

# St. Peter's Academy Newsletter 21st November 2025

## Headteacher's message



Dear Parents and Carers,

November is flying by and preparations for the school Christmas season are well under way. We look forward to seeing you at our Advent Fayre and the KS1 Nativity Production, which are always great events and get everyone into the Christmas spirit.

Last week the school had three external visits with a Safeguarding Audit, a Trust Review and a Phonics Scrutiny. All of these visits were extremely positive with the school and staff complimented on their practice and quality of lessons. We have experienced notable benefits since joining Blue Kite Trust at the start of the year and it puts the school in a strong position for further progress.

Have a great weekend,

Gordon Nunn

Headteacher

## **Explorer Class**



This week we have been continuing our celebrations topic by exploring the festival of Diwali. We have been learning about all the colourful decorations that people enjoy during Diwali and having a go at creating our own Mendhi and Rangoli patterns, as well as hearing some of the stories that people share during the celebration.

In PE Explorer children have had lots of fun having a go at different dance styles and then sharing our dance routines with our friends. So far we have tried ballet, hula and rock + roll, what will we try next?

We have also been practicing the songs for our upcoming KS1 nativity play along with the rest of KS1, we can't wait to share them with you!

## **Discovery Class**



This week, the children have been buzzing with excitement as they continue practising the songs for our upcoming KS1 nativity play. It's been lovely to hear the whole of KS1 coming together, and the link to our RE learning has made it feel even more meaningful as we explore the Christmas story in class.

In PE, we've been building on our netball skills, focusing especially on confident and accurate passing. The children are working brilliantly as teams and showing great improvement in their control and coordination.

We've also begun the first steps of rewriting our own versions of *Stardust* by Jeanne Willis in English. The children have been full of imaginative ideas, and it's been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they experiment with structure, voice, and storytelling techniques.

#### Voyager Class



We've had a great fortnight in Voyager class. The children are working well as a team and thinking about how they can show active focus and participation in their learning and how to support others to do the same.

We have been writing a narrative from an alternative view point this week, where we have taken on the role of Jamal in the story Look Up! The children have worked really hard and have been very creative when following the narrative structure and they have also been fantastic at remembering to include our key writing skills of expanded noun phrases and coordinating conjunctions. These skills are becoming very well embedded now too!

In maths we continue to work hard when finding quick and efficient strategies to use. We are understanding that there can be lots of different methods and as individuals sometimes we prefer a different method to our friends.

We are enjoying our explorers topic and have particularly enjoyed finding out about Robert Falcon Scott and Neil Armstrong.

Finally we are heading into our Nativity and Christmas season. The children were allocated parts this week, and have been given a script with highlighted text where appropriate. We are looking forward to working hard on this and performing to you later in the term.

## **Odyssey Class**



In Odyssey Class we have been loving working with charcoal in Art. We have had a go at mark marking and creating shapes and patterns. We look forward to beginning work on our cave paintings, in the shoe boxes everyone has generously donated, next week.

Last week, we enjoyed taking part in the BBC's live lesson for anti-bullying week. We went on a mission, taking on a series of puzzles, problems and challenges, to unlock the secret to becoming an Anti-Bullying Agent.

Jingle Bells is sounding fantastic on the trumpet and we are excited to perform it with other schools on December 16th as part of our Corsham Windband Workshop.

In Science we have been learning all about rocks. We conducted an experiment to see which rocks erode the quickest.

In RE, we have been thinking all about what makes our world wonderful and how we can keep our world wonderful. The list was very long and included family, friends, animals and nature. We wrote instructions for how to keep the world wonderful.

We can't wait for to our Road Safety trip today (Friday 21st) and will tell you all about it in the next newsletter!

## **Navigator Class**



Navigator class have enjoyed baking and eating their jam tarts. They have also investigated seasonal food in Britain and created menus for each month using their seasonal food knowledge.



#### Pioneer Class



Pioneer Class have had a wonderfully busy few weeks! We enjoyed an exciting trip to Sevington Victorian School, where the children stepped back in time to experience school life as a Victorian child. They learned how to write using a fountain pen, made beeswax candles and lavender bags, and discovered the very different roles boys and girls had during the Victorian era. The class were particularly fascinated by the *articles of correction*, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed how Miss Squire stayed perfectly in character all day, giving us a true taste of Victorian classroom expectations!

In Art, Pioneer Class have been exploring typography, investigating how different fonts can change the impact and mood of words. The children also had the chance to get creative outdoors, using natural materials to design and form their own letter shapes.

In Science we are learning how plants produce either sexually or asexually, understanding how those processes work. Over the next couple of weeks, we will be learning about the reproduction in animals.

