



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Welcome back.

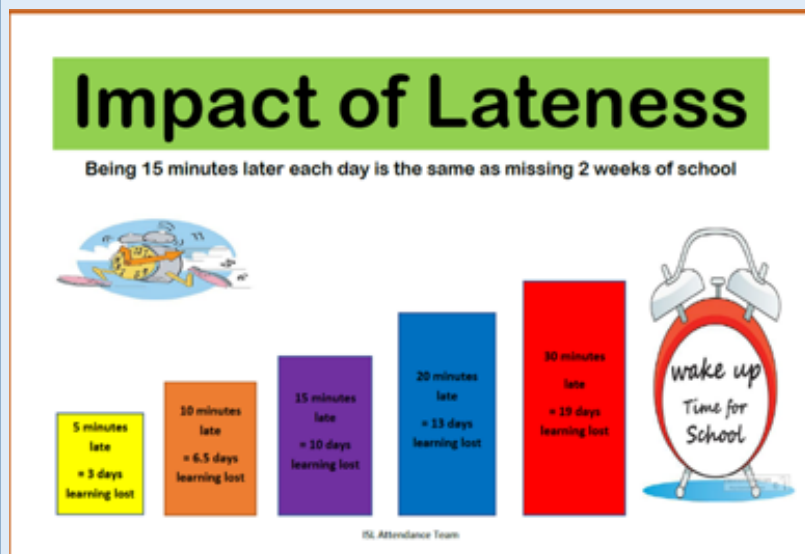
I hope that you all had a wonderful summer and were able to have time with family and friends. The weather was extraordinary and I'm sure the summer of 2026 will be remembered and mentioned as exceptional for many years. It certainly forced me to slow down, especially in the afternoons, and allowed me to read more books over the holiday than I've done for a long time.

Thank you for preparing the children so well for their return to school; they have come back keen and eager and with very few tears in early years. Across the school, we have ensured that there have been lots of settling in activities, reminders of our previous learning and time to get to know new adults before we launching into new learning this week.

As I'm sure you will have heard, we have given all classes a name this year linked to a favourite book. We have themed our hall art to these books too which the children have thoroughly enjoyed creating.

Attendance As you know, good attendance at school is vital for success. Even just a few days missed can have a significant impact a child's learning.

Similarly, lateness, walking into a class after your peers and missing the start of the day and the first lesson, puts children at a disadvantage.



The government is still making attendance a priority for all schools, particularly as attendance has still not reached pre-COVID levels.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

September 2026

Tue 15, 17:30	Head Teacher's New School Year launch
Wed 16	Y4 National Archives Treasure workshop
Thur 17, 15:30	Y5/6 Girls Football v Manland (A)
Tue 22	Flu vaccinations
Tue 22	Y6 WW2 workshop
Tue 22	Y3 Natural History Museum
Tue 22	Y5 Science Museum
Tue 22, 19:45	PTA AGM
Wed 23, 15:30	Y5/6 Girls Football v Sauncey Wood (A)
Thur 24	Y4 Peace Day
Mon 28	Science week
Tue 29, 15:30	Y5/6 Girls Football v St Nicholas (H)

October 2026

Mon 5	Y4 Verulamium Museum
Tue 6, 15:30	Y5/6 Girls Football v Beech Hyde (H)
12-23	Y4 Swimming
Wed 21	Parent Consultations
Thu 22	Parent Consultations
26-30	Half Term

November 2026

2-6	Y5 Bikeability
Fri 6, 9:15	Reception Open Morning (for Sept 2027)
Tue 10, 9:15	Reception Open Morning (for Sept 2027)
Wed 11	Flu vaccinations
Thur 19, 9:15	Reception Open Morning (for Sept 2027)

December 2026

Wed 16	Y1-Y6 Panto
Fri 18	End of Term

January 2027

Mon 4	INSET Day
Tue 5	Start of Term

For other key dates please visit our school website at [Lea Primary School - Calendar](#)

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER Cont.

Attendance is a priority at The Lea too so if we have concerns about your child's attendance, we will be chatting with you and if you know attendance and or lateness is a challenge for your family, please do talk to us and we will do all that we can to help.

If you are booking holidays for next year, or even the year after, dates are always on our website and the Herts website two years in advance. Please make sure that you book so your child can start the term with their friends. We have found, as has the research, when this doesn't happen, children are adversely affected.

