



25 SEPTEMBER 2026

STAGSLINK



Senior Student Leadership Team 2026-2027

Following a thorough application process, inspiring hustings speeches, a school wide vote and a tough interview process, we are delighted to announce our newly appointed Senior Student Leadership Team for this academic year! Our Head Students for 2026-2027 are Alice and Millie, along with Deputy Head Students Holly, Laura, Kyra and Charlotte. All the candidates were inspirational in their professionalism and enthusiasm. We are incredibly proud of everyone who put themselves forward, and we look forward to seeing the positive impact our new leadership team will make over the coming year. There will be other Year 12 leadership roles announced ahead of the forthcoming Sixth Form Leadership Conference. (See photo above)

Senior Mathematics Competition

This week, Year 11 and Sixth Form mathematicians have been participating in the UK Mathematics Trust Senior Mathematics Competitions for Girls. A record 24 students took part in the annual competition and two students in Year 13 took part in the Mathematical Olympiad for Girls as well. The Olympiad consists of five challenging questions over two and a half hours, designed to stretch the most accomplished mathematicians. We are incredibly proud of all of these students for taking on this challenge and look forward to sharing the results with you!

A Week of Amazing STAGS Sport

On a sunny Thursday afternoon last week, STAGS cross country runners gathered at Townsend. The weather was perfect for racing and the whole team was focused and eager to see their hard work pay off against tough competition. All runners were impressive including Martha in Year 8 who came first in the combined Year 7 and 8 competition, Bella in Year 11 who came fourth in the senior race and Emilia in Year 9 who came twelfth in the Year 9 and 10 competition. A huge well done to all who took part!

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Shaping Tomorrow, Today

Football has kicked off at STAGS this year with a county cup victory against Monkswalk for the U16's with a comfortable 6-2 (goals from Tiana x2, Grace x2, Jocelyn and Eve). All STAGS students played some outstanding football despite playing a half with only 10 players and we look forward to the draw for the next round. The U15 team ran out convincing winners in their friendly against Samuel Ryder 9-2 with goals shared around and players getting their first minutes of the season, they have both county and national cup ties coming up in the coming weeks. Finally, the eagerly awaited first fixture for Year 7 was played this week with all players representing STAGS for the first time, they played well together despite it being their first as a team, goals from Violet x2, Emmeline and a superb individual goal from Betsy lead to a 4-1 victory! (See photos on next page)

The U16's netball team have had a busy week. On Tuesday, they played Samuel Ryder Academy in the first round of the district cup. They played to an excellent standard progressing to the next round of the cup with a 37-14 win. They also competed in the district netball tournament at Sandringham. The students had an excellent run, winning all their games in the group round robin stages. The final went to golden goal which was very exciting. They placed in second overall - an amazing achievement. The U13 netball team had their first games of the season. On Tuesday they played Beaumont in the league winning 21-16 and had the first round of the County Cup winning against Broxbourne School 29-19.



Congratulations to all for an amazing sporting week and to our exceptional PE Team for supporting with preparation for fixtures and the smooth running of them all.



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STAGSLINK

Year 13 Science Fair

Last Friday we held our annual Year 13 Science Fair in which our Science students presented and shared their scientific interests with the school community. The standard of posters was exceptional and it was fantastic to observe the enthusiasm with which students shared their knowledge. Topics ranged from *How Chameleons Change Colour* to Neuroplasticity. Congratulations to our overall winners Ciara, Tayyibah and Kamilah for their brilliant Science communication!



Year 8 Language Ambassadors

The new Year 8 STAGS Language Ambassadors have made an incredible start! Demonstrating brilliant leadership and enthusiasm, they have started the European Day of Languages 2026 celebrations by actively promoting an exciting school wide competition. As part of the competition, they have been encouraging students across Years 7, 8 and 9 to listen to 20 audio clips in different languages and guess them all for a chance to win housepoints and treats. We are thrilled to see the positive impact of their work and look forward to all the forthcoming exciting events.



