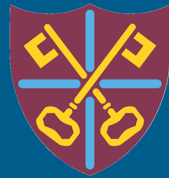




St Peter's News



24th February 2023

House Points

St Margaret—912

St Therese—742

St Francis —602

St Philip—502

Attendance Award

Cherry (Y4) 96%

Achievement certificates

Maple - Amy

Willow - Calla

Oak - Adriana

Ash - Kashvini

Rowan - Marc

Beech - Ella

Birch - Nicole

Elm -Elsie

Cherry - Phoebe

Hawthorn - Leona

Poplar - Alex

Chestnut - Harry

Sycamore - Rocco

Congratulations to Cherry Class (Y4) and Hazel Class (Y4) who received whole class certificates for being brilliant at their first swimming lesson.

This week in school...

Dear Parents and Children,

Welcome back, I hope that you all had a restful half term week and managed to get out and enjoy some of the lighter days - spring is certainly on the way. We marked the beginning of the Season of Lent in school with an Ash Wednesday service celebrated by Fr Livie during which we received ashes. You can read more about the Season of Lent inside.

Year 5 had a wonderful time yesterday visiting Therfield school to watch a production of Bugsy Malone - they were brilliantly behaved and really enjoyed the show. Well done to Year 4 who has their first swimming lessons at St John's this week. We are looking forward to watching their progress.

I was delighted to share the report from our Ofsted inspection with you this week. The words community, family and inclusion run through the Ofsted Report and clearly demonstrates what we know about St Peter's: that our strength is the ethos we share with our community of children, families, staff and governors. This can only be achieved when the whole community pulls together with a sense of purpose, direction and commitment. As one response to the parent and carer survey said: *'This school is like a large, diverse family.'* We couldn't have summed up St Peter's in any better way than this. Over the remainder of this academic year and for the next year, we will continue to focus on those few subject areas where there is still work to be done on determining the sequencing of knowledge that children need.

It is a busy week with World Book Day next Thursday and the book fair in school - please check your ParentMail for all the information that you need. Booking for Parents Evenings will also open on Tuesday, again through ParentMail.

Have a great weekend. Yours sincerely,

Richard McKenzie
Headteacher

From Sunday's Gospel...

This Sunday is the **1st Sunday of Lent**. In this week's Gospel, ([Matthew 4:1-11](#)) we hear about the time that Jesus fasts for 40 days in the desert and is tempted by the devil. When Jesus resists the temptations presented to him, he draws on his religious upbringing and tradition. We who are responsible for raising children are also called upon to immerse them fully in our Catholic Christian tradition so that they will be able to draw upon this to resist the temptations they will face in their lives. Please take time to read the Gospel with your child.



NEU Strike Action

As you may know, Thursday 2nd March is the second day of proposed Strike Action for members of the National Education Union (NEU).

This date is a regional strike and only for members in the London and South East area. Although they are not required to inform their employer of their intention to take part in industrial action, the NEU members in school have informed me that they will not be taking part in this strike day.

School will be open on 2nd March for all children, in all year groups.



Contact us:

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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 DSL)

Mrs. McDonnell

Mrs. Hall

Miss Greene

Mrs. Walsh
(Deputy DSLs)

dsl@stpeters-

Supporting Families

We are able to offer support to families experiencing financial or other difficulties.

Please contact Mrs. Walsh our [Family Support Worker](#) in confidence and we will do what we can to help you.



Hello St. Peter's! Thank you to all my lovely visitors this week.

A big well done to my certificate winners. Thank you to **Nicole, Shreya, and Victoria** for the lovely cards, stories and my bracelets that you've made for me! Well done to **Carys and Cloria** (Elm Class) for the beautiful independent poetry that you've written - I would love for you to read it to me sometime soon.

Well done to my Winnie Readers too. **Lucie, Nicole, Harmehar, Jack, William** and **Harry**, you all read beautifully!

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Love from,
Winnie



Junior Citizen Event for Year 6

This week Y6 went to Epsom racecourse for the Junior Citizen Event. We are very proud of the way that they conducted themselves. Here, Eva, James S, Eden, Kiera tell us more about what they learnt:

Junior Citizen is all about citizenship for secondary school. They told us that we were going to be role models for younger children. We learnt about Water Safety, Electrical Safety, CPR, Healthy Eating and Drugs & Alcohol.

Water Safety:

If you fall in or get into trouble in the water you should float on your back and put one hand up like you're asking a question. Don't wave it about or people will think that you are having fun. There are different flags which show the different water conditions. Red and yellow means you can swim, red on its own means you can't swim, and back and white checked is where surfboards and other crafts go. You can't swim there.



Electrical Safety:

We learnt about how electricity can jump, so even if you are not really near to electric it is still dangerous. If you are playing with a ball for example, near an electrical power station and it goes over the fence, you should call 105 or leave it alone. The train tracks carry electricity and you should never go near them.

Healthy Eating:

We learnt about sugar and how much is in food. To be healthy, we shouldn't have more than 7 cubes of sugar a day and a Lucozade has 16! You should only have these sorts of drinks if you are doing a sport and are burning energy.



Drugs and Alcohol:

Caffeine keeps you awake and if you have too much of it, it can cause kidney stones. Children shouldn't be having drinks with caffeine in them. Smoking is bad for you and can give you cancer and black lung because of the tar in them. If you carry cannabis you will get a criminal record which will affect getting a job when you are an adult. Children shouldn't be drinking alcohol anyway, but if they did then it could effect their bladder and brain.

