




Harvest FESTIVAL

Tomorrow, children and staff will be going to church for this year's Harvest Festival. We ask that children bring a contribution of non-perishable food to help support local families through the foodbank and Feed Up Warm Up, or a contribution to the Bishop's Harvest Appeal (or both!)

Thank you so much in advance for your generosity.



The Leprosy Mission

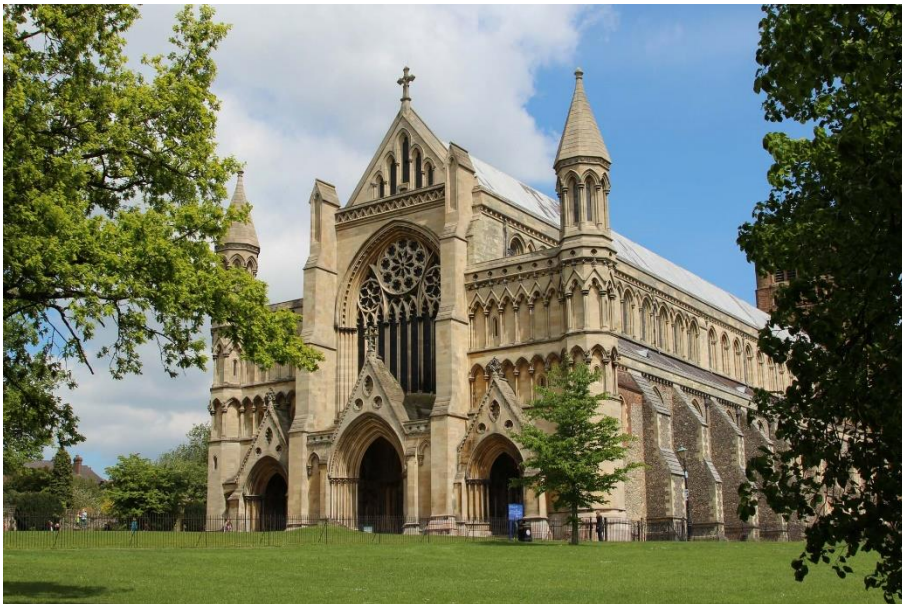
St Albans Bishop's Harvest Appeal 2024

DIocese of ST ALBANS
Living God's Love

Sri Lanka is known for its beautiful scenery, abundant wildlife, and historical sites.

But right now, the country is facing the worst economic crisis in its history. Families are struggling with soaring prices. Food, fuel, and other essentials are in short supply. Three in ten households do not have enough food.

And life is even harder for families affected by leprosy.



Young Worship & choir visit to St Albans Cathedral

The children in Young Worship and choir have been invited to take part in the Diocesan Schools Harvest Celebration at St Albans Cathedral next Tuesday. Parents are asked to give consent via Arbor ASAP. Thank you!

Y6 Parents: SATs Evening next week

On **Wednesday 9th October at 6pm**, Miss Walker will be holding an information evening for Y6 parents and children about the 2025 Key Stage 2 assessments (SATs). You will be able to find out all about what the tests entail, look at past papers and find out how best you can support your child with their learning over the coming months. This session works best when Y6 children and parents attend together. You can park on the playground for this session, and it will last around an hour.



SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

You may have seen in the news recently, about a commitment made by the parents at William Ransom School to not allow their children to have smartphones. 'Smartphone Free Childhood' is an organisation that empowers parents to work together to protect children from the dangers of smartphone use, be it exposure to harmful content, screen addiction, cyber bullying social media related mental health issues and much more.

