

# St Albans School

## Clubs and Societies 2021-2022

*List of activities in alphabetical order:*

<p>Art Club</p> <p>Athletics Club</p> <p>Badminton Club</p> <p>Barbershop</p> <p>Basketball Club</p> <p>Book Club</p> <p>Brass Ensembles</p> <p>Bridge Club</p> <p>Chess Club</p> <p>Chamber Choir &amp; Concert Choir</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Choir</p> <p>Chamber Ensemble</p> <p>Christian Group</p> <p>Clarinet Ensemble</p> <p>Climbing Club</p> <p>Coding Club</p> <p>Computer Science</p> <p>Concert Band</p> <p>Combined Cadet Force</p> <p>Cooking Club</p> <p>Creative Writing Society</p> <p>Cricket Club</p> <p>Cross Country</p> <p>Debating Society</p> <p>Dissection Club</p> <p>Diversity Society</p> <p>Drama – Main School Production</p> <p>Duke of Edinburgh Award</p> <p>Economics Society</p> <p>Fit Fun Fridays</p> <p>Flute Ensemble &amp; Flute Group</p> <p>Geography Film Club – Middle School</p> <p>Girls Netball &amp; Lacrosse</p> <p>Guitar Group</p> <p>Harry Schofield Mathematical Society</p> <p>History Film Club</p> <p>History and Politics Society</p> <p>Hockey Club</p> <p>Hylocomian Society</p>	<p>Jazz Band</p> <p>Junior History Film Club</p> <p>Live Band Workshop</p> <p>Lower School Choir</p> <p>Lower School Classics Club</p> <p>Lower School Drama Club</p> <p>Lower School and Third Form Hub (Wellbeing)</p> <p>M*S*G (Mixed Singing Group)</p> <p>MathsPlus</p> <p>Middle School Game Board Club</p> <p>Middle School Drama Club</p> <p>Mindfulness</p> <p>MUN</p> <p>Optic (Photographic Society)</p> <p>Orchestra</p> <p>Percussion Ensemble</p> <p>PhysicsBeyond</p> <p>Recorder Ensemble</p> <p>Quiz Club</p> <p>Rugby Club</p> <p>Sartorius Tailoring Club</p> <p>Saxophone Ensemble</p> <p>Science Club</p> <p>Scuba Diving Club</p> <p>Senior Design and Technology</p> <p>Shooting</p> <p>STEM Club (3rd Form)</p> <p>Stephen Hawking Lecture Society</p> <p>Storytellers</p> <p>String Orchestra</p> <p>Symphony Orchestra</p> <p>Swimming Club</p> <p>Table Tennis Club</p> <p>Tennis Club</p> <p>VEX IQ Club</p> <p>Water Polo</p> <p>Warhammer Club</p> <p>Wind Orchestra</p>
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### **Art Club**

This club meets every week and pupils can work in a variety of media ie Drawing, Painting, Printmaking, Three Dimensional Work etc. Pupils can work on their own ideas or alternatively be inspired by a common theme. There will be an exhibition of work produced by club members at the end of the year.

Staff: Mrs S Forbes-Whitehead and Miss E Lerche-Lerchenborg

### **Athletics Club**

The Second and Fourth Form teams compete in the County League with First and Third Forms competing in District friendlies. All teams, including senior teams, compete in the District Championships in addition to Harrow School invitational meets. Training is every night and Saturday during the Summer Term.



Staff: Mr R D Dauge, Mr D J Forbes-Whitehead

### **Badminton Club**

Fun based play session, with some training for all levels of players and preparation for competitions.

Staff: Mr S Siery, Mr M Ilott



### **Barbershop**

For senior boys and girls and by audition only, the Barbershop Group is a flagship ensemble performing regularly at public concerts and in the Cathedral.

Staff: Dr J Saunders



### **Basketball Club**

Basketball Club spans two terms with a team entered into each District league in all age groups First to Fourth Form. The senior team have annual friendly fixtures. The School competes in the prestigious 'A' league with fixtures against St Columba's College and other top state schools.

Staff: Mr R D Dauge and Mr N Webb



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## **Book Club**

For First, Second and Third Form students with an interest in reading and talking about books and book related activities.

Staff: Dr H McCabe

## **Brass Ensemble (Bentley)**

All brass players are welcome to play in this group.

Staff: Mr D Bentley

## **Brass Ensemble (Intermediate)**

All brass players are welcome to play in this group.