[School term dates](#) | [Hertfordshire County Council](#)

Allergies

Can I remind everyone that The Lea is a nut free school. No nuts of any kind in school please.

Please do not send children to school with nuts in snacks or packed lunches.

We have also reminded children not to share their packed lunches, school dinners or snacks with others as we never know what other children are allowed to eat or may be allergic to.

May I also remind you that, in line with our school policy and advice, that we do not allow sweets, cakes or other foods to be given out in school. When children use food as part of their learning, for example in D&T, thorough risk assessments have been carried out and parents/carers will be advised beforehand.

We do have children with severe allergies in school, so your support with this is very much appreciated

Clubs

If you have signed your child up for a club and they are not going to attend, especially if they have been in school that day, please let the office know.

When a child doesn't turn up and we haven't been advised they will be missing a session, they are treated as missing. Again, thank you for your support with this matter.

And finally... can I say a huge thank you to you all for all of the kind cards, words and gifts that I, and the rest of the staff received at the end of the summer term. Your kindness is so very much appreciated by us all.

Have a good weekend

Tracey Berry

OUR CLASS WORD OF THE WEEK

Nursery

kind

Reception

hauled

Year 1

recommend

Year 2

resilience

Year 3

Year 6

ricochet

Year 4

generation

Year 5

tenacity

SCHOOL NEWS

Clubs

Clubs start on Monday 14th September until Friday 11th December. Bookings are open on Arbor.

Planners

Please remember to purchase your child's school planner on the school shop on Arbor, for Years 1-6.

Lunches

Please login to Arbor in order to make a lunch choice for your child. If they bring a packed lunch from home, you will still need to choose this. If a lunch choice is left blank, it takes up a lot of time to check if pupils have a packed lunch or school dinner.

Advanced Payment system

The Lea operates an advanced payment system which means that school meals, Breakfast club and After School club need to be paid for in advance. Please ensure that you regularly check your balance on Arbor and top up any funds required to cover these.

Secondary School applications

Year 6 parents, please note that applications are now open for Secondary school places for September 2027. The deadline to apply is 31st October 2026.

PTA AGM

The PTA AGM will take place in the School Hall at 7:45pm on Tuesday 22nd September. The current PTA committee are stepping down, and a new committee is needed in order to continue the great work of raising funds and organising exciting events for our children and families. If you're interested in joining the PTA committee, volunteering to help, or want to come along and hear what's involved, everyone is welcome. If you'd like to join the new PTA committee but can't make the AGM, please let us know by email at leaschoolpta@hotmail.co.uk

TEAM POINTS

Sapphire was the winning team this week.

Well done!

STARS OF THE WEEK

Nursery

The Whole Class

For settling in to Nursery, you are all stars!

Reception

The Whole Class

For settling in really well to the Reception class.

Year 1

The Whole Class

For a fantastic start to Year 1 and learning our routines.

Year 2

The Whole Class

For demonstrating the school values as they settle in to year 2.

Year 3

The Whole Class

For a fantastic first week back.

Year 4

The Whole Class

For a great start to Year 4.

Year 5

The Whole Class

For making a great start in Year 5.

Year 6

The Whole Class

For making a positive start to Year 6.

Sports

Eva (Year 4)

For being a great learning partner in all PE lessons.

Sonny (Year 2)

For a great start in PE lessons this week.

KINDLINK DONATIONS

Donations to our school can be made via the [online KindLink](#) page.

These can be a one off payment or monthly donations.

All are welcome and gratefully received.



Apply for school on time



Applying for a school place for September 2027

Secondary/Upper/Studio/University Technical College
Application deadline: Saturday 31 October 2026

Primary (Reception)/Junior/Middle
Application deadline: Friday 15 January 2027

Apply online at
www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions





ORCHESTRA WORKSHOP DAY

SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2026

09.30 - 15.30

Jubilee Hall

STAHS

ARE YOU AGED 7 TO 11? DO YOU PLAY AN INSTRUMENT?

St Albans High School is hosting an Orchestra Workshop Day on Sunday 27 September 2026 to give young musicians in the local area the opportunity to come together and enjoy a day of music making. The day is free to attend and is open to any child in Year 3-6 who plays an orchestral instrument (minimum standard of Grade 1 applies).

