



St. William of Perth Catholic Primary School

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NEWSLETTER NO 5: Friday 2nd October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Cafod – Live Simply Award

We are delighted to share with you the remarkable achievement on gaining Cafod prestigious 'Live Simply Award'. This award is a real chance to show our solidarity with our brothers and sisters across the globe and share the Catholic Social Teaching where we aim to live as stewards to our earth.

Margaret from Cafod said, 'Thank you for all that you have done to work together to make our world a better place.

A special mention to Morire, Aaron, Enzo, Hannah and Amarachi who were excellent ambassadors for your school and took part in the assessment interview. I know the whole community will be continuing to build on the projects you have been working on...love and compassion are your superpowers.'

Safeguarding Assemblies

This week we held our Stay safe, Speak out - NSPCC safeguarding talks for the children. The talks explored how children can stay safe and what to do if they are worried. For more information, please visit the NSPCC website which has a wealth of resources to support the teaching of safeguarding [NSPCC | The UK children's charity | NSPCC](https://www.nspcc.org.uk)

Individual School Photographs

Children had their individual and family photographs taken on Monday by Kittle Photography. Each child will have brought home a Kittle Photographic card bearing log in details and QR code to order these photographs online.

KCSP Welcome Mass

Our Year 4, 5 and 6 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.



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

This year we will be supporting Medway Food Bank through our harvest appeal. A desired list of items has been sent via ParentMail. All donations will be greatly received; your donations will help local families who are experiencing hardship.

Future Events

Year 4 Class Trip Kent Life Roman Day – Monday 5th October

As part of their history curriculum, Year 4 will be visiting Kent Life on Monday 5th October for their themed Roman Day.

Year 4 & Year 6 History Workshop – Tuesday 6th October

On Tuesday 6th October, Year 4 & Year 6 will be visited by a Historian from Guildhall Museum to each have their history workshop. Year 4's topic will focus on the Romans and Year 6's topic will focus on Ancient Greece. Please ensure your payment has been completed via ParentPay.

Year 6 Swimming Session 4 – Tuesday 6th 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.

Harvest Mass – Thursday 8th October

We would like to invite everyone to a very special Harvest Festival service at **St John Fisher Church** on **Thursday 8th October at 9:30am**. Families, friends and parishioners are warmly welcome to join us as we give thanks for God's gifts and celebrate our school community.

Year 3 Class Assembly – Friday 9th October

Year 3 parents are invited to attend Year 3's class assembly taking place on Friday 9th October at approximately 9:05am.

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.

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.



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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.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/>

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.

Praise Assembly Celebrations!

House Points. Team house winner this week: Blue

Walking boot: Year 4

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

Oliver Y R, Willow E Y 1, Adira Y 2, Liam Y 3, Amanda Y 4, Aaron Y 5, Rosie Y 6

Week commencing 21.09.26

Attendance Ted

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

Punctuality Pup

Well done to Year R & Year 6 who won our Punctuality Pup for the week.

Staff Training Day Reminder

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**.

INSET DAY – Monday 16th November 2026

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

Yours sincerely,

J. Willis

Mr J. Willis
Headteacher





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	Diary Dates – <i>Subject to Change</i>	
October 2026		
Monday 5 th	Yr 4 Class Trip – Kent Life Roman Day	
Tuesday 6 th	History Workshops – Yr 4 & Yr 6 Year 6 Swimming	
Thursday 8 th	Harvest Mass	9:30am
Friday 9 th	Year 3 Class Assembly	9:05am
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)	
Wednesday 4 th	Grandparents Lunch	
Monday 9 th – Thursday 12 th	Scholastic Book Fair	3:30pm
Thursday 12 th	Whole School Flu Immunisation	
Friday 13 th	PTA Quiz Night	
Monday 16 th	INSET Day – No children in school	
December 2026		
Friday 4 th	PTA Christmas Fayre	
Tuesday 15 th	Whole School Pantomime	

Grand Opening – Foyer Doors

We were delighted to welcome Mrs. Randall back to open our new foyer doors. Mrs Randall was a Midday Meals supervisor at our school for over twenty years. She and her husband Paul use to help repair our foyer doors. She was delighted to be able to open the doors and spend time with the children who she remembers very fondly. She is pictured with representatives of our school council.

