



# St. William of Perth Catholic Primary School (1974 – 2024)

**Mr J. Willis**  
**Headteacher**

**E-Mail:** [office@stwilliamperth.medway.sch.uk](mailto:office@stwilliamperth.medway.sch.uk)  
[absence@stwilliamperth.medway.sch.uk](mailto:absence@stwilliamperth.medway.sch.uk)  
**Website:** [www.stwilliamofperth.org.uk](http://www.stwilliamofperth.org.uk)

**Canon Close**  
**Rochester**  
**Kent ME1 3EN**

**Phone:** 01634 404267  
**Fax:** 01634 404788

## NEWSLETTER NO 24: Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Year 2 MMA Music Festival / Year 5 MMA Choral Festival

Well done to Year 2 and those in Year 5 who took part in the Medway Music Association Festivals this week. It was wonderful to see their enjoyment as they performed at the Central Theatre, Chatham. My thanks to Miss Kelly, Mr Scudder & Miss Routledge for preparing and supporting the children for the concert.

### Eco Ambassador Training

On Thursday a selection of Year 5's went to Medway Park for training to become SWOP's eco ambassadors. The children had an inspiring talk and participated in interactive workshops where they were supported in producing a student led action plan. We look forward to them sharing this with their peers at school.

### Science Wonderdome

A big thank you to the Wonderdome for visiting our school today. All children had the opportunity to visit the mobile planetarium and be transported into space to explore the wonders of the Universe. We hope this has inspired some future space explorers. This is part of our school's science week learning.

### Future Events

#### Yr. R - Family and Fairy Tales

We continue our family and fairy tale sessions from 8:40 – 9:05 on a Tuesday. Year R parents are invited to join us to read with their children in the school hall. We have always found that this is an excellent way to encourage our youngest children to read.

#### Year 5 Swimming

Year 5 swimming sessions will continue on a Tuesday at the King's school pool. Please ensure your child has a coat as the children will be attending even if the weather is inclement.

#### Scholastic Book Fair - Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March

Will be held Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March. Books will be on sale from 3.30 pm in the KS1 corridor. All monies raised from book sales will be used to re-stock our class libraries. If you are unable to accompany your child to the book fair on Monday to Thursday due to their afterschool club commitments, but wish to make a purchase, you are invited to send payment to school with your child in a clearly labelled and named envelope.

#### Year 4 Multiplication Check Parent Meetings – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March

On Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 5:00pm the Year 4 class teacher will be giving a parent talk about the administration of the Year 4 Multiplication test which takes place in June.

#### Year R Class Assembly – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March

Year R parents are invited to attend Year R's first class assembly taking place on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March at approximately 9:05am.

#### K.D Greaves Author Visit – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March

K.D Greaves will be visiting us on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March and Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February and will be delivering a free workshop to all children. She will also be in the library after school on both these days signing and selling some of her books, all are welcome to visit.

#### Year 6 Residential Information Meeting – Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March

A parents information meeting for the upcoming residential trip to Windmill Hill will take place on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 5pm in the Year 6 classroom. This meeting is for parents / carers only.





# St. William of Perth Catholic Primary School (1974 – 2024)

## **PTA Mother's Day Shop – Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March**

Children will be offered the opportunity to buy a wonderful gift(s) for mums, nans or other special people in their lives. Cards and gifts are priced from 50p to £2, we would suggest that children bring in no more than £5 spending money on the morning of the 26<sup>th</sup> March in a clearly labelled, envelope, purse or wallet.

## **Parents Evening – Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March & Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March**

Parents evening will be on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March and Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March 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 have been sent home and your completed appointment slip is to be returned to your eldest (or only) child's class teacher on or before but no later than Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2025, thank you. You will receive notification of your allotted meeting time via your eldest (or only) child's book bag on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

## **Passion Play – Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

Year 3 & Year 4's Passion Play will take place on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 2pm (children will be leaving school at 3.20pm) and Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2025 at 6:00pm, (no pre-school children at the evening performance thank you). Both performances will be held in the school hall. Parents of children in Years 3 and 4 are asked to complete the form(s) on the class letter sent home and return it to the office. All money collected at the end of both performances will be donated to our Missio appeal.

**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.

**Tuesday 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 Tuesday morning after 9:30. Alternatively, you may email Mrs Morrow 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 statutory **DfE Working Together to Improve School Attendance 2024** and **The Education (Penalty Notices) (England) Regulations 2024**, 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.





# St. William of Perth Catholic Primary School (1974 – 2024)

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:**

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/>

## **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/>

## **School Streets**

The statutory consultation period for the Medway School Streets proposals for Canon Close continues until **Friday 28th March**.

You can **register your views** via email to the following address [TROconsult@medway.gov.uk](mailto:TROconsult@medway.gov.uk) or by post to Parking Design team, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham Kent, ME4 4TR.

## **Praise Celebrations for the week!**

House Points. Team house winner this week: Red

Merit Award - Well done to the following children who received a merit award certificate today.

Alyssia Y R, Oliver T Y 1, Mahari Y 2, Albie Y 3, Freya Y 4, Eva Y 5, Finlay Y 6.

## **Week commencing 03.03.25**

### **Attendance Ted**

Well done to Year 5 who won our Attendance Ted for the week.

### **Punctuality Pup**

Well done to Year 1 who won the Punctuality Pup for the week.

## **INSET DAY – Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025**

Please be advised that we have organised our next INSET day for Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Please be advised no children will be in school on that day.

Yours sincerely,

J. Willis

Mr J. Willis  
Headteacher

	Diary Dates – <i>Subject to Change</i>	
<b>March 2025</b>		
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> - Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Scholastic Book Fair	3:30pm
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 – Forest School (Final session)	
	Year 4 Multiplication Check Information Evening	5pm
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Year R Class Assembly	9:05am
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup>	K.D Greaves Author Visit	
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	K.D Greaves Author Visit	
	Year 6 - Residential Information Evening	5pm





## St. William of Perth Catholic Primary School (1974 – 2024)

Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Mother's Day Sale	
	Parents Evening	4 - 7 pm
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>	GSP – Girls Football Festival	
	Parents Evening	4 - 7 pm
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 – Class Assembly	9:05am
	Spring Choir Concert	6pm
<b>April 2025</b>		
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Year 3 and 4 Passion Play – afternoon performance	2pm
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Celebration Assembly (by invite)	2:15pm
	Year 3 and 4 Passion Play - evening performance	6pm
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Big Lent Walk	
	MYG Netball Competition	
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Stations of the Cross	
	End of term 4	

### Jubilee Year of Hope 2025 – Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

SWOP are excited to continue the Pope's 'Jubilee Year of Hope 2025', by participating in the CAFOD 'Big Lent Walk'. This will involve KS2 completing a sponsored walk around the local area ending at St John Fisher Church, in the church the whole school will then think about the Pope's call for us to 'Demand Change' and consider our impact on the environment. We would be delighted if parents, guardians and parishioners, would be able to join us for this event on the Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, leaving the school at approximately 9:15. If you can help during this event and you wish to become involved, please can you let Miss Gray know at the office. We really would love to make this event a walk to show that our school have a voice and are called to engage with Catholic Social Justice!

EYFS and KS1 will not take part in the walk, but will join the rest of the school in the church. We have arranged some alternative 'Prayer Stations' for these classes to become involved in linked to this theme.

If you can spare some money, the QR code to the Just Giving Page for CAFOD is below. Please do not bring money into school.

<https://donate.justgiving.com/fundraising/st-william-of-perth/donation-amount>



### Eco Ambassador Training

