

**House Points**  
St Francis—892  
St Margaret—573  
St Philip—570  
St Therese—468

### Achievement certificates awarded to:

Maple - Eva  
Willow - Leo  
Oak - Logan  
Ash - Hannah  
Beech - Harmehar & Cloria  
Rowan - Eli  
Elm - Leo & Tom  
Birch - Mikayla & Xavier  
Cherry - Lucy & Noah  
Hazel - Zach & Tabitha  
Hawthorn - Mia K  
Poplar - Harry  
Chestnut - Olivia  
Sycamore - Mollie I

### Coming up next week...

11.02.22— INSET Day - school closed to children

# St Peter's News



4th February 2022

## This week in school...

Dear Parents and Children,

It has been a busy week in school; being in bubbles hasn't stopped lots of exciting things happening.

I am really pleased to say that the number of new cases has dropped significantly this week, and therefore, we will no longer be in bubbles from next

**Monday, 7th February.**

We began the week in school with a look at the Chinese, or Lunar, New Year celebrations which started on 1st February. The children heard about the meaning behind many of the customs and about how families celebrate this important festival.

There are many stories and fables which are told during the Chinese New Year festivities and stories were the theme for our special 'Storytelling Week' in school also.

I have seen some great story writing and describing this week, and it was lovely to see some of the children's work. We were also delighted to launch 'Birthday Books' in partnership with the FOSP - more about this inside.

Year 5 and 6 were able to visit St Andrew's School to watch their 'Dance Showcase' and left feeling impressed and inspired. It is these types of activities which can help to prepare the children for their next steps to Secondary School.

I would like to remind parents about our school uniform rules, and especially the requirement for children to wear school ties, and not to wear trainers as school shoes. Can we also ask that parents of children who choose to wear a dress or skirt, to ensure that it is knee length. You can find our uniform requirements on our website [here](#).

A gentle reminder that next Friday

is an INSET Day and the school will be closed for children. This is then followed by our half term holiday.

I would like to end by saying a very big 'Happy Birthday' to Fr Tony from St Michael's in Ashted who celebrates his 75th birthday this week. We hope that he enjoys his celebrations. Please do wish him many happy returns if you see him at Mass this week-end.

Yours sincerely,

**Richard McKenzie**

Headteacher

## From Sunday's Gospel...

This coming Sunday is the **Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**. In this week's Gospel, ([Luke 5:1-11](#)), Jesus teaches from Simon Peter's boat. Peter and some others have been fishing and have not caught anything. Jesus tells them to cast their nets again after which, they catch so many fish that the nets begin to tear.

Jesus gives Peter a new job, telling him that he will become a different kind of fisherman. No longer will he catch fish; instead he will catch people. His task will be to bring others to Jesus. We pray that we will also bring people to Christ through the example of our lives.

Please take time to read the Gospel with your child.



## Covid Update

Thank you for all of your support over the last two weeks. I am really pleased to say that we have seen a dramatic drop in new cases this week, and that most of the children and staff who were isolating have now returned to school fit and well.

From **Monday 7th February**, we will revert back to our lowest level 'Stage 1 - Protective Measures'. This means that:

- Children can mix freely at breaks and lunch and eat in the hall.
- ALL clubs, music lessons and activities will restart.
- Face coverings need not be worn outside (but still worn inside).



## Contact us:

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**Website:**  
[www.stpeters-leatherhead.co.uk](http://www.stpeters-leatherhead.co.uk)

**Headteacher:**  
Richard McKenzie  
B.Ed.Hons

## School Safeguarding Team

If you are worried about something that your own, or another child has told you, or you think that they may be at risk of harm, please contact our Designated Safeguarding team:

**Mr. McKenzie**  
(Lead)  
**Mrs. Shabankareh**  
(Deputy)  
**Mrs. McDonnell**  
(Deputy)  
**Mrs. Hall** (Deputy)

[ds1@stpeters-leatherhead.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:ds1@stpeters-leatherhead.surrey.sch.uk)

## Supporting Families

We are able to offer support to any families experiencing financial difficulties. Please contact us in confidence and we will do whatever we can to help you.



## Winnie's Weekly Wag

Hello everyone!

I've really enjoyed Storytelling Week, this week. Thank you so much to everyone who shared a story with me!

My certificates, this week, go to **Tobi** from Chestnut Class for taking such good care of me and working so hard on being responsible. It is great to have such a caring friend in the classroom! Also, a huge well done to the whole of **Cherry Class** - I really enjoyed your Liturgy and it is really impressive how hard you worked (despite some technical difficulties!). My final certificate went to **Olivia** (Cherry) for all the extra work you've been doing on playscripts. I hear you've gone above and beyond, printing your own playscript at home!

I'm really looking forward to my Wellbeing Walks next week with some children from Cherry, Ash and Maple Classes!

Love from,  
Winnie 🐾



## Worrying about money?

'Worrying About Money?' referral leaflets are a straightforward resource for people facing financial worries, and anyone supporting them, to quickly see available advice, support options and which local agencies are best placed to help. The leaflet for the Epsom & Ewell area can be accessed online [here](#).

If you are on a low income, your child may be able eligible for the 'Pupil Premium', an additional source of funding used in school to support learning as well as access to clubs and other activities. Find out more and how to apply [here](#). If you are not sure whether you are eligible, it is better to check so that you can be sure, there is nothing to lose!

If your family is in crisis, please contact Mrs. McDonnell [deputy@stpeters-leatherhead.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:deputy@stpeters-leatherhead.surrey.sch.uk) who manages our Foodbank referrals, Crisis Fund applications and hardship scheme and we will help as much as we can.

