



St Alban's Catholic Primary School, Walker



Address:
Westbourne Avenue
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE6 4HQ
United Kingdom
Telephone: 0191 262 5552
Email: office@stalbansnewcastle.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs C Yeoman

19th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you've had a positive start to the new term and that your children are settling in well. Please find below some key updates and reminders for the coming weeks. As always, thank you for your continued support.

English Café Dates – Autumn Term 2025

We're pleased to invite you to join us for a series of Vocabulary and Early Reading sessions taking place this term. Each session will begin with a short welcome and introduction in the school hall, followed by a vocabulary lesson in your child's classroom.

These sessions are a great opportunity to:

- Learn how we teach vocabulary and early reading skills in school
- See vocabulary teaching in action in your child's year group
- Discover simple, age-appropriate ways to support vocabulary and phonics at home
- Ask questions and build confidence in supporting your child's English development

All sessions will begin at 9:00am, after drop-off. Please make your way to the school office to be signed in.

Session Dates:

Date	Year Group
Thurs 2 Oct	Year 1
Thurs 9 Oct	Year 2
Thurs 16 Oct	Year 3
Wed 22 Oct	Year 4 (<i>Please note this session is on a Wednesday</i>)
Thurs 6 Nov	Year 5
Thurs 13 Nov	Year 6
Thurs 20 Nov	Reception
Thurs 27 Nov	Nursery

We look forward to welcoming you into school and working together to support your child's learning journey.

Early Years Information

The Government has launched a helpful new website filled with advice and support for your child's early development and education.

You can explore it here: www.beststartinlife.gov.uk

EasyFundraising – Support Our School While You Shop

Sign up to EasyFundraising and turn your everyday online shopping into free donations for our school. It's completely free and simple to use. When you raise your first £5, EasyFundraising will match it — giving even more back to our school.

Sign up here: www.easypundraising.org.uk

School Website

Please take some time over the next few weeks to explore our school website. There you'll find:

- Curriculum outlines
- Our school calendar with key dates and events
- Information on school policies, practices, and more

It's a great way to stay up to date with everything happening in school life.

School Mass Take Over at St Anthony's of Padua – September 27th

We're pleased to confirm that our pupils will be leading and taking part in mass at St Anthony's of Padua, Walker on Saturday 27th September. More details will follow shortly.

Forest School – Clothing Reminder

Please ensure your child brings appropriate clothing for Forest School sessions.

What to bring:

- Long trousers or joggers (to protect legs)
- A waterproof coat
- Old clothes for changing into

Avoid:

- Shorts or skirts
- Open-toe shoes or sandals
- Brand new or light-coloured clothes

We want children to fully enjoy outdoor learning while staying safe and comfortable!

OPAL Play – Outdoor Learning in All Weathers

As part of our OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) programme, we'll be encouraging outdoor play throughout the year, rain or shine.

Please make sure your child brings a coat every day, regardless of the weather forecast

Why OPAL matters:

- Encourages creativity and teamwork
- Promotes physical and emotional wellbeing
- Builds independence and resilience

Important Information – Morning Drop-Off Procedures

For your information:

- The school gates are open in the morning to allow children to enter the yard before the school doors open at 8:40am.
- Members of staff are present on the yard from 8:40am.
- Before this time, we kindly ask that parents/carers accompany their children, as children remain the responsibility of parents/carers until the school doors open.
- The school gates are closed by our caretaker at 8:50am.

Please ensure that children are dropped off and that parents/carers leave the yard promptly, so we can close the gates and secure the school site for safety reasons.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Thank you for reading – and for your continued support in helping us create a positive and engaging learning environment for all our children.

Mrs Yeoman