



All Saints' CE Primary School

Newsletter 1 – September 2026

We are delighted to share our first newsletter of the new academic year. Our newsletters are an important way of keeping children, families and staff connected and informed about the life of our school.

As we reach the end of September, we would like to share some updates from what has already been a busy and positive start to the school year.

A Positive Start to the School Year

A very warm welcome back to everyone at All Saints' CE Primary School!

We began this academic year with a '**soft start**' in each class, giving children time to settle into their new routines, get to know the adults and pupils they are working with, and, most importantly, build positive relationships.

This has been extremely successful. Feedback from staff and visitors to the school has consistently highlighted the calm and purposeful atmosphere across All Saints'. Our children have settled incredibly well and are focused and engaged in their learning.

It has been an absolute pleasure to welcome our new Reception children and their families into the All Saints' community, as well as the children who have joined us in other year groups.

Thank you also to all the families who attended our **Meet the Teacher** sessions. We really value the partnership between home and school and appreciate your continued support.

OPAL Play Update

We are now well underway with our journey as an **OPAL school**, so we wanted to take this opportunity to remind families why we believe this approach is so important for our children.

OPAL stands for **Outdoor Play and Learning**. It is a school improvement programme designed to transform the quality of children's playtimes by providing a wider range of creative, active and engaging play opportunities.

Playtime makes up a significant proportion of a child's time at primary school. OPAL helps us to make the very best use of this time, recognising that high-quality play contributes to children's physical and emotional wellbeing, creativity, independence, resilience and social development.

Through OPAL, children are given:



- **More freedom and choice** – children have access to a wider range of open-ended and creative play opportunities across the school grounds.
- **Opportunities to manage risk** – children learn to assess and manage appropriate risks through activities such as climbing, balancing and using loose parts.
- **Outdoor play throughout the year** – wherever it is safe and appropriate to do so, children are encouraged to enjoy outdoor play in a variety of weather conditions.
- **Opportunities to develop important life skills** – including cooperation, problem-solving, resilience, creativity and independence.

Being Ready for Outdoor Play

As we move into the autumn and winter months, it is particularly important that children come to school prepared for the changing British weather.

All children should bring a suitable waterproof coat to school each day.

Where possible, we would also encourage children to bring:

- wellington boots or suitable outdoor shoes; and
- waterproof trousers.

These items can be kept in school so that children can enjoy outdoor play while keeping their school uniform as clean and dry as possible.

Thank you for helping us to make OPAL a positive and enjoyable experience for all our children.

After-School Clubs

We are pleased to offer a range of after-school clubs at All Saints'. Clubs can be booked through the **MyChildAtSchool** app.

Our club offer changes each term, so please keep an eye on **ClassDojo** and our school Facebook page for information about upcoming opportunities.

The current clubs will run until the October half-term break.

Merit Assemblies

Our **Merit Assembly** takes place every Friday morning at approximately **9:00am** and is an opportunity for us to come together as a school community and celebrate our wonderful children.

This year, **two children from each class** will receive a Merit Certificate each week.

One certificate will be awarded to the child who has achieved the highest number of ClassDojo points that week. These points are awarded in recognition of children demonstrating our school rules, values and positive learning behaviours.



The second certificate will be chosen by the class teacher. This is an opportunity to recognise and celebrate something particularly special about that child – whether this is their effort, progress, kindness, resilience, attitude to learning or the positive contribution they make to their class and our school community.

Children receiving a Merit Certificate are also invited to a special **Merit Tea Party** on Tuesday afternoon with the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher. Children are invited into the staffroom to enjoy hot chocolate and cake as we celebrate their achievements together.

If your child is receiving a Merit Certificate, you will be notified before Friday's assembly. We would be delighted to welcome you into school to see your child receive their award and share in their achievement.

Our New School Website

We are very excited that our **new school website** is due to go live by the end of the week!

Please take some time to have a look around the new site. We now have much greater ownership of the content, which means we can keep it more up to date and make it a genuinely useful source of information for our families.

