



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

Mr J. Willis
Headteacher

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NEWSLETTER NO 26: Friday 28th March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

K.D Greaves Author Visit

This week author KD Greaves completed writing and author workshops throughout the whole school. Miss Dormedy felt that "St John's Class thoroughly enjoyed their visit from KD Greaves. She brought her wonderful story to life, reading with such enthusiasm, and encouraging the children to think of their own ideas and adventures. Thank you for this enriching reading experience!". The whole experience was very enriching and helped our readers develop a love of books and reading. We thank KD Greaves and look forward to a possible future visit on the publication of her new book.

Year 6 SAT's / Residential Information Meeting

SAT's: Thank you for those able to attend the SAT information evening, we hope you found this useful. SAT's week for Year 6 will take place the week beginning Monday 12th May.

Residential: Thank you to the parents who attended this information afternoon. We look forward to a very exciting residential trip in June. Please return the requested forms as soon as possible.

For those Parents who were unable to attend, the presentations have been uploaded onto Year 6's class dojo page.

PTA Mother's Day Shop

The children enjoyed purchasing their Mother's Day gifts from the PTA shop this afternoon. We hope that everyone enjoys their gifts and their special day.

Parents Evening

Thank you for all the parents who attended our Parent Teacher Consultation appointments this week. Working in partnership is keen to helping all our students fulfil their potential.

GSP – Girls Football Festival

A team of Year 6 girls represented the school at the GSP football festival on Thursday this week. They were praised for their excellent behaviour and perseverance. They achieved 4th place out of 18 schools which is an excellent achievement. We are very proud of their efforts. Well done to – Nyrah, Amelia, Rosie, Stefania, Nia Rae, Esther, Alice P, Nicole, Eire and Shanri.

Tag Day

The children really enjoyed their tag day today. Thank you for all your generous donations for our Easter raffle.

Year 5 Class Assembly

St. George's class led us in prayer this morning. They explained the Annunciation of our Lord and how we celebrate the meeting of Angel Gabriel and Mary.

Choir Spring Concert

A special thanks to Ms Green who will be ably assisted by Mrs Stevenson on piano. The children have been rehearsing with enthusiasm. We look forward to a wonderful performance.

Lent

Thank you to those of you who have returned your Mission Together boxes in order to raise money for Mission Together – all contributions are gratefully received. Please click on the link for more information <https://missiontogether.org.uk/> Last day to donate: - Friday 4th April 2025, thank you.

After – School Clubs

Please note that this week was the last week for Term 4 clubs. Letters for Term 5 clubs have been sent via ParentMail 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 2nd April. Please find the after-school club timetable below:





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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
15:20-16:20 Arts & Crafts: Yr 3 & 4	15:30-16:30 Drama club: Yr 3 & 4	15:30-16:30 Choir: KS2	15:30-16:30 Greenacre Sport: Yr 3 & 4
15:30-16:30 Karate: KS2	15:30-16:30 MYG Sports Club: Yr 5 & 6		15:30-16:30 Football club: Yr 5 & 6

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.

Passion Play – Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd April

Year 3 & Year 4's Passion Play will take place on Tuesday 1st April at 2pm (children will be leaving school at 3.20pm) and Wednesday 2nd 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.

Easter Bonnet Parade – Wednesday 2nd April

We would like to invite the children to design and make an Easter Bonnet as part of our Easter Celebrations. The children will be able to wear their bonnets into school on Wednesday 2nd April. We will have a short parade for parents to see the designs taking place in the morning from 9:00 am. The parade will take place on the playground and we ask parents to enter via the lower playground gate.

Celebration Assembly – Wednesday 2nd April

Selected pupils will receive their Celebration Assembly certificates next Wednesday afternoon. Invitations have been sent to parents of those children due to receive a certificate. Please check your ParentMails. The assembly will start at 2:15pm and should last approximately 45 minutes.

PTA Cake Sale – Wednesday 2nd April

This will take place in the playground starting from 3:10pm. All are welcome to buy a sweet treat. If anyone is able to donate any homemade/store bought cakes/cupcakes/cookies, please leave them at the office by 10am on Wednesday 2nd April.

Year 3 & 4 Swimming – Tuesday 6th May

The first of Year 3 & 4's swimming sessions takes place on Tuesday, 6th May. Children are reminded to bring their swimming kit to school. Please make sure the children come equipped with an all-weather jacket as we will be attending even if the weather is inclement.

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 . 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





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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.

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.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

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: Yellow

Walking Boot: Year 6

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

Jason Y R, Mattea Y 1, Alfie Y 2, Aliyah Y 3, Nyah Y 4, Beau Y 5, Alice M Y 6.

Week commencing 17.03.25

Attendance Ted / Punctuality Pup

Well done to Year 4 who won both our Attendance Ted and Punctuality Pup for the week.





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Staffing Update - Mrs Morrow Maternity Leave

We are delighted to be able to share with you that Mrs Morrow is expecting her second child and that she will be starting her maternity leave the week after we return from the Easter Holiday. In the interim, Mrs Montgomery will be covering SENCO duties and her SENCO day will be on a Monday. Mrs Tillman will also be joining our school to help with Teacher release time as well. We hope that Mrs Morrow enjoys this special time with her family and look forward to her return in the next academic year. I am sure you will join me in offering our congratulations and best wishes to Mrs Morrow and her family.

INSET DAY – Tuesday 22nd April 2025

Please be advised that we have organised our next INSET day for Tuesday, 22nd 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>		
April 2025		
Tuesday 1 st	Year 3 and 4 Passion Play – afternoon performance	2pm
Wednesday 2 nd	Easter Bonnet Parade	9:05am
	Celebration Assembly (by invite)	2:15pm
	PTA Cake Sale	3:10pm
	Year 3 and 4 Passion Play - evening performance	6pm
Thursday 3 rd	Big Lent Walk	
Friday 4 th	Year 6 Stations of the Cross	
	End of term 4	
Monday 7 th – Monday 24 th	Easter Holiday	
Tuesday 22 nd	Inset Day – no children in school	
Wednesday 23 rd	Start of Term 5	

Jubilee Year of Hope 2025 – Thursday 3rd 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 3rd 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>