## Inset Day KidsClub

**Ashtead Kidsclub** will be open all day on Friday 11th February for any St Peter's families that are looking for childcare.

Location: Ashtead Youth Centre, Barnett Wood Lane

Timing: 8am-5.30pm

Cost: £29 per child

Contact: [info@ashteadkidsclub.com](mailto:info@ashteadkidsclub.com)

**01372376711 or 07956185167**

## FOSP News

### 2022 Challenge

We are hearing about lots of exciting fundraising to support the 2022 Challenge. This challenge will enable us to help St. Peter's build a fabulous new learning pod which will benefit all the children. If you still need a sponsorship form, there are some available from the office. Together, let's raise £2,202.22 by 22/02/22!



New Year,  
New Challenge!

Let's raise £2,202.22

You can fundraise by yourself, with your family or a group of friends.

Together we are aiming to raise £2,202.22 by 22/02/22

You can do anything you like to raise money in a fun, challenging or innovative way, use the number **22** to inspire you!  
Score 22 goals, bake and sell 22 cupcakes, perform a 22-minute dance routine or how about a 22-minute silence!

Use your imagination! We can't wait to see what creative ideas you come up with!

All money raised will go towards helping the school build a wonderful new learning pod.

There will be certificates for everyone who takes part and rewards for the most creative and imaginative ideas!

Good Luck from FOSP



# Willow Class' Woodland Adventure

Willow Class (YR) had such an amazing time on our first ever class trip at St. Peter's! While we were at Juniper Hall we got to take part in lots of amazing experiences. We:

- pretended to be various animals - through movement and sound,
- hunted for woolly worms - to help us learn about camouflage,
- discovered mini beasts - learning about habitats, making observations of the animals we found and how to care for them, and
- said hello to a tree - learning to trust our friends, whose job it was to guide us to a tree, and also using our senses of touch and smell to explore it, once we had reached the tree safely.

Well done Willow Class - you were amazing on your first trip, listening so well to instructions and rules, so we could all be safe and - of course - have lots of fun, while we learned. Your teachers are so proud of you!!



## Gritter Visit

On Thursday we enjoyed a visit from Stevie the Gritter. We learned about how the gritters work and had a chance to have a look around it. The tyres were taller than some of our Reception children! The team from the Leatherhead depot have been given the entries from the 'Name the Gritter' competition and we will let you know what their new gritters' names are as soon as we can.



## Dance Showcase

Year 5 and 6 were delighted to visit St Andrew's School to see their Dance Showcase this week. They were so welcoming and the children were very engaged and clearly enjoyed watching the talent and performances. Here are some of their reflections:

"I really liked the cheerleading acts and I loved the solos, trios, etc. But the contemporary acts were my personal favourite. It was an amazing experience and I am so grateful I could go and I loved it and I am sure everyone else did as well."

"It was fun and the music was really good!"

"It was amazing!"

"It was so good I didn't even realise people were missing!"

"I enjoyed seeing the cheerleading and everyone doing it with loads of energy."

"Thank you so much for inviting us to watch the showcase, I loved it!"

"I really liked the first dance and 'Six'."

"I really liked the tumbling in the gymnastics and the cheerleading when the girls were thrown up into the air!"

## Storytelling Week

We have had a fantastic time in school celebrating National Storytelling Week.

We've created Journey Sticks, shared our favourite tales, explored stories from different cultures, and even made puppets!

National Storytelling Week has also seen the launch of our very exciting 'Birthday Books' scheme. Every child, every year, will receive a book to celebrate their birthday. We are so excited to be sharing these stories with you!







Introducing St. Peter's

# Birthday Books



As a school, we believe in the power of reading and the impact that reading has on children's overall achievement.

As we come to the end of Storytelling Week, we are delighted to introduce our newest initiative: 'Birthday Books'.

We want every child to identify with books that they have enjoyed, and to have access to good, quality books.

**With Birthday Books, on their birthday each year, every child will receive the gift of a quality picture or story book jointly funded by the school and the Friends of St Peter's, to keep at home forever.**

Our Birthday Books are well loved, classic titles chosen by our staff, which we hope children will treasure for years to come.

In our first year, all children who have already celebrated a birthday this academic year will receive their Birthday Book at the end of Storytelling Week. From then onwards, children will receive their book on their birthday, or on the nearest school day to their birthday. Children with birthdays during school holidays will receive their book before we break up.

Book ownership has been directly linked with improved mental health amongst children and a greater desire to read for pleasure.

As a school, we were surprised to find out that one in four disadvantaged children across the UK has fewer than ten books of their own at home\*, and one in eight has none. When we looked into the research further, we also found that disadvantage is by no means the only reason for a lack of books in many homes. A lack of time, negative experiences as a child or a lack of confidence about their own reading skills or book choices can all affect a family's inclination to own books.

Birthday Books will give children from all backgrounds a greater opportunity to enjoy owning and reading books at home.

(\*Book ownership, literacy engagement and mental wellbeing © National Literacy Trust 2018)

# Dates for your diary

**11.02.22      INSET DAY - School Closed for children**

**Monday 14th - Friday 18th February Half Term Holiday**

21.02.22      All children return to school

01.04.22      School finishes for Easter Holidays at 1pm

**Monday 4th April to Monday 19th April 2022—Easter Holiday**

**19.04.22      INSET DAY - School Closed for children**

20.04.22      All children return to school

**02.05.22      May Day Bank Holiday - School Closed for children**

**Monday 30th - Friday 3rd June - Half Term Holiday**

**21.07.22      School closes for the end of the School Year at 1pm**

22.07.22      Additional day holiday due to Queen's Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday (rolled over from May Half Term)