Children are continuing to develop and work on their handwriting. The children have clearly been focusing on the self improvement and making great strides towards the writing expectation in Year 6. Keep it up!

#### **Endeavour Class**



Endeavour have had a great first fortnight of Term 2!

We have slowly been reading and analysing our focus text for writing: Rose Blanche. This story is set in WW2 and is centred around a child's experience of the war. Endeavour have been paying close attention to detail and using their knowledge of the war from both our History and Reading lessons to help develop a deeper understanding of what is happening, why, and different perspectives of the same events. Yesterday, we all wrote the beginning of the story leading up to a shocking (unknown) discovery...

In Maths, we have been working on place value up to 1,000,000. We have been pattern spotting, sequencing and using data to create graphs.

In Science, we are learning about healthy bodies. So far we have learned about scurvy and learning about the importance of different food groups in our diet. We will also be investigating the effects of exercise and drugs.

In History, we have explored what led to the outbreak of WW2, which countries were involved and to what extent, and different experiences of evacuation.

At Forest School, we have been learning about prisoners of war and codebreaking. Last Friday was extremely wet; all of the children showed strong resilience and were commended by the forest school teacher for their enthusiasm and focus in such difficult conditions.

In PSHE we have explored ADHD and Autism and learned about being a bystander and an upstander.

In RE, we are exploring the question: Is the Christmas Story True? We have explored different types of truth: Historical, Moral, Religious/Spiritual, Symbolic and Personal and are currently comparing different perspectives/versions of the Christmas story.

## KS1 Production: The Sleepy Shepherd



We are really looking forward to our Christmas Production this year. The production will be held in the school hall, due to the building work in church. We have added an extra performance time so there will be three performance in total with tickets needing to be prebooked on ParentPay. Ticket information is on ParentPay - there will be a limit of 2 tickets per family initially, with spare tickets made available nearer the date if they are not all reserved.

Tuesday 9th December - 2 pm KS1 Christmas Production

Wednesday 10th December - 2pm KS1 Christmas Production

Thursday 11th December - 9.30am KS1 Christmas Production

## Christmas Design Shop



Thank you to all who have already ordered your Christmas gifts, Class Fundraising have reopened our shop from 21st November through to the 1st December for any last minute orders.

Please use your order codes on your artwork.

https://shop.classfundraising.co.uk/

Many thanks for all your support.

#### **FOSPA**



Wreath making - 28th November - An evening for the grown-ups. Last few spots remaining. PRE PAY ON PARENTPAY

And more dates for your diary

Friday 28th November, School Non-Uniform day in exchange, please donate some chocolate or gifts for the tombola stalls

Advert Fayre - 5th December. Come along straight after school for festive treats and a chance to meet Santa, tickets for Santa's Grotto will be available on parent pay soon.

It is only 2 weeks until our Advent Fayre and we need your help to make it a huge success. They are lots of ways you can be involved...

#### Before the fayre -

Raffle tickets will be coming home next week. Please offer to your family and friends. Spare tickets will be in the office if needed.

Friday 28th November We are holding a non uniform day. In exchange, please donate some chocolates or a gift for our popular tombola stalls.

Having a sort out ready for Christmas? Please donate any clean, soft toys for the Teddy Tombola. And any good quality second hand toys and puzzles for our Toy Table! Please bring to the School office.

If your business could offer a raffle prize/voucher please let us know, speak to a FOSPA member, Mrs Wallis or via Facebook messenger.

#### And on the day -

Please bring in a plate of cakes and sweet treats for the Advent Café.

If you can spare any time, to help setting up, running a stall or tidying up at the end, please let us know.

And remember to sign up to www.easyfundraising.org.uk/Friends of St. Peter's C of E Academy - Chippenham for all your online Christmas shopping. Thank you for all your support.

### Christmas lunch at school



We start a festive menu on Monday 8th December with Santa's Macaroni Cheese

Tuesday 12th December- Rudolph's Festive Sausage Roll.

Wednesday -Elf Shelf Pizza,

Christmas Dinner Day is on Thursday, 11th December, complete with roast turkey, roast potatoes, roast vegetables and a pig in a blanket!

Friday 12th December is Festive Fish Fingers.

All meals must be ordered on ParentPay in advance.

#### St Peter's Wrap Around Care



Breakfast Club starts at 7:45 am, Monday - Friday

After-school club (Session 1) finishes at 4:15 pm, Monday - Friday

After-school club (Session 2) finishes at 5.30 pm, Monday - Thursday (no 2nd session on Fridays)

#### The costs are:-

- Breakfast Club £6 per session
- After School Club session 1 £5.50 per session
- After School Club session 2 £7.50 per session

You can book your places on <u>ParentPay - Leading Cashless Payment System for Schools</u>

We accept child care vouchers, please contact the school office for a booking form

### Lighthouse Family Support Advisor



I am your Family Support Advisor, Jacqui Cook. I can offer support, guidance and a listening ear to parents. I can also work with other professionals such as health visitors, school nurse, school staff, social care team and many others to support your child and family's needs.