Instruments included in the workshop are as follows:

FLUTE OBOE CLARINET BASSOON SAXOPHONE VIOLIN
VIOLA CELLO DOUBLE BASS GUITAR HARP FRENCH HORN
TRUMPET TROMBONE EUPHONIUM PERCUSSION

If your child plays an instrument that isn't listed above, please contact us.

The day will run from 09.30-15.30 with an informal concert at 15.00 (families are welcome to attend the concert). The day comprises a variety of musical games, instrument-specific training sessions and orchestral and performance workshops. Sessions will be led by Emma Price, Director of Music at STAHS, and assisted by our highly experienced specialist music staff.

Lunch and snacks will be provided by STAHS. Note that we have a no nut policy at the school. Please ensure instruments are clearly labelled with your child's name and school.

To register your interest, please complete the form at this [link](#) by Friday 11 September.

✉ musicevents@stahs.org.uk

St Albans High School
1-3 Townsend Avenue
St Albans
AL1 3SJ



Parent / Carer Motor Development Information Sessions

Places are now available to book our Autumn Term 2026

Information sessions for parents and carers

Supporting your child's motor skills development

When do children develop particular motor skills, such as riding a bicycle or using a pen? How can you help your child to develop these skills? What can you do if your child is struggling with a skill?

This session is for parents or carers of children aged between 4-8 years old who would like to understand more about their child's motor development and how to support this. The session will share information about the typical ages when children develop different motor skills. It will explain how to breakdown an activity such as pulling on a jumper into simple steps to help your child complete this independently. You will also get advice on activities and simple things you can do at home to support your child's motor development.

BOOK YOUR PLACE:

Thursday 24th September at 1.30pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1997693378672?aff=oddtcreator>

Monday 19th October 10.00am

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1994779834182?aff=oddtcreator>

Wednesday 25th November 11.00am

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1994792949410?aff=oddtcreator>

We are also offering parent information sessions on understanding sensory preferences and supporting self-regulation. To find out dates of these and other training opportunities please visit our CYP Therapies – Occupational Therapy Service webpage

<https://www.hct.nhs.uk/our-services/childrens-occupational-therapy//>

Children & Young People's Therapies Service

Contact us

Email:

Telephone:

hct.cyptherapies1@nhs.net

Twitter: @CypHCT

01923 470680 Opt.



Groups and workshops

Autumn 2026

Bringing Up Confident ADHD/ASD Children (6 weeks) Online group

**Monday 5th October to 16th November, 7pm to 9pm OR
Friday 6th November to 11th December, 9.30am to 11.30am**

If your child has ADHD/ASD, or you think they might, join our online 6-week group where you will receive support from other parents and gain a comprehensive understanding of ADHD/ASD and learn strategies to improve life at home and at school.

Less Shouting, More Cooperation (6 weeks) Online group

Tuesday 6th October to 17th November, 9.30am to 11.30am

Do you feel you are constantly nagging or shouting at your child to get what you need? Are you tired of losing your cool and want a calmer house? Join our free online 6-week group to learn how you can change the way you communicate with your child, respond better, and feel more in control.

Dads Together (6 weeks) Online group

Wednesday 4th November to 9th December, 7pm to 9pm

Are you a dad who feels you are constantly nagging or shouting at your child to get what you need? Are you tired of losing your cool and want a calmer house? Join our free online 6-week group to learn how you can change the way you communicate with your child, respond better, and feel more in control.

Anxiety around ADHD Online Workshop

Wednesday 21 October 9.30am to 11.30am

Sibling Rivalry Online Workshop

Monday 9 November 9.30am to 11.30am

Reducing Conflict Online Workshop

Wednesday 25 November 7pm to 9pm

It's a Dad's Life Online Workshop

Thursday 26 November 7pm to 9pm

Navigating the Storm (Teens) Online Workshop

Wednesday 2 December 9.30am to 11.30am

For more info, please contact **Louise** on **0204 522 8700/8701** or email **services@coramfamilylives.org.uk** or scan the QR code for our online form.

All our programmes provide support, information and resources to parents, carers and adult family members in Hertfordshire so they can help their children reach their full potential.



We build better family lives together

www.coramfamilylives.org.uk  **@coramfamilyliveshertsandbeds**

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