Staff: P Bainbridge

## **Bridge Club**



An informal opportunity to learn the art of playing Bridge. Grasp playing proper systems, duplicate bridge and play internal competitions and inter-School matches

Staff: Mrs T J Gott, Mr C D Bradnam

## **Climbing Club**

This takes place in the Sports Centre after School on three nights of the week to facilitate all ages and ranges of experience.

Staff: Mr M J Langston/Pro

## **Coding Club**

An opportunity for boys throughout the School to learn how to program, solve mathematical problems or set up a Raspberry Pi. All levels of ability and experience are welcome.

Staff: Mr C D Bradnam



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### **Computer Science Club**

An opportunity to explore aspects of Computer Science that you would not meet in lessons. All levels of ability and experience are welcome.

Staff: Miss R D'Cruz

### **Cooking Club**

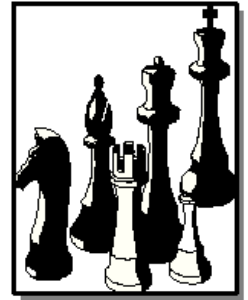
The cooking club takes place over the first half term of the Spring Term. There are 6 sessions in total where boys are taught some key skills by the Catering Team at the school. They gain experience of working in a professional kitchen. The 6 sessions culminate in a Gala Dinner, which takes place after the February half term break.

Staff: Mr R Metcalfe-Shaw

### **Chess Club**

Chess sets are available in M2 and all are welcome to play during lunchtime in the atrium or your form room. There will be a weekly session arranged at a lunchtime for sociable play. The House Chess competition will take place over three weeks in the Spring Term.

Staff: Mr F Tozzi



### **Choir**

St Albans School provides several singing opportunities for pupils. The main School Choir is open to all pupils of the School. In addition to Abbey Assemblies, the Carol Service and Founders' Day, the Choir is involved in the annual Joint Schools' Choral Society Concert in the Abbey in which we join with the High School and many parents and friends of the School.

Staff: Mr M Stout



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## Chamber Choir & Concert Choir

In addition to the main School Choir, pupils can audition for the Chamber Choir which takes part in many wonderful concerts, performing music from a variety of composers and including pieces such as Vaughan Williams' *Five Mystical Songs*, and Chilcott's *Little Jazz Mass* amongst others. Those who do not take part in the Chamber Choir are automatically in the Concert Choir, performing a wide range of music in School Concerts.



Staff: Mr M Stout, T Young

## Chamber Ensemble

A variety of small groups including piano trios and string quartets rehearsing a wide range of musical repertoire.

Staff: Mr T Young



## Christian Group

Pupils will discuss who Jesus is from the Bible, in a friendly, relaxed environment. Feel free to bring your questions and we'll provide the cookies. Anyone of any belief or none is welcome.

Staff: Dr L Gray

## Clarinet Ensembles

A varied repertoire of Jazz and Classical works is studied and there are regular performing opportunities for both groups. These rehearsals are a great way to improve sight-reading skills, working as a team and mixing with other years.

Staff: V Parker



## Combined Cadet Force (CCF) - Junior Section

Open to members of the Third and Fourth Form, before they are given the opportunity to join the full CCF on Friday afternoon timetabled activities. A similar programme to that for the senior cadets is on offer.

Staff: Mr D Forbes-Whitehead

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## **Concert Band**

All wind, brass and percussion players are welcome to take part in this ensemble, playing a mixture of popular, classical and jazz pieces. This ensemble contains a mixture of experienced and inexperienced instrumentalists.

Staff: Mr P Craig

## **Creative Writing Society**

Do you have an over-active imagination? Do you have ambitions to be a writer? Do you simply enjoy writing stories, poems or plays? If so, and you are in the Fourth Form or above, then come along to Creative Writing Society where you can have fun testing out your ideas through workshops as well as the opportunity to enter finished pieces into a number of prestigious competitions throughout the year.



Staff: English Department



## **Cricket Club + Pre-Season Nets (Spring & Summer)**

These sessions are ideal for all players to improve their technique during the season and close season.

Staff: Mr M C Ilott

## **Cross Country**

Open to all year groups, this club complements the very successful sport in the School.

Staff: Mr W J Wilson

## **Debating Society**

If you want to sway crowds with your brilliant speaking, fantasise about being Prime Minister or simply enjoy arguing, come along to Debating Society and practise your skills (or just have a rant).

Staff: Mrs A Gregory



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## Dissection Club

Dissection Club is an 8 week course which students in Fourth Form can sign up for (chargeable to parents). It teaches all the essential skills of dissection and involves samples outside of the GCSE curriculum, including pigeons, frogs and pregnant rats.