Fencing Success

We have featured Thea's brilliant fencing progress in STAGSLINK over the years and are delighted to announce that she has won a bronze medal at the 2026 U17 British National Championships last weekend. She has also been selected to represent Great Britain at

U17 (Cadet) level in upcoming international competitions. Her international results and ranking will contribute towards her eligibility for selection for the Cadet European and World Championships. She has been selected to represent Great Britain at the upcoming U17 Cadet international competitions in Istanbul and Budapest. As ever, we are incredibly proud of her achievements and wish her the best of luck!



Year 13 Information Evening

It was great seeing Year 13 Parents and Carers in person for their information evening. The aim of which was to not only set out the roadmap from now until they leave us in May, but to also highlight areas of support that we focus on. I would like to reiterate how incredibly grateful we are for your parental support and how important we maintain that momentum as we approach the various key dates such as Mock Exams and UCAS deadlines. If you have any questions or queries, please do feel free to contact the Sixth Form Team. If you were unable to make the event, the slides are being shared this afternoon.

Thank you so much to all colleagues who are supporting the Year 7 Sleepover this evening and we look forward to seeing Year 7 families at tomorrow's picnic.

Very best wishes to all for the weekend,

Paul Kershaw,
Headteacher



STAGS Football Success



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DIARY DATES

**Wednesday 30 September**

Bugsy Malone Rehearsals, Main Hall,
3:15-4:30pm

Wednesday 7 October

Bugsy Malone Rehearsals, Main Hall,
3:15-4:30pm

Thursday 8 October

Trampett & Tumbling, Redbourn, 12-4pm

Thursday 8 October

School Closes at 12:20pm

Thursday 8 October

Open Evening, 4-7pm

Friday 9 October

School Opens at 9:40am

Tuesday 13 October

Year 11 Parents Revision Workshop, Main
Hall, 6-7pm

Wednesday 14 October

Year 7 Information Evening, Main Hall,
6-7pm

Saturday 17 October

Pre-Loved Uniform Sale, Main Hall,
1:30-3pm

Thursday 22 October

Year 8 STAGS and Verulam Student Disco,
STAGS Main Hall, 6.30-8pm

Thursday 22 - Sunday 25 October

Year 10 & 12 Geography Naples Trips

Friday 25 October

Fireworks Festival, Verulam School,
6-9pm

[Click here](#) to view this week's Online Safety Top Tip about 'Qustodio - Parental Controls'

[Click here](#) to sign into the National Online Safety site to view 'What Parents & Educators Need to Know about Discord' or [here to view the PDF](#).

[Click here](#) to view the PSHE, Personal Development and Step Up Scheme of Learning

FOLLOW US



@STAGS.official



stalbangirlsschool_stags



Linkedin.com/schools/st-albans-girls'-school

PTA NEWS



Welcome to the PTA News section, where you'll get weekly PTA news and updates

Save the Date: Upcoming Events Next Term

- Sat 17 Oct: Pre-Loved Uniform Sale, Main Hall, 1:30-3pm
- Fri 23 Oct: Verulam Fireworks Festival, 6-9pm
- Tues 3 Nov: PTA Meeting, Staff Room, 6:30-7:45pm
- Sat 22 Nov: Winter Fair, 12-3pm

Volunteers Needed – Open Evening Car Park Marshalls

The PTA and school need volunteers to help with car park marshalling for the Open Evening on Thursday 8 October.

We need more people on each of the following shifts:

- 3.30pm - 5.45pm
- 5.30pm - 7.45pm

You'll be directing the flow of traffic onto and off the site, and provided with training and hi-vis vests. Just bring warm clothing and a helpful smile for our visitors! If you can join us, please email stagspta@gmail.com.

Bathroom Project Success!

You may have seen in previous editions of STAGSLINK that the bathrooms have been refurbished – a project the PTA have been delighted to support with fundraising.



The new, open-style bathrooms have already made an impact, and feedback from students has been positive.