We would also welcome your feedback. If there is information that you would find useful but cannot currently find on the website, please let us know.

We hope the new website will become another great way for families to keep up to date with everything happening at All Saints'.

Thank You

Finally, thank you to our children, families and staff for such a positive start to the new academic year.

We are incredibly proud of the calm, happy and purposeful atmosphere across the school and of the way our children have embraced the start of a new year.

We look forward to sharing more news, celebrations and achievements with you throughout the term.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Hammond'.

Miss Hammond
Headteacher
All Saints' CE Primary School



Diary Dates for the upcoming academic year – please pin to your fridge and put into your calendars.

October

- Thursday 1st October – *Harvest Festival and Harvest Lunch*
- Wednesday 14th October – *Parent Consultations from 1:15pm*
- Friday 23 October – break up for half term.

November

- Monday 2nd November – Non-Pupil Day. (MAT)
- w/c 2nd November Creative writing week.
- Tuesday 10th November – Interfaith Day then - *Interfaith Festival from 2:30pm*
- Wednesday 11th November – Remembrance Day service
- W/C 20th November – Anti bullying week
- Friday 20th November – *Children in Need.*

December

- Thursday 10th December – Carols round the tree.(9:00) *Christmas Jumper & Christmas Lunch Day*
- Monday 14th December – *EYFS & KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal, 1:30pm*
- Tuesday 15th December – *EYFS & KS1 Performances, 1:30pm and 4:00pm*
- Thursday 17th December – *Christmas Church Service, 1:45pm*
- Friday 18th December – *Last Day of Term & Christmas Parties in Class*

January

- Monday 4th January – *Non-Pupil Day*
- Tuesday 5th January – *Children return to school*
- Wednesday 6th January – *Kings Day.*

February

- W/C 1st Feb – Children's wellbeing week.
- 9th February – Pancake Races.
- Monday 15th February – *Half Term begins*
- Monday 22nd February – *Children return to school*
- W/C 22nd – creative writing week

March

- Thursday 4th March – *World Book Day*
- Wednesday 10th March – *Science Festival from 2:30pm*
- Wednesday 24th March – *Egg and Spoon Races.*
- Thursday 25th March – *Easter Service in Church, 1:45pm*
- Monday – *Easter Holidays begin (Children return 12th April)*

April

- 12th April pupils back to school
- Wednesday 14th April – *Parent Consultations from 1:15pm*
- Tuesday 27th April – *MTC Parents meeting*

May

- Monday 10th May – *Year 6 SATs begin*
- Monday 17th - 19th May – *Year 6 Residential Trip*
- Wednesday 26th May – *Years 3/4 Dress Rehearsal, 1:30pm*
- Thursday 27th May – *Years 3/4 Performances, 1:30pm and 6:00pm*
- Monday 31st May – *Half Term begins*

June

- Monday 7th June – *Children return to school*
- Monday 7th June – *Year 4 Times Table Check*
- Monday 14th June – *Phonics Screening (Years 1 & 2)*

July

- Friday 2nd st July – *School Sports Day*
 - o 9:00–11:00am KS2
 - o 11:15–12:30pm EYFS & KS1
- 12:30pm Family Picnic. *Children are allowed to leave after lunch (early finish)*
- Tuesday 6th July – *Enterprise Day*
- Friday 9th July – *Reports to Parents*
- Wednesday 14th July – *Years 5/6 Dress Rehearsal 1:30pm*
- Thursday 15th July – *Move up morning*
- Thursday 15th – *Years 5/6 Performances, 1:30pm and 6:00pm*
- Thursday 15th July – *EYFS new intake 1:15- 2:45.*
- Monday 19th - *Year 6 Graduation & Party, 2:00pm*
- Tuesday 20th – *End of Term Church Service, 1:30pm*

Wednesday 21st July – *Last Day of the Summer Term Early finish 1:15pm*