Staff: Dr Gray

## Diversity Society

The Diversity Society discusses issues of gender and sex, sexuality, religion, race and disability. Sessions will alternate between having a speaker addressing the Society and having open and informal forums for pupils to discuss issues of sexuality. Recent themes have included 'Being Christian and gay', 'Should men be feminists?' and 'Do all males have a penis?' Pupils, teaching staff and external speakers have addressed the Society. All are welcome.



Staff: Mr R Metcalfe-Shaw



## Drama - Main School Production

Join the cast of the Main School Production and perform in a large scale production in late November. Rehearsals are throughout the Autumn Term with a whole cast call on Thursdays 4.00pm-6.00pm. Fourth Form and above are encouraged to audition!

Staff: Drama Department

## The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award aims to provide an enjoyable, challenging and rewarding programme of personal development for young people.

The Award is offered at two levels, Silver and Gold. Each level consists of four sections; Service, Skills, Physical Recreation and Expeditions. At Gold level there is an additional requirement, the Residential Section. The Award is achieved through successful completion of each section.

Participation in the Award can be by one of two routes; direct participation or through the CCF. All students register with Mr Forbes-Whitehead.

Sessions run on Wednesdays from 4.15pm - 6.00pm for the Fifth Form to provide training for the Silver Award Expedition section. In the Lower Sixth students who join the scheme work towards the Gold level Volunteering or Skill sections by taking part in Friday afternoon activities. There is training on Friday from 4pm—6pm and a compulsory weekends training in October for new Sixth Form students. Participants work

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towards the other sections in their own time. [www.DukeofEdinburgh's.org.uk](http://www.DukeofEdinburgh's.org.uk)

### **Economics Society**

The Economics Society Forum for active philosophising exists as a Fifth and Sixth Form student meeting to which all Economics students are invited. The Society provides a platform to those students who are most keen on exploring the subject of Economics well beyond the A-level syllabus, who wish to share the knowledge they discover with others, and who are ready to have their views

challenged by the audience. Some of the student talks we had in the past are *In Support of Pluralism in Economics*, *The Story of India: From Socialism to Superpower*, *The Case For Austerity*, and *It Is Time For Communism in Britain*.

Staff: Mr J Fabinger



### **Fit Fun Fridays**

Sports Hall and facilities are given over to a range of sporting activities to promote health and fitness through fun activities and exercise. All welcome and no obligation (4.15pm-5.45pm).

Staff: Mr White

### **Flute Ensemble**

The Flute Ensemble is for a small number of advanced flautists, usually in the upper year groups. Participants are invited upon recommendation. Players play one-to-a-part in a variety of styles, with the opportunity to play piccolo and/or alto flute. The Flute Ensemble perform in the main School concerts and occasional lunchtime recitals.

Staff: Music Dept

### **Flute Group**

Flute Group is a fun and welcoming group for any flute players in the School, performing in the main School concerts and occasional lunchtime recitals. Repertoire includes music from every era and style, with parts at all levels to suit the players.

Staff: Music Dept



### **French Film Club**

The Film Club (Ciné Club Français) shows a mix of French-language movie classics and latest releases to entertain and introduce pupils to some of the world's finest cinema.

Staff: Miss C Bowie



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### **Geography Film Club- Middle School**

Join us every Monday lunch time to watch films with a geographical theme. Each half term a new topic is explored through well known blockbusters. Open to all Second Form, Third Form and Fourth Form students. BYO popcorn.

Staff: Geography Dept

### **Girls' Netball & Lacrosse**

These sessions are open to both experienced and novice players and are a great way to develop your skill set or learn a new sport, whilst socialising with your new peers in the Sixth Form.

Staff: Miss V Sandell

### **Guitar Group**

This group is designed to introduce guitarists to ensemble playing. A mixture of styles and genres are played catering for the different types of guitar playing.

Staff: N Woodhouse

### **The Harry Schofield Society**

The School's Mathematical Society promotes a series of termly lectures presented by eminent mathematicians from all walks of life.

Staff: Dr D Young



### **Hockey Club**

The Hockey Club has earned an excellent reputation and provides an opportunity for developing skills and playing small sided games.

Staff: Mr M J Langston



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### **History Film Club**

Showcasing various films each term, History Film Club offers the chance to explore History beyond the classroom. From classic war movies, to latest box office releases on British monarchs, there is definitely something for everybody. Snacks will also be provided!

Staff: Mrs M Webb

### **History and Politics Society**

History and Politics students, please join us as established historians and civil servants deliver thought-provoking lectures on their specialist subjects. These are intended to both consolidate and broaden your GCSE/A-Level studies and are certainly worth mentioning in your personal statements!

