements and payment has been completed via ParentPay as soon as possible but no later than Tuesday 3rd November 2026. It will not be possible to accommodate requests if handed in beyond this deadline. Full information has been sent via ParentMail today.

PTA Quiz Night – Friday 13th November

On Friday 13th November we will be hosting a PTA quiz night. Maximum ten per table. Adults only. £6 per person. More information to follow.

Whole School Pantomime – Tuesday 15th December

On Tuesday 15th December 2026, we have arranged for the whole school to watch 'Cinderella' at the Central Theatre, Chatham. We ask for your completed parental consent / lunch choice / refreshment choice on ParentPay no later than 3:30pm on Friday 27th November 2026, thank you.

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.



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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.

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.msrb.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/>

First Holy Communion

Please see the below information from St John Fish Church regarding First Holy Communion.

- First Holy Communion classes will begin in October for children in year 3.
- Children should make their FHC in the Church which they regularly attend and / or in the parish in which they live. St John Fisher Church covers the ME1 postcode.
- This will be a lovely opportunity for parents to look at their faith and help themselves and children form a loving relationship with Our Lord.
- Classes will begin on **Saturday 7th November at 11:30am** in the parish hall. Please see Fr Neil for an application form.

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.

Poppy Appeal – In support of the Royal British Legion. We will be offering paper poppies and assorted merchandise to offer for sale leading up to Armistice Day on the 11th November.

Children in Need – Friday 13th November further details nearer the date.

Medway Food Bank – Chocolate Advent Calendar collection. We welcome donations following the October half-term.

PTA Christmas Fair – Friday 4th December, further details nearer the date.

Praise Assembly Celebrations!

House Points. Team house winner this week: Yellow

Walking boot: Year 4

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

Demi Y R, Mia Y 1, Jason Y 2, Lethabo Y 3, Penelope Y 4, Elsie Y 5, Nela Y 6





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Week commencing 28.09.26

Attendance Ted

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

Punctuality Pup

Well done to Year 4 who won our Punctuality Pup for the week.

INSET DAYS – Monday 2nd November & Monday 16th November 2026

Please note that **Monday 2nd November** is an **INSET (Staff Training) Day**. The school will be closed to pupils on this day to allow staff to participate in professional training and development. We look forward to welcoming children back to school on **Tuesday 3rd November**.

Please also be advised that we have organised an INSET day for Monday, 16th November. No children will be in school on that day.

Stationery Donation

A big thank you to Mr Jones who donated some much-needed resources for our Art & D.T provision.

Staffing Update – Thank you Mrs Scott (formerly known as Mrs Barker)

A huge thank you to Mrs Scott, who will be leaving our school after 20 years of dedicated service. As she looks forward to relocating to a new area and beginning an exciting new chapter, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for all that she has contributed to St William of Perth over the years. Her commitment, hard work, and care have made a lasting impact on our school community. We wish her every happiness and success in her future endeavours and thank her for her many years of loyal service.

Yours sincerely,

J. Willis

Mr J. Willis
Headteacher

	Diary Dates – Subject to Change	
October 2026		
Friday 16 th	Year R Height & Weight Checks	
Wednesday 21 st	EYFS Through Our Eyes Parents Evening	9-10am 2-3pm 3:50pm – 6:50pm
Thursday 22 nd	Celebration Assembly Parents Evening	2:15pm 3:50pm – 6:50pm
Friday 23 rd	End of Term 1	
Monday 26th – Friday 30th	Half term	
November 2026		
Monday 2 nd	INSET Day – No children in school	
Tuesday 3 rd	Start of term 2 – Children return to school History Workshops (Year 2 & Year 5)	
Monday 9 th – Thursday 12 th	Scholastic Book Fair	3:30pm
Tuesday 10 th	Grandparents Lunch (EYFS & KS1)	
Thursday 12 th	Whole School Flu Immunisation	
Friday 13 th	Children in Need PTA Quiz Night	
Monday 16 th	INSET Day – No children in school	
Friday 27 th	PTA Xmas Film Night	
December 2026		
Thursday 3 rd	Year 6 Carol Concert – Rochester Cathedral Grandparents Tea & Mince Pies	
Friday 4 th	PTA Christmas Fayre	
Tuesday 15 th	Whole School Pantomime	



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MYG Hockey Competition