CPR:

We learnt to check that it is safe before helping someone. We learnt how to do CPR. We learnt how to check if someone is breathing and shout for help and call 999 or 112 which works anywhere in Europe. Then we practiced CPR on fake bodies.

We really learnt a lot and had a great time.

Congratulations

To Mrs. Roberts and her husband, Harry who are expecting their first child during the Summer Holidays. We send our warmest congratulations to them both as they embark on the wonderful journey that is parenthood.



All About Lent

Lent lies at the very heart of our Catholic faith. While Lent was originally intended as a time of preparation for those being baptised at Easter, it gradually became a time when all of us focus on getting ready to renew our own baptismal promises. It is a time when we reflect on the dying and rising of Christ that has made our salvation possible.

The three Catholic observances we follow during Lent - prayer, fasting and giving alms - engage us in body, mind and spirit. Focusing on these traditional observances will bring your family closer to Christ ... and to one another.



PRAYER

"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus."
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

New Ways to Pray - This Lenten season, try out some different forms of prayer as a family. Start a family conversation by asking, "How much time do you spend with your best friend?" Have each family member, adults included, talk about the question. Then ask, "How much time do you spend with God?" Talk as a family about how to make room in your lives to talk with God. Children might enjoy praying to God in their own way. Young children talk to God before bedtime. Older children may want to text, email or write to God. They obviously don't have to send it, but the act of writing down (or typing in this case) a prayerful thought is still prayer. If using email, save the prayers as drafts during Lent. When Holy Week begins, read through the emails and be reminded of the time spent with God.

Christ Lives Here - Move your family's crucifix so it is near your front door (or whichever door you use most). It will serve as a daily visual reminder of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross.

FASTING

"When you fast, don't look gloomy like the hypocrites. They neglect their appearance, so that they may appear to others to be fasting. In truth, I say to you, they have received their reward." Matthew 6:16

Why Do We Fast? - Fasting is a spiritual practice and discipline. Its aim is to help us focus on God. By limiting our intake of food, we exercise self-control, discipline our body. Experiencing physical hunger also reminds us of our utter dependence on God and puts us in solidarity with those for whom hunger is not a choice, but rather a fact of life. These days, we keep the fast limited to Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, and abstain from meat on each Friday of Lent.

Fasting doesn't have to be only about food. It can spill over to habits, practices and things that distract us from our relationship with God and others such as too much time spent at work or too much time on social media.

GIVING ALMS

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me." Matthew 25:35-36

Eat in to help out! Why not work out what it would cost to get a take away or to take your family out to dinner at your favourite restaurant. Then make a simple, inexpensive dinner at home. Use the difference to buy goods for a local food bank or donate it to a charity which helps those who are in need.

"But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be secret. And your Father who sees all that is done in secret will repay you" Matthew 6:3-4

Shhhhhh ... Share in Secret! The Gospel of Matthew reminds us that we are not supposed to make a big deal about our giving. Seeking glory for these things defeats the purpose. Enlist your children's enthusiasm for secrets by asking them to help you plan some silent sharing for those in need.

Some ideas could include:

- Giving away a good quality toy, book or game to a charity shop
- Putting some loose change or a small amount of pocket money into the collection at church
- Donating food to a food bank collection point
- Doing something kind for someone at home or at school without telling them

Dates for your diary

- 27.02.23 Book Fair in school this week
- 28.02.23 KS2 Swimming Gala at Parkside School Cobham
- 02.03.23 World Book Day Celebrations in school (more info to follow)
- 03.03.23 Years 3-6 Cross Country @ 4.15pm (King George V **Playing Fields**)
- 06.03.23 Opportunity for children in Y5 to receive individual reconciliation
- 09.03.23 Year 6 Netball tournament @ 9am (Manor House School)
- 14.03.23 **Parent Consultation Meetings (3.40pm—6.30pm)**
- 17.03.23 Years 3-6 Cross Country @ 4.15pm (King George V **Playing Fields**)
- 22.03.23 **Parent Consultation Meetings (5.30pm—8.30pm)**
- 27.03.23 Bikeability Level 2 for Y6 (all week)
- 31.03.23 School finishes for Easter Holidays at 1pm**

3.04.23– 14.03.23 Easter Holidays

- 17.04.23 INSET DAY - School Closed for children**
- 18.04.23 All children return to school
- 25.04.23 Years 5-6 Girls' Football Tournament @ 12.30pm (Oakfield School)
- 26.04.23 Years 5-6 Boys' Football Tournament @ 12.30pm (Oakfield School)
- 01.05.23 May Day Bank Holiday - School Closed for children**
- 08.05.23 Additional Bank Holiday to celebrate Coronation of King Charles III - School Closed for Children**
- 19.05.23 **FOSP** Quiz Night
- 23.05.23 Y6 Leavers & Class Photographs
- 26.05.23 May Procession in honour of Our Blessed Lady

Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June - Half Term Holiday

- 12.06.23 Years 3-6 District Sports @ 4pm (King George V Playing Fields)
- 26.06.23 Years 3-6 District Sports (Reserve Day) @ 4pm (King George V Playing fields)
- 21.07.23 School Closes for the end of the School Year at 1pm**