Staff: Mr P Middleton

### **The Hylocomian Society**

This is the School's Classics Society, named after John Hylocomius, a Headmaster of the School in the 16<sup>th</sup> century who was a renowned classical scholar and grammarian. The aim of the Society is to broaden pupils' knowledge and understanding of the ancient world through lectures given by visiting speakers, trips to museums, conferences and theatrical productions and seminars.



Staff: Mr D Rowland



### **Jazz Band**

Application for membership should be made to the Director of Music. The Jazz Band are the stars of the annual Jazz Evening concert, and also perform at several Christmas and summer engagements. Excellent sight-reading skills coupled with outstanding musicianship are the principal entry requirements.

Staff: Mr M Stout

### **Rock Band Workshops**

Workshopping with fully-formed bands, or if you are a budding rock musician on keys, bass, guitars and/or vocals, professional band leader Mr O Roberts and Mr J Bennett are available to work with you.

Staff: O Roberts and J Bennett

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### Lower School Classics Club

Classics club introduces the history, societies, and myths of the ancient world to students of the Lower School. Activities include playing top trumps, creating myths, and participating in various quizzes.

Staff: Mr E Baker

### Lower School Choir

All First Form boys sing in the Lower School Choir in their first term, rehearsing in lessons for a performance with a professional live rock band!

Staff: Mr M Stout



### Lower School Drama Club

Drama Club for First and Second Form students working towards a number of performances throughout the year, including 'A Lower School Christmas' and the Summer Show in the Amphitheatre. Junior House Drama in the Spring Term accommodates interested Third Form pupils. Enthusiasm and commitment required - no prior experience necessary!

Staff: Drama Department



### Lower School and Third Form Hub (Wellbeing)

A lunchtime activity space for those who don't enjoy the rough and tumble of outside play, or the noise of the form room

Staff: Mrs Robertson

### M\*S\*G (Mixed Singing Group)

This group works on close harmony a capella music, with recent performances including 'Run to You' by Pentatonix and '(I'm No) Superman' by The Blanks.

Staff: Mr M Stout

### MathsPlus

An opportunity to try some weird and wonderful mathematical problems designed to push you beyond the A level curriculum. Open to both Single and Further Mathematicians. Feel free to bring your lunch along.

Staff: Mrs Z Willis

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### **Middle School Board Game Club**

A friendly, fun and relaxed club open to all students in the Third, Fourth and Fifth form. We have a wide range of games on offer to play with your friends.#

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Staff: Dr B Scott#

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### **Middle School Drama**

All students from the Third and Fourth Forms are welcome. A weekly club designed to stretch and challenge skills in performance, creation and design. Students will be involved in running events throughout the year and will have the opportunity to take part in a workshop with visiting theatre professionals.

Staff: Mrs R Olaley

### **Mindfulness sessions**

These meditation sessions are aimed to bring a moment of peace and grounding in our busy day and help encourage a more relaxed approach to life's challenges. These take place weekly and are open to the entire school community.

Staff: Madame C Coudert

### **Model United Nations (MUN)**

A chance to participate in debating about the most challenging global issues from the point of view of various different countries. With mini-debates held at lunchtimes, the highlight of MUN is attending optional conferences at weekends throughout the year, where you will have the opportunity to meet new people and practise passing a resolution in a formal setting. Open to 5<sup>th</sup> Year and above.

Staff: Mrs Z Willis & Mr P Middleton

### **Optic (Photographic Society)**

Optic, the St Albans School Photographic Society, meet irregularly for photographic excursions, talks, workshops and exhibitions. If you are interested in photography, at any level, you will be welcome. You do not even have to have a camera as the Society has equipment available for loan.



Staff: Mr N Cassidy



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## **Orchestra**

The full String Ensemble is joined by our most advanced wind players to form this large ensemble. Recent performances have included the '1812 Overture', Walton's 'Henry V Suite' and Grieg's 'Piano Concerto in A'.

Staff: Mr P Craig

## **Percussion Ensemble**

Open to all who wish to play percussion in a huge variety of styles including composing your own pieces to perform in concerts.

Staff: Mr P Craig

## **PhysicsBeyond**

PhysicsBeyond is a course aimed at Sixth Form students who are interested in exploring and in building their understanding of topics in physics and maths going beyond the school syllabus. We meet to discuss topics of mutual interest once a week after school. Each session is 1.5-2h long. Students are also encouraged to choose and conduct a research project based on their own interests, which they can use for their EPQ.