These are some of the things I can support with.

- Behaviour at home
- Attachment and trauma
- Anxiety (child and adult)
- Routines, including morning, evening, bedtime, sleep
- Parenting Groups (therapeutic and programmes)
- Bereavement
- Domestic Abuse (both current and historic)
- Substance abuse
- Housing and benefit support
- Signposting for financial support
- Low mood and Mental Health
- Support with and/or contribution to Early Help Records/Education Health Care Plan
- Chair and/or attendance at Team around the Family/Child meetings
- Attendance alongside schools at other multi-agency meetings as appropriate.
- Completing onwards referrals to specialist agencies (for both parents/carers and children)
- Support parents to attend appointments and understand processes, sitting in at these meetings if requested

• Support for parents to complete paperwork, forms, applications, etc.

Please contact <a href="mailto:jcook@bluekitetrust.org">jcook@bluekitetrust.org</a> to arrange an appointment

Jacqui is at St Peter's on the following dates to meet parents, please email to book a time with her:

Friday 12th December 2025

Friday 30th January 2026

Friday 6th March 2026

## Christmas Sports Camp at St Peter's Academy



## In2Sport After school



Thursday after-school club is Dodgeball - £21.00 for Term 2
Friday after-school club is Gymnastics - £21.00 for Term 2
Book your space on ParentPay.

#### NextGen Music Tuition in school



#### **Guitar Lessons available in your school**

For more info contact: Jordan Hunt

nextgenmusictuition@gmail.com

Jordan is an Associate with GWS Music Hub

Relaxed and friendly Tuition

DBS checked with safeguarding

Documentation and Insurance.

Acoustic Guitars can be hired if available







### Dates for the diary 2025 - 2026



Friday 28th November - School Non-Uniform day

Saturday 5th December - School Christmas Fayre

Tuesday 9th December - Y5 going to the Sheldon School Christmas Production.

Tuesday 9th December - 2 pm KS1 Christmas Production

Wednesday 10th December - 2pm KS1 Christmas Production

Thursday 11th December - 9.30am KS1 Christmas Production

Friday 12th December - 9 am Pioneer Class (Y5) Sharing Assembly

Monday 15th December - Y4 Corinium Museum trip

Tuesday 16th December - Y3 Corsham Wind Association trip

Friday 19th December - 1 pm Carol Service in Playground, school ends at 2 pm with no after-school club available.

Wednesday 4th February - Y3 REME Museum trip

Wednesday 11th - Friday 13th March 2026 - Y6 Residential trip to Braeside

## Term dates 2025 -2026

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	Term dates summary:	Bank and Public Holidays 2025/2026
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TOTAL	01 June to 22 July 2025	38 dH/siday Mon 25th May 2026 195 Sayremer Bank Holiday Mon 31st August 2026  key: School Holiday



## Advertising from independent providers





### Chippenham Town Band



Chippenham Town Band (<a href="https://www.chippenhamtownband.org.uk/">https://www.chippenhamtownband.org.uk/</a>) is a friendly community wind band who rehearse weekly on Monday evenings. We are currently seeking new players to build our sound. We welcome any woodwind, brass or percussion players, and can also offer conducting opportunities. There are no auditions, minimum grades or age limits, although it's most suitable for those over 14 who can sight read to around a grade 4 standard. We perform throughout the year in a variety of locations around the Chippenham area, playing a wide selection of music including classical, film, light, pop and big band. Email <a href="mailto:newmembers@chippenhamtownband.org.uk">newmembers@chippenhamtownband.org.uk</a> for more information.

#### Dental Care



TIAB



"I Dont'know what you guys have done. You have lit up a fire in him, around maths"

"They absolutely loveD the class.
I only wish I'd known about it earlier!"



#### For more information:

www.tutorinabox.co.uk info@tutorinabox.co.uk 01452 238727













We've got answers!





Your nurses are here to help- no worries too big or too small!

# The Rise Trust Community Hub Chippenham Thursdays 10-11am

- Healthy eating & nutrition
- Sleep tips & routines
- Emotional wellbeing & stress
- Sexual health & relationships
- Bedwetting & toileting support



#### Join us at the

#### Community Health drop-in!

For children and young people 5-19 and their families

No appointment needed!

On behalf of Swindon Music Service; GSW Swindon and Wiltshire Hub, would like to celebrate the value that St Peter's place on music in your school by presenting you with the Music Mark of Recognition for Dedication & Improvement.