We need to complete our fundraising contribution so we're pushing hard to finalise this as soon as possible. Please help with a donation on School Gateway or set-up a [standing order here](#). Thank you.

Pre-Loved Uniform Sale – Donations Required

Thank you to all those who have donated uniform so far. With our first sale approaching, we would like to offer as much as possible. Donations can be sent in with your student or dropped at School Reception every school day between 10am and 2pm. If you can't get to school, we may be able to arrange collection - please contact stagspta@gmail.com.

Verulam Fireworks Festival

We are delighted to partner again with Verulam PTA on their spectacular Fireworks Festival on Friday 23 October.

With street food stalls, bars with mulled wine, a live DJ, candy floss and breath-taking fireworks set to music, it's always a great night for the family.

Every ticket sold through our dedicated booking link raises money for our school, so please book now: tinyurl.com/Stags2026

FIREWORKS FESTIVAL 2026

FRIDAY 23RD OCTOBER
6PM-9PM
FIREWORKS AT 7.30PM
TOTALLY MUD FREE ZONE!

Verulam School Sports Ground
Sandpit Lane, St Albans, AL4 9BX

NO PARKING ON SITE
Disabled parking only, MUST be pre-booked

TICKETS
Under 5s: **FREE**
5-15 year olds: **£6**
Adults: **£10**
Family: **£30**
2 adults, up to 3 children
Prices higher on the day

Enjoy epic street food, bars with mulled wine, a live DJ, candy floss and breathtaking fireworks set to music!

BOOK HERE!

tinyurl.com/Stags2026

A massive THANK YOU to our Sponsors!

ROL CONSTRUCTION
ATW
Supported by: **ST ALBANS MUMS**

HOW YOU CAN HELP



- We always need volunteers at events, meetings and on the committee. Please [sign-up here](#) to signal your interest.
- Making a regular donation to the STAGS School Fund supports a vital source of fundraising - [find out more and sign-up here](#) (with Gift Aid if you can). · You can also help by online shopping via [Easyfundraising](#), entering the [Lottery](#), and making donations through School Gateway.

Every contribution, however small, makes a huge difference. Thank you.

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Shaping Tomorrow, Today

NOTICES



Welcome to
**St Albans
Girls' School**

Start your Teaching Journey with us.
Apply through our website at stags.aetrust.uk

Follow us on   

Shaping Tomorrow, Today

**OPEN
EVENING**

Thursday
8 October 2026
From 4pm

We look forward to welcoming you

Changes to School
Opening Times and Bus
Services

CHANGES TO SCHOOL OPENING TIMES

Please note that school will close at **12:20pm** on **Thursday 8 October 2026** to allow for preparations for Open Evening.

On **Friday 9 October 2026**, school starts with period 2 at **10am**.

CHANGES TO BUS SERVICES on Thursday 8 October 2026

School will close at 12:20pm.

The school buses including the 84 bus will collect students at this time, all public buses will retain their usual timetable.

All other students will be expected to make their own way home.

CHANGES TO BUS SERVICES on Friday 9 October 2026

School lessons will start at 10am.

- The Greenwood buses will collect students from their usual pick up points **one hour later than usual**
- The 84 bus will collect all students **one hour and ten minutes later than usual**.

Other students will be expected to make their own arrangements to arrive at school in time for a 10am start.

Many thanks in advance for all of your support with our Open Evening event.

NOTICES





Harvest Appeal

Help support your local foodbank this Harvest!

In the three weeks leading up to Harvest, the food bank will provide over 700 food parcels for local individuals and families facing hardship.



- ☒ Tinned meat/fish
- ☒ Tinned veg/fruit
- ☒ Cooking sauces
- ☒ Coffee
- ☒ Milk (UHT)
- ☒ Cereals
- ☒ Fruit juice (long-life)
- ☒ Tinned pudding
- ☒ Jam

Donate Food – Donate an item or two from our shopping list, ensuring we can provide food for people facing hardship in your local community.