Staff: Dr F Bar

## **Quiz Club**

This exciting and studious student led club for Lower and Middle School will feature quizzes on varied topics with questions ranging from ridiculously easy to impossible. Quizzes may coincide with events e.g. book quiz for World Book Day or revision quizzes ahead of exams. With riddles and brain teasers included why would you miss out on the challenge?

Staff: Mrs R Olaley

## **Recorder Ensemble**

An informal lunchtime group exploring a variety of one-to-a-part recorder music for various recorder sizes.

Staff: C Ireland

## **Rugby Club**

First Form will have the opportunity to improve their rugby skills and other year groups will be training for matches.

Staff: Mr J Walmsley



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### **Saxophone Ensemble**

Saxophone players who are grade 4 level and above welcome to take part in this group and the repertoire covers a mixture of styles and genres.

Staff: J Simmons

### **Science Club**

This club is open to members of the Second Form who wish to be more adventurous in the laboratory. It's fun, messy and colourful!

Staff: Dr C Pines, Mrs J Jex, Mrs L Murphy

### **Sartorius Tailoring Club**

Learn the basics of sewing, pattern interpretation and the properties of different fabrics before starting your own projects. Available to all students, no matter your age or experience. Learning to sew teaches planning and execution skills, boosts creativity as well as knowledge of material properties. To succeed, you will need to try new techniques and develop resilience and patience.

Staff: Mr D Russell

### **Scuba Diving Club**

Includes periodic PADI courses as well as taster and refresher sessions. Also regular snorkelling sessions to practise skills and have fun underwater.

Staff: Mr Hickman

### **Shooting**

Fancy the chance of shooting in our new, state-of-the-art shooting range in the Corfield building? If so, this is just the club for you, regardless of age or ability.

Staff: Mr Russell

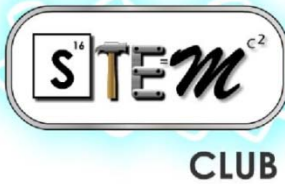
### **Storytellers**

Do you enjoy reading and writing? Would you like to expand your writing skills further? If so, and you are in the First or Second Form, then join the Storytellers where you can have fun experimenting with your writing style, reading different texts and have the opportunity to enter your own work into a number of competitions throughout the year.

Staff: Mrs J Shelley

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## Third Form STEM Club



This club is open to Third Form students interested in anything scientific. We will be exploring many different aspects of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths through practical projects such as robot control, chocolate welding, catapults, investigating smart materials and much more!

Staff: Mr J Turley & Mr C Bradnam

## Stephen Hawking Lecture Society

The Stephen Hawking Society invites speakers of the highest calibre to the School to speak on a wide range of science-related topics. The level of the lectures is aimed at a Sixth Form audience. The Society hosts at least five lectures a year and a black tie dinner in the Summer Term. Dates as announced during the year.

Staff: Mr G Spencer



## String Orchestra

All string players of Grade 3 standard and above are welcome to join the String Orchestra. Recent repertoire included Bartok's '*Rumanian Dances*' and Britten's '*Simple Symphony*'.



Staff: Mr T Young

## Swimming Club (Autumn and Spring Term)



Whether you're a team swimmer or a beginner, the swimming pool is open throughout the year for those who want to swim for the School, improve their ability or just to have some fun.

Staff: Mr D Odgers



## Table Tennis Club

This is a fun and play based activity with emphasis on recreation and some skill coaching for those who wish to improve.

Staff: Mr M Ilott

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### **Tennis Club**

This takes place in the Summer Term. Training for each age group takes place every evening of the Summer Term, with teams competing in the County and District competitions. A tennis professional leads sessions during Games.



Staff: Mr J Turley

### **VEX IQ Club**

A popular club for all pupils that are interested in coding, robots and mechanical challenges.

Staff: Mr Oyomeni

### **Warhammer Club**

Open to all, Warhammer Club offers the opportunity to explore worlds, make friends, and learn by doing. Witness the rise of mighty armies, the conquering of realms, and the forging of mighty heroes while developing mathematical, engineering, literacy, art, design, and life skills through the hobby of miniature model making, gaming, and reading.

Staff: Mr M Wass

### **Water Polo Club**



This club runs in the Summer Term for pupils who are enthusiastic about learning a new game or improving their swimming endurance and confidence.

Staff: Mr G Spencer

### **Wind Orchestra**

All those not involved in the Orchestra are automatically entered into the Wind Orchestra playing exciting Wind Orchestra Music such as theme from *'Family Guy'* and *'The Hunger Games'*.

Staff: V Parker