We know that some of our parents here at St Ippolyts have expressed an interest in this parent-led campaign. To move it forward, we would need an individual or small group of parents willing to coordinate and promote the project. There is a meeting arranged in November for parent reps from all the other local schools who are interested in taking part. If you think you would be interested in taking on this role, please do let Mrs Peddie know and we can give you details of the meeting. If you would like to find out more, please visit

<https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>

Open Session next week

Monday 7th October 3.30-5.30pm

For those parents and families new to the school, Open Session is when you are invited to come with your child to visit their classroom after school, meet the teacher, see your child's books and ask any questions you may have. It is an informal afternoon; you do not need an appointment and can 'drop-in' any time during the session and stay as long as you want. *It isn't a one-to-one discussion with the teacher about your child's progress* – these take place in Parent Consultation appointments later in the term.

Classes 3, 5, and 6: Use the Class 5/6 doors

Classes 1, 2 and 4: Use the main entrance

Please be aware that buggies and prams cannot be brought into the building.

We do hope you can come along and that you will enjoy seeing your child's new classroom, their books and teacher. You are welcome to bring grandparents/family members too, and please feel free to look around different parts of the school at displays etc.



Class 6 Cake Day!

Friday 18th October



Pencil case problems!

Just a reminder that children should not have felt tips or gel pens in their pencil cases as we do not allow them to be used in exercise books. When these are needed for artwork etc, we have class supplies. Coloured pencils are needed for lessons though.

Pencil cases should be small and compact enough to fit into children's drawers. Some children are bringing in enormous pencil cases (and sometimes more than one!) and these take up a lot of room scattered around the classroom if they cannot fit in drawers to be put away safely and neatly at the end of lessons.

The list below details the only things needed in a school pencil case:

Pencil case contents - please name items

HB pencils		Extra items for KS2: Handwriting pens One highlighter
One small rubber	<i>Not novelty rubbers</i>	
One pencil sharpener		
Colouring pencils		
One ruler	<i>cm/mm markings</i>	
Small glue stick		
Scissors	<i>Child safety scissors only - optional</i>	

Toys, trinkets, keyrings, novelty rubbers and other precious things from home

Please be reminded that children are not allowed to bring toys/keyrings/novelties etc from home. It can be very distressing for children when things get lost or broken, not to mention the valuable teaching time it takes up when teachers are trying to get to the bottom of where things have gone.

Similarly, if your child comes home with something that you know does not belong to them, please do return it to us so we can reunite it with the rightful owner.

If something is precious enough to cause upset if it went missing or got broken, it would be much safer staying at home and should not be brought into school at all. Many thanks.

This week's article by our pupil journalists, Darcey, Ciara & Amy

Wasps

You may have noticed that there aren't as many wasps this year than last year. Though some people might think this is a good thing, wasps provide a natural pest control by capturing many caterpillars and greenflies, and pollinate flowers too, making them an important role of the ecosystem. Sadly, the cold and damp weather this year has caused the number of wasps to decrease.

A pupil from class 6 said, "I've only seen three this year!" showing just how much the numbers have lowered.

If you see these wonderful beings, this is a good thing so please don't harm them. They dislike the smell of citrus and peppermint, so instead of killing them, you could just leave some lemons in your house, to prevent them from coming in, in the first place.

Before we wrap up, we would like to leave you all with a quote:

'Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out.' – Robert Collier.





Well done to all the children who braved the wet weather to compete in the cross-country tournament last week.

They showed great determination and resilience for this first event of the year!



NO DOGS

A reminder about dogs

Please be reminded that **dogs should not be brought into the school grounds (main school site and the sports field)**, even if held in your arms. The exception to this is official assistance dogs.

Please also reiterate to your children about not approaching dogs to fuss them. Thank you.



ST IPPOLYTS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

RECEPTION ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

Applications open 1st November 2024

We are a vibrant, high achieving school where every child is celebrated as a unique individual. Located on the outskirts of Hitchin, in the beautiful village of St Ippolyts, we are proud of the warm, nurturing atmosphere in our school and the rich, stimulating primary curriculum that our pupils receive.

CONTACT US TO BOOK A TOUR

We look forward to meeting you!



TEL: 01462 432080

www.stipps.herts.sch.uk

admin@stipps.herts.sch.uk