- Bring to our warehouse
- Drop off in the STAGS collection box in the Main Foyer
- Order online at <https://givetoday.co.uk/stalbansfoodbank/>



Donate Money – Help to cover the costs of storing and distributing food, as well as developing sustainable projects.



www.stalbansdistrict.foodbank.org.uk

01727 613019

info@stalbandsdistrict.foodbank.org.uk

@st_a_and_dist_foodbank

@StAlbansDistrictFB

Drop donations to our warehouse
Unit 3 Redbourn Industrial Estate, AL3 7LG
Open
Tue and Fri: 10am - 3pm
Wed and Thu: 10am - 12pm

We are accepting donations from
Monday 28 September
to Friday 9 October

We're collecting food for St Albans & District Foodbank this Harvest

Can you help?

HARVEST 2026 WISH LIST

- Baked Beans
- Dried Pasta 500g / 1kg
- Tea Bags 40 or 80 pks
- Coffee 90g
- Tinned Vegetables
- Tinned Fruit
- Tinned Soup
- Tinned Meat
- Tinned Macaroni Cheese
- Tinned Custard
- Tinned Fish
- Tinned Tomatoes

WISH LIST

- Cereals
- Longlife Milk
- Cooking Sauces
- Tinned Rice Pudding
- Desserts
- Deodorant
- Longlife Juice
- Noodles
- Jam/Spreads
- Nappies (Size 4 upwards)
- Toilet Rolls
- Laundry Tablets
- Shower Gel
- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Washing Up Liquid

ITEMS WE DON'T NEED

No Nuts If Your School or Organisation Is Nut-Free

No Alcohol

No Fresh Food Or Perishables

WE WELCOME MONETARY DONATIONS. PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.stalbansdistrict.foodbank.org.uk



Harvest 2026

@StAlbansDistrictFB

@st_a_and_dist_foodbank

REGISTERED CHARITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES: 1158917

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NOTICES



Parents and Carers talk about self-harm and recovery

Please join us at an information session to learn more about self-harm and get practical ideas and strategies to help your child towards recovery

Where: Online over Zoom.

When: Tuesday 6th October, 7pm to 9pm

For more information or to book your place:

Call: 01992 58 69 69

Email: contact@carersinherts.org.uk

Go online: www.carersinherts.org.uk



About Carers in Hertfordshire

We are a charity that provides information, advice and support to unpaid carers - people looking after a partner, relative or friend, who is ill, elderly, has a physical or learning disability, or misuses substances.

We support carers of all ages - young people and adults - living, working or caring in Hertfordshire. Our services are free to carers and bereaved carers, who can access support for three years after the death of the person they looked after.

We provide services to carers to help them with their caring role or have a break from caring, to improve their health and wellbeing, and to have a voice in shaping health and community services.

We are partly funded by Hertfordshire County Council and the NHS in Hertfordshire. In partnership with them and other local organisations we work to ensure unpaid carers are identified, informed, supported and heard.

Carers in Hertfordshire

The Red House, 119 Fore Street, Hertford, Herts, SG14 1AX.

Tel: 01992 58 69 69 Email: contact@carersinherts.org.uk

www.carersinherts.org.uk

Our support for parents and carers.

We have a team of Carer Engagement Workers who can provide advice and information and also support you to speak up.

We also:

- Give you a chance to meet and talk to other parents, carers and staff who understand;
- Give you the opportunity to represent your views to the authorities that commission and manage Children and Young People's Mental Health Services (CYPMHS) in Hertfordshire;
- Provide free training and learning opportunities; and
- Offer a Carers' Passport Discount Card that gives savings in shops, restaurants and other venues (contact us to apply for one today!)



Year 8 Disco
Thursday 22 October
STAGS Main Hall
6.30-8pm
Tickets: £5 via School Gateway
(proceeds will go to the PTA)

THINKING ABOUT TEACHING?
JOIN US ONLINE FOR AN INFORMATION EVENT ABOUT
OUR TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAMMES
MONDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER AT 5.30PM
SCAN TO JOIN
GET IN TOUCH
TEACHING@ALBANTSH.CO.UK
NATIONAL INSTITUTE of Teaching
AlbanTSH Initial Teacher Training

Please find below a link to the latest School Nursing Newsletter. The newsletter contains health and wellbeing information, practical advice, and details of local support services available to children, young people, and their families. By sharing this information, we can help ensure families have access to trusted resources and know where to seek support when needed.

Newsletter Link Secondary:

<https://r1.dotdigital-pages.com/p/7BK1-CMI/hct-school-nursing-a26s>



NOTICES




GENERATION DACORUM CAREERS FAIR

Wednesday 30 September 2026

Come and discover the amazing career opportunities available in Dacorum

FREE TO ATTEND—SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER
 Hemel Hempstead Leisure Centre:
 Park Road,
 Hemel Hempstead,
 Hertfordshire,
 HP1 1JS
 3.30 - 5.30pm



Exhibitors include



Sponsors



Youth Mental Health First Aid Training

FREE



1 day Champion course designed specifically for school professionals working with 8 to 18 year olds.

You will learn:

- An understanding of common mental health issues and how they can affect young people
- The ability to spot the signs of mental ill health in young people, and guide them to a place of support
- Knowledge and confidence to advocate for mental health awareness
- Skills to support positive wellbeing

Friday 13 June 2026 9.30am to 4pm	Hertfordshire County Council, Robertson House, Stevenage, SG1 2EQ	School Professionals	Parking available on-site
Friday 10 July 2026 9.30am to 4pm	Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 8ER	School Professionals	Parking available on-site
Friday 13 Nov 2026 9.30am to 4pm	Peartree Spring Primary School, Stevenage, SG2 9GG	Parents/Carers	Parking available on roads near venue
Friday 15 Jan 2027 9.30am to 4pm	Springmead Primary School, Welwyn Garden City, AL7 2HB	School Professionals	Parking available on roads near the venue
Thurs 21st Jan 2027 9.30am to 4pm	The Hub, Fleetville Junior School, St Albans, AL1 1ALW	School Professionals	Parking available on-site
Friday 12 Mar 2027 9.30am to 4pm	Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 8ER	Parents/Carers	Parking available on-site

2 day First Aider course suitable for everyone who teaches, works, lives with or cares for 8 to 18 year olds.

You will learn:

- An in depth understanding of young people's mental health and factors that affect wellbeing
- Practical skills to spot the triggers and signs of mental health issues
- Confidence to reassure and support a young person in distress
- Enhanced interpersonal skills, such as non judgemental listening
- Knowledge to help a young person recover their health by guiding them to further support
- How to engage with parents, carers and external agencies
- How to support a young person with a long term mental health illness to thrive
- Tools to look after your own wellbeing

Thursday 26 & Friday 27 Nov 2026 9.30am to 4pm	Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 8ER	School Professionals	Parking available on-site
Thursday 4 & Friday 5 Feb 2027 9.30am to 4pm	Peartree Spring Primary School, Stevenage, SG2 9GG	School Professionals	Parking available on roads near venue

To book your place please email schoolsmh@hertfordshire.gov.uk
Places are limited to two representatives per education setting

PARENT ONLINE SESSION - Year 7 ONLY

Google / BYOD - Safeguarding & Parental Controls

Practical guidance to help keep your child safe online at home.



Monday
28 September



5:30pm - 6:00pm



Online via Google Meet

Session Description

A practical 20-30 minute session covering Google Family Link, parental controls, recommended settings, screen time and device boundaries, online safety considerations, and practical steps parents can take to support safe and healthy Chromebook use at home. The session will also explain how parental controls at home work alongside the school-managed Google account.



Google Family Link and parental controls



Recommended settings and screen time



Online safety considerations



Practical steps to support healthy device use at home



Join the session

meet.google.com/hay-qjqv-aks

Youth Mental Health First Aid Training

FREE



1 day Champion course designed specifically for Hertfordshire Parent/Carers of 8 to 18 year olds.

You will